



BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

WILDLIFE HERITAGE TRUST ACCOUNT PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

PERSON/ORGANIZATION/AGENCY NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

NAME MICHAEL SCOTT TITLE WESTERN REGION GAME SUPERVISOR

ADDRESS 1100 VALLEY RD CITY RENO

STATE NV ZIP 89512 PHONE (775) 688-1219

CELL (775) 962-2176 FAX (775) 688-1518

EMAIL MSCOTT@NDOW.ORG

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

PROJECT TITLE **ATLANTA ROAD SAGE GROUSE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT**

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT HERITAGE FUNDS WOULD BE USED TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF THIS PROJECT (THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION IS FROM THE BLM'S SNPLMA PROJECT PROPOSAL – SEE ATTACHED) - THIS PROPOSED PROJECT IS LOCATED WITHIN A RESTORATION UNIT IDENTIFIED BY THE CAVE AND LAKE VALLEY WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN (2012), A PREVIOUS SNPLMA PROJECT (CI54). THE RESTORATION UNIT IS APPROXIMATELY 9,800 ACRES AND OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN THE PLAN INDICATE 60% – 75% OR 5,880 TO 7,350 ACRES WOULD BE TARGETED FOR RESTORATION. WITHIN THE RESTORATION UNIT, PINYON/JUNIPER DENSITIES ARE LOW ON APPROXIMATELY 2,700 ACRES. RESTORATION IN THESE AREAS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH MANUAL METHODS AND CULTURAL CLEARANCES WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY. ALL OF THESE ACRES WOULD BE TREATED WITHIN THE UNIT LEAVING APPROXIMATELY 4,650 ACRES AVAILABLE FOR RESTORATION WHERE HIGHER PINYON/JUNIPER DENSITIES OCCUR. THESE AREAS WOULD REQUIRE MECHANICAL REMOVAL METHODS RESULTING IN THE NEED FOR CULTURAL CLEARANCES.

HOW DOES THIS PROJECT MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROGRAM (NRS 501.3575) (FROM NDOW LETTER OF SUPPORT – SEE ATTACHED) THESE PROJECTS SHOULD IMPROVE SAGE-GROUSE HABITATS BY REDUCING FRAGMENTATION AND EXPANDING THE AMOUNT OF AVAILABLE HABITATS. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THESE PROJECTS WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BREEDING AND NESTING HABITATS AS WELL AS ALLOW FOR EASIER ACCESS FOR HENS WITH ATTENDANT BROODS TO MOVE FROM THE LOWER ELEVATION NESTING HABITATS IN LAKE VALLEY TO THE HIGHER ELEVATION BROOD REARING HABITATS OF TABLE MOUNTAIN, A CRITICAL USE AREA FOR SAGE-GROUSE.



BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT LOCATION AREA SOUTH OF ATLANTA ROAD, EAST OF LAKE VALLEY FARMS, NORTHWEST OF MT. WILSON IN LINCOLN COUNTY (SEE ATTACHED PROJECT PROPOSAL)

IS A PROJECT MAP ATTACHED? YES [checked] NO [ ] (A MAP MUST INCLUDE THE PROJECT TITLE, MAP SCALE, DATE MAP WAS CREATED, AND A NORTH ARROW)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY ON WHICH THE PROPOSED PROJECT IS TO BE LOCATED (MUST INCLUDE THE PROPERTY ADDRESS, ACCESS ROADS, TOWNSHIP, RANGE AND SECTION)

- TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 66 EAST, SECTIONS 1, 12, 13, 23, 24
TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 67 EAST, SECTIONS 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 67 EAST, SECTIONS 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35

A PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE (FROM BLM PROJECT PROPOSAL - ATTACHED) - IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT WOULD TREAT APPROXIMATELY 1,500 ACRES OF RELATIVELY DENSE PINYON/JUNIPER WITHIN THE RESTORATION UNIT (MAP 1). THE EXACT TREATMENT LAYOUT OF THE SNPLMA PROJECT WOULD BE DETERMINED AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY. THE CULTURAL INVENTORY, APPROXIMATELY 4,650 ACRES, WILL BE COMPLETED IN FY15 THROUGH AN ELY DISTRICT BLM FUELS FUNDED PROJECT. ALONG WITH THE CULTURAL INVENTORY, THE APPROVED FY15 ELY DISTRICT BLM PROJECT WILL ALSO TREAT APPROXIMATELY 2,700 ACRES OF THE LESS DENSE PINYON/JUNIPER EXPANSION THROUGH MANUAL METHODS (MAP 2).

DOES THIS PROJECT HAVE ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF MONIES FOR FUNDING OTHER THAN YOUR HERITAGE TRUST FUND REQUEST? YES [checked] NO [ ]

DOES THIS PROJECT INVOLVE HABITAT RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A LONG-TERM OR PERMANENT NATURE? YES [checked] NO [ ]

PLEASE DESCRIBE IN DETAIL THE REASON WHY YOU NEED HERITAGE TRUST FUNDING TO FUND THIS PROJECT HERITAGE PROJECT FUNDING WOULD BE USED TO INCREASE ACREAGE TREATED BY BLM PROJECT. SUPPORTING BLM WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING SHOWS NDOW IS ACTIVE IN HELPING TO IMPROVE SAGE GROUSE HABITAT IN LINCOLN COUNTY.

PROJECT DURATION ONE YEAR [ ] TWO YEARS [checked] THREE YEARS [ ] MORE [ ]

ESTIMATED START DATE [JUNE, 2016] ESTIMATED END DATE [JUNE, 2018]



BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

**PROJECT FUNDING** (BREAKDOWN SHOULD BE FOR ONE YEAR ONLY)

<b>1.</b>	<b>HERITAGE TRUST FUND CASH AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b> _____
<b>2.</b>	<b>OTHER CASH FUNDING SOURCES FOR THIS PROJECT</b>	
a.	BLM SNPLMA FUNDING _____	\$ 433,000 _____
b.	_____	\$ _____
c.	_____	\$ _____
d.	_____	\$ _____
e.	<b>TOTAL OTHER CASH FUNDING SOURCES (LINES a-d)</b>	<b>\$ 433,000</b> _____
<b>3.</b>	<b>DONATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT</b>	
a.	VOLUNTEER TIME _____	\$ _____
b.	EQUIPMENT _____	\$ _____
c.	MATERIALS _____	\$ _____
d.	_____	\$ _____
e.	_____	\$ _____
f.	_____	\$ _____
g.	_____	\$ _____
h.	<b>TOTAL DONATIONS (LINES a-g)</b>	<b>\$</b> _____
<b>4.</b>	<b>TOTAL HERITAGE TRUST FUND PROJECT FUNDING</b>	<b>\$ 483,000</b> _____
	(ADD LINES 1, 2e, 3h)	



BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

**PROJECT COSTS (BREAKDOWN SHOULD BE FOR ONE YEAR ONLY)**

HERITAGE COSTS ONLY

ALL OTHER COSTS

1. LAND ACQUISITION	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. PERSONNEL (NDOW EMPLOYEE SALARIES <u>NOT INCLUDED</u> )	\$ _____	\$ <u>30,000</u>
3. TRAVEL (NDOW EMPLOYEE COSTS <u>NOT INCLUDED</u> )		
a. PER DIEM	\$ _____	\$ _____
b. MILEAGE	\$ _____	\$ _____
c. <b>TOTAL TRAVEL COSTS (LINES a, b)</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. EQUIPMENT ITEMS		
a. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
b. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
c. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
d. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
e. <b>TOTAL EQUIPMENT COSTS (LINES a - d)</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. MATERIALS		
a. SEED _____	\$ _____	\$ <u>70,000</u>
b. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
c. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
d. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
e. <b>TOTAL MATERIAL COSTS (LINES a- d)</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____
6. MISCELLANEOUS COSTS		
a. VEHICLE USE _____	\$ _____	\$ <u>8,000</u>
b. TREE REMOVAL CONTRACT _____	\$ <u>50,000</u>	\$ <u>300,000</u>
c. SEEDING CONTRACT _____	\$ _____	\$ <u>25,000</u>
d. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
e. <b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS COSTS (LINES a- d)</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____
7. <b>TOTAL HERITAGE COSTS ONLY</b>	<b>\$ <u>50,000</u></b>	
(ADD LINES 1, 2, 3c, 4e, 5E, 6e)		
8. <b>TOTAL ALL OTHER COSTS</b>		<b>\$ <u>433,000</u></b>
(ADD LINES 1, 2, 3c, 4e, 5E, 6e)		
9. <b>TOTAL HERITAGE TRUST FUND PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$ <u>483,000</u></b>	
(ADD LINES 7,8)		

**TOTAL HERITAGE TRUST FUND PROJECT FUNDING MUST MATCH TOTAL HERITAGE TRUST FUND PROJECT COSTS**

<b>a. TOTAL HERITAGE TRUST FUND PROJECT FUNDING</b>	<b>\$ <u>483,000</u></b>	
<b>b. TOTAL HERITAGE TRUST FUND PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$ <u>483,000</u></b>	TOTAL FROM LINE #9



BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

ARE THERE GOING TO BE ANY ONGOING COSTS FOR THIS PROJECT? YES  NO

IF THERE ARE ONGOING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT, IS THERE AN ANTICIPATED FUNDING SOURCE FOR THESE COSTS? YES  NO

HOW WILL YOU GIVE CREDIT TO THE HERITAGE TRUST FUND ACCOUNT AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES?

CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN IN A FINAL REPORT, NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, AND WHEN FUNDING SOURCES ARE DESCRIBED DURING STATE AND FEDERAL SAGE GROUSE HABITAT PLANNING AND RESTORATION EFFORTS.

DATE 10/24/2014

PRINT NAME MICHAEL SCOTT

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWED DATE 11-10-15

Bureau of Land Management  
Ely District

SNPLMA Round 15  
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project

Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat  
Improvement Project

Amount Requested: \$433,000

Kyle Teel, Project Manager  
(775)726-8117  
(775)726-8111(fax)  
kteel@blm.gov

Federal Manager Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Rosemary Thomas, District Manager  
BLM Ely District Office  
HC33 Box 33500  
Ely, NV 89301

## **Purpose Statement**

The Ely District BLM is proposing to conduct vegetation restoration on approximately 1,500 acres within the Lake Valley Watershed to improve habitat for the Greater Sage-grouse by reducing conifer expansion within the Southern Great Basin PAC, expand Preliminary General Habitats into adjacent transitional habitat, and restoring and enhancing sagebrush ecological communities (Map 1). The proposed project area is located within Lake Valley in Northeastern Lincoln County within Nevada congressional district four. The latitude and longitude location reference point for the proposed project is 38° 19' 13.24" by 114° 29' 25.02".

## **Background**

Sage grouse are an important species for management to BLM as they have been petitioned for listing as a threatened or endangered species. The US Fish and Wildlife Service have determined they are warranted for listing, but precluded due to other priorities. Enhancing habitat for sage grouse is a priority of the BLM to prevent listing of the species, and to protect existing populations.

The *Greater Sage-Grouse Wildfire, Invasive Annual Grasses & Conifer Expansion Assessment* was released in June of 2014. This assessment identified priority areas and management strategies to reduce the threats to sage grouse resulting from impacts of invasive annual grasses, wildfires, and conifer expansion. Priority Areas for Conservations (PACs) have been identified by states as key areas that are necessary to maintain redundant, representative, and resilient sage-grouse populations. The proposed project area is located within the Southern Great Basin PAC (Map 2). A primary objective outlined for the PACS is to minimize threats within PACs (e.g., wildfire and invasive annual grasses impacts, and conifer expansion) to ensure the long-term viability of sage-grouse and its habitats. Conifer expansion, primarily pinyon pine/Utah juniper, into sagebrush landscapes has been identified as a threat to the sage grouse. Conifer expansion also directly reduces sage grouse habitat by displacing shrubs and herbaceous understory as well as by providing perches for avian predators. Conifer expansion also leads to larger, more severe fires in sagebrush systems by increasing woody fuel loads. Sage grouse populations have been shown to be impacted by even low levels of conifer expansion. The proposed project area is also located in proximity to LEKs, within 100 percent breeding bird habitat (Map 2) and splits Habitat of Moderate Importance (PGH) and transitional habitat (Map 3).

This proposed project is located within a restoration unit identified by the Cave and Lake Valley Watershed Restoration Plan (2012) a previous SNPLMA project (CI54). The restoration unit is approximately 9,800 acres and objectives outlined in the plan indicate 60% – 75% or 5,880 to 7,350 acres would be targeted for restoration. Within the restoration unit, pinyon/juniper densities are low on approximately 2,700 acres. Restoration in these areas can be accomplished through manual methods and cultural clearances would not be necessary. All of these acres would be treated within the unit leaving approximately 4,650 acres available for restoration where higher pinyon/juniper

densities occur. These areas would require mechanical removal methods resulting in the need for cultural clearances. Biomass from the restoration could be made available if implementation methods and schedule are compatible with this SNPLMA proposal.

Implementation of this project would treat approximately 1,500 acres of denser pinyon/juniper within the restoration unit (Map 1). The exact treatment layout of the SNPLMA project would be determined after completion of the cultural inventory. The cultural inventory, approximately 4,650 acres, will be completed in FY15 through an Ely District BLM fuels funded project. Along with the cultural inventory the approved FY15 Ely District BLM project will also treat approximately 2,700 acres of the less dense pinyon/juniper expansion through manual methods (Map 2).

Completion of the remaining acres not treated through the SMPLA and/or BLM projects would depend on future funding available. Funding would be requested through future SNPLMA rounds and normal BLM funding sources. With the increased importance of improvement of sage grouse habitat additional funding would likely be possible.

Along with the Ely District BLM FY15 fuels project this proposed project would also tie in with other sage grouse habitat improvement projects that have been implemented over the last couple of years. These have included a Wildland Urban Interface project involving pinyon/juniper thinning around private property, a portion of the SNPLMA Round 6 – Implementation of the Governor’s Sage Grouse Plan for Lincoln County Project, and habitat improvement on private land involving the Natural Resources Conservation Service (Map 2).

## **Deliverables**

### **Primary Deliverables**

The following will be completed:

- Remove pinyon/juniper expansion on approximately 1,500 acres within the sage brush vegetation community.
- Aerial seed approximately 1,500 acres.

### **Standard Deliverables**

Deliverables would be measured by the following;

- Vegetation monitoring reports
- Contract preparation and contract management
- Outreach to affected public and partners
- Measurement of acres treated



## **SNPLMA Strategic Plan**

The proposed Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project will contribute to the SNPLMA value to “Restore and protect healthy and resilient landscapes that connect important habitats and protect the integrity of the human and biological communities” and implement SNPLMA Strategic Goal 1 – “Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources” as described in the Draft SNPLMA Strategic Plan for 2015-2019. This project implements the value and strategic goal by improving the sagebrush communities for sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species. This project would improve the connection between active leks, improve sagebrush communities by reducing pinyon/juniper expansion within the Southern Great Basin PAC, and expand General Habitats into adjacent transitional habitat.

This project proposal also addresses the following performance measures objectives of Goal 2 of the 2010-2015 SNPLMA Strategic Plan:

- H4 – Acres of Upland Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored
  - Outcome H4 – The proposed project would treat, enhance and restore 1,500 of upland sagebrush communities within the proposed project area.
- H15 – Number of Conservation Actions Implemented for Non-Listed Species
  - Outcome H15- The proposed project would implement conservation actions in the form of habitat improvements for Sage Grouse. The proposal would expand and expand Preliminary Priority and General Habitats into adjacent transitional habitat and reduce pinyon/juniper expansion within the Southern Great Basin PAC.
- F1 – Acres of Hazardous Fuels Treated – Non-Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
  - Outcome F1 – The proposed project would reduce hazardous fuels within a non-wildland urban interface area. The proposal would treat 1,500 acres reducing hazardous fuels build up and reducing the potential of wildland fire that burns outside the historical fire regime and potentially leads to a loss of key ecosystem components.

## **Project Readiness**

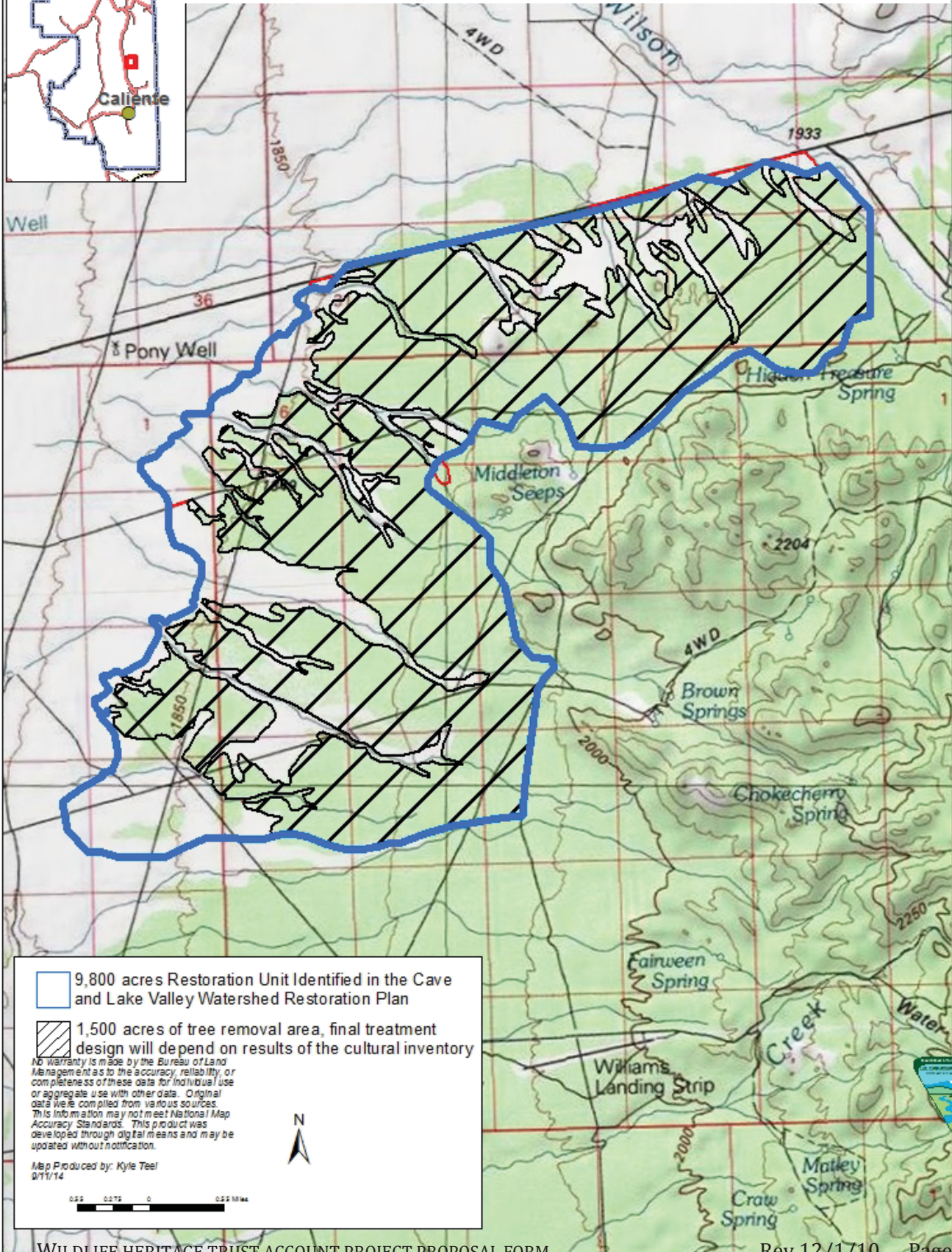
Project implementation can begin once approved because NEPA was completed in the Cave and Lake Valley Watershed Restoration Plan (2012) and SHPO consultation would be completed during FY15 by the Ely District BLM.

### **Timeline for Project Completion**

If funding is approved for this project, contract development would begin the following spring. Once funding is approved this project would take up to four years to complete.

- Year 1
  - Pretreatment monitoring
  - Final treatment layout
  - Issue Tree Removal Contract
  
- Year 2
  - Begin tree removal
  
- Year 3
  - Continue tree removal
  - Apply seed
  
- Year 4
  - Complete tree removal
  - Post treatment monitoring
  - Project closeout

# Map 1: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project



9,800 acres Restoration Unit Identified in the Cave and Lake Valley Watershed Restoration Plan

1,500 acres of tree removal area, final treatment design will depend on results of the cultural inventory

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

Map Produced by: Kyle Teel  
9/11/14

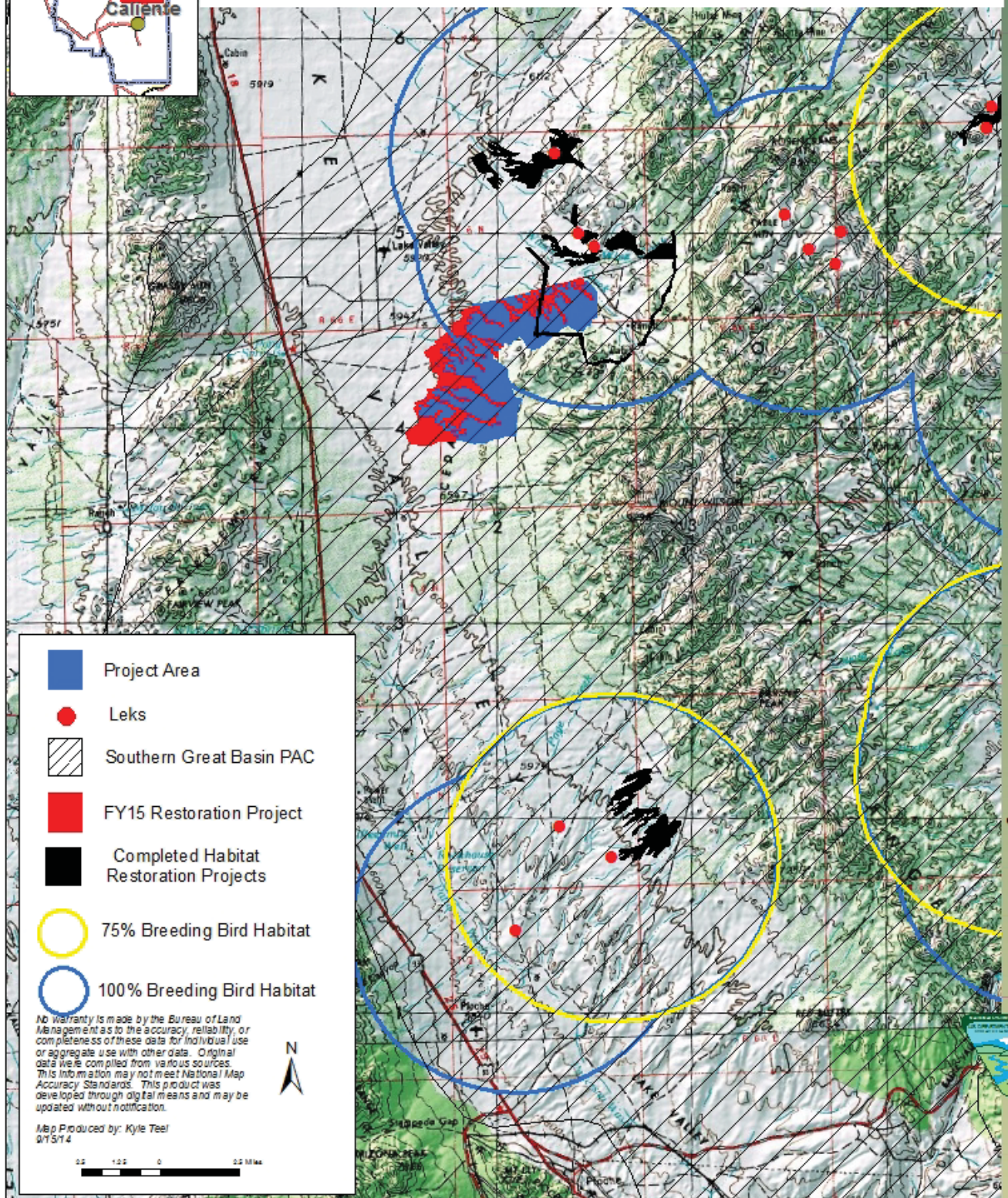
N








0 0.25 0.5 0.75 Miles

Ely District Office



# Map 2: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project in Relationship to Associated Sage Grouse Habitat Types and Past Habitat Restoration Projects



-  Project Area
-  Leks
-  Southern Great Basin PAC
-  FY15 Restoration Project
-  Completed Habitat Restoration Projects
-  75% Breeding Bird Habitat
-  100% Breeding Bird Habitat

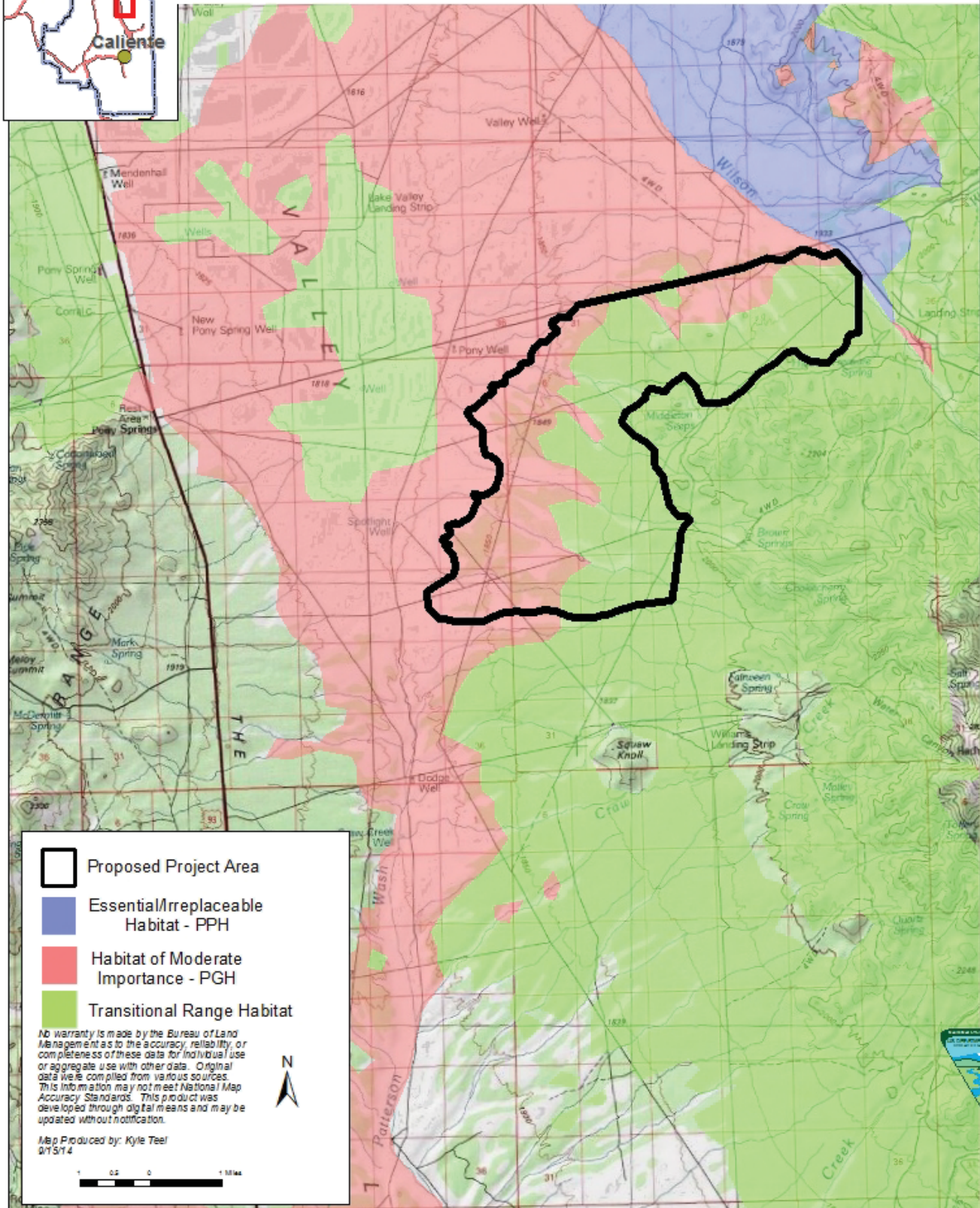
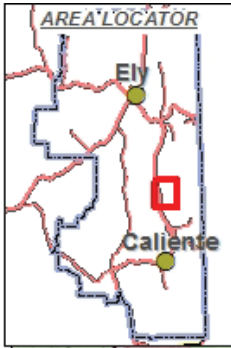
No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.



Map Produced by: Kyle Teel  
9/15/14



# Map 3: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project in Relationship to NV BLM Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Classification



Ely District Office



## LETTERS of SUPPORT

Lincoln County Conservation District  
PO Box 445  
Caliente, Nevada 89008



Kyle Teel  
BLM – Ely District Office  
P.O. Box 237  
Caliente, NV 89008

Re: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project and Table Mountain Sage Grouse Corridor Project

Dear Mr. Teel;

The Lincoln County Sage Grouse Local Area Working Group would like to extend its support for the following Round 15 Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act - Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Projects: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project and Table Mountain Sage Grouse Corridor Project.

These projects would aid in improving habitat for sage grouse within Lincoln County. The Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project would continue the implementation of habitat improvements outlined in our Lincoln County Sage Grouse Conservation Plan. The Table Mountain project would provide an important corridor for sage grouse allowing them easier access to the important summer habitat on Table Mountain.

Sincerely,

Lincoln County Sage Grouse  
Local Area Working Group

**Lincoln County Commissioner letter in the works.**



Brian Sandoval  
Governor

State of Nevada

**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

1100 Valley Road  
Reno, Nevada 89512  
(775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

TONY WASLEY  
*Director*

RICHARD L. HASKINS, II  
*Deputy Director*

PATRICK O. CATES  
*Deputy Director*

September 30, 2014

Rosemary Thomas, District Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
Ely District Office  
792 North Industrial Way, HC 33 Box 33500  
Ely, NV 89301

Re: SNPLMA Round 15: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement and Table Mountain Sage Grouse Corridor Projects

Dear Ms. Thomas,

The Nevada Department of Wildlife would like to extend our support for the following Round 15 Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act–Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Projects: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement and Table Mountain Sage Grouse Corridor.

These projects should improve sage-grouse habitats by reducing fragmentation and expanding the amount of available habitats. It is anticipated that these projects will eventually provide additional breeding and nesting habitats as well as allow for easier access for hens with attendant broods to move from the lower elevation nesting habitats in Lake Valley to the higher elevation brood rearing habitats of Table Mountain, a critical use area for sage-grouse. The Nevada Department of Wildlife would welcome your support for efforts to improve sage-grouse habitats in this area and is happy to coordinate with you or provide any assistance that we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan Jenne".

Alan Jenne, Habitat Division Chief  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
1100 Valley Rd  
Reno, NV 89512



**EASTERN NEVADA LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT (ENLRP)**

**RANKING CRITERIA**

Five criteria will be used by the subgroup to evaluate, score, and rank nominations in this category. The total points available are shown to the right of the criteria. The factors used to score the criteria are listed below it with the points available for each factor. Unless stated below the Factor, scoring is on a sliding scale.

<b>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.</b>	<b>Points = 25</b>
--	--------------------

Factors:

A. Project will conduct treatments to maintain healthy sagebrush rangelands, including preventative measures for annual grass invasion and conifer encroachment.	15
B. Project will conduct treatments to address the conversion of overgrown/decadent sagebrush, annual grass understory, and conifer encroachment.	<b>10</b>
C. Project will conduct treatments to address the annual grass and/or conifer dominated landscape within or adjacent to sagebrush rangelands.	<b>5</b>
D. Project is to remove pinyon pine and juniper to decrease the fire risk to large intact sagebrush habitat, riparian areas, and/or aspen stands.	<b>10</b>

Factors A-C are mutually exclusive, points are awarded all or none for only one of these factors. Factor D is scored on a sliding scale.

**Discussion:** The proposed project would implement restoration treatments to address the degradation of sagebrush habitat resulting from conifer encroachment. The proposed project is located adjacent to the sagebrush rangelands in Lake Valley and would address conifer encroachment into the sagebrush rangelands expanding the rangelands and decreasing the fire risk to these sagebrush rangeland.

<b>2. Habitat Recovery/Restoration</b>	<b>Points = 25</b>
--	--------------------

Factors:

A. The project will implement habitat restoration or recovery actions within a defined Priority Area for Conservation (PAC), essential/irreplaceable or important habitat*, riparian area, or aspen stand.	<b>20</b>
B. The project will implement habitat restoration or recovery actions within a moderate habitat*, riparian area, or aspen stand.	10
C. The project will implement habitat restoration or recovery action within low value habitat*.	5
D. Sagebrush landscape cover	
1. Project area is characterized as low resistance and resilience and greater than 25% sagebrush landscape cover.	<b>5</b>

2. Project area is characterized as high resistance and resilience and greater than 25% sagebrush landscape cover.	3
--	---

Select Factor A, B, or C depending on the majority of the landscape in the nomination and score on a sliding scale. Factor D1, and D2 are mutually exclusive; points are awarded all or none for only one of these factors.

**Discussion:** The proposed project is located entirely within the Southern Great Basin Priority Area for Conservation (Map 2) and would implement a primary objective outlined for the PACS by minimizing the threat of wildfires and reducing conifer expansion. The sagebrush landscape cover is greater than 25% and the area is characterized as low resistance and resilience.

<b>3. Fire Prevention and Post Fire Rehabilitation</b>	<b>Points = 15</b>
--	--------------------

Factors:

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.	15
B. Project will rehabilitate a previously burned area to prevent the establishment of invasive annual grasses.	10

**Discussion:** The proposed project would provide a fuel break as both an anchor point for and reducing the threat of a fire starting in the area and moving into the sagebrush rangelands in Lake Valley and previously completed sage grouse habitat improvement projects.

<b>4. Implementation of the project will lead to additional scientific information.</b>	<b>Points = 5</b>
---	-------------------

Factors:

A. 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.	5
---	---

**Discussion:** The proposed project could lead to additional scientific information and effectiveness monitoring by providing the opportunity to monitor sage grouse movements and determine how they use the treated areas.

<b>5. Supports strategic plan values of community, connectivity, and sustainability.</b>	<b>Points = 20</b>
--	--------------------

Factors:

A. Involves non-governmental groups, volunteers, or organizations in the development and accomplishment of resource management goals, education, outreach, and other activities. Has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution in the development and/or implementation of the project.	<b>5</b>
B. Community: in addition to the direct benefit to the nominating entity, actively involves and addresses the needs of at least one additional governmental agency, community or private land manager.	<b>5</b>
C. 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.	<b>5</b>
D. Sustainability: project data can be incorporated into the ongoing rangeland health monitoring of the sponsoring or benefiting entity.	<b>5</b>

The term “governmental” in Factor 5B, includes Federal, state, local, and tribal governments.

**Discussion:** Implementation of the proposed project will involve the biologists from the Nevada Department of Wildlife in the final design of the project. The area where the proposed project is located has been identified by the Lincoln County Sage Grouse Working Group as needing restoration and would assist in achieving of their goals. This proposed project would continue habitat restoration implemented by the Ely District BLM during FY15. A project within the restoration unit has been approved and funded to treat approximately 2,700 acres manually and conduct a cultural inventory on approximately 4,650 acres during FY15. This proposed project would also tie in with other sage grouse habitat improvement projects that have been implemented over the last couple of years (Map 2). Monitoring data from the proposed project could be incorporated into the ongoing rangeland health monitoring.

<b>Total Possible Points</b>	<b>90</b>
------------------------------	-----------

## Attachment 1

### APPENDIX B-10

#### EASTERN NEVADA LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT ESTIMATED NECESSARY EXPENSES

<b>Project Name:</b>	Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project		
<b>Project #:</b>	<b>Priority #:</b>	<b>Agencies:</b>	
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kyle Teel		
<b>Phone:</b>	(775) 727-8117	<b>Initial</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	8/14/2014	<b>Updated</b>	

<b>1. Planning &amp; Environmental Documentation</b> (Surveys/ reports for cultural, natural, biological, archaeological resources, NEPA documentation, etc)	\$	0%
<b>2. FWS Consultation - Endangered Species Act</b> (direct expenses for FWS if consultation is required)	\$	0%
<b>3. Direct Federal Labor to Implement Project (Payroll)</b> (Federal labor costs for completing the project)	\$30,000.00	7%
<b>4. Project Equipment and/or Supplies/ Materials</b> (include specialized equipment, supplies and materials not included in contracts/ agreements)	\$70,000.00	16%
<b>5. Travel &amp; Per Diem for Implementation</b>	\$	0%
<b>6. Official Vehicle Use</b> (Based on agencies procedures for use, fuel, equipment, and mileage charges)	\$8,000.00	2%
<b>7. Contracts/Grants/Agreements to complete the project</b>	\$325,000.00	75%
<b>8. Other Direct and Contracted Labor</b> Agency payroll for the Contracting Officer, COR, Project Inspector, Sec. 106 consultation if required, NEPA Lead, Project Manager, Project Supervisor, and subject experts to review contracted surveys, designs/drawings, plans, reports, etc.; Also covered is the cost to contract for a Project Manager and/or Project Supervisor if contracted separately from other project contracts)	\$	0%
<b>9. Other Necessary Expenses - See Expanded Budget</b>	\$	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$433,000.00</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Attachment 2**

**Detailed Cost Estimate and Other Expenses Worksheet**

<b>Project Title: Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project</b>	
<b>DETAILED COST ESTIMATE</b>	
<b>1. Planning and Environmental Assessment Costs</b>	
Specialist Surveys/Reports	\$
NEPA	\$
Permitting	\$
Watershed/Landscape Analysis	\$
Other (describe)	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>

<b>2. FWS Consultation - Endangered Species Act</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>
---	-----------------	-----------

<b>3. Direct Labor/Payroll to Perform the Project (use fully loaded labor rate)</b>	
Position 1 - Contracting Officer - GS-11	\$5,000.00
Position 2 - COR/PI - GS-11	\$16,000.00
Position 3 – Management Oversight	\$7,500.00
Position 4 - Public Affairs	\$1,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>

<b>4. Project Equipment</b>	
Item 1 (list equipment)	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>

<b>5. Project Materials and Supplies</b>	
Office Supplies	\$
Field Supplies - Seed	\$70,000.00
Vehicle Equipment	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$70,000.00</b>

<b>6. Travel (airfare, car rental, per diem, etc)</b>	
Travel 1 (include purpose)	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>

<b>7. Official Vehicle Use</b>	
Vehicle Use 1 - COR/PI Vehicle	\$8,000.00
Vehicle Use 2	\$
Vehicle Use 5	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
<b>8. Required Training for Project Implementation (list purpose)</b>	
Training 1	\$
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>9. Cost of Contracts and/or Agreements to Perform Project</b>	
Contract 1 – Tree Removal Contract	\$300,000.00
Contract 2 – Seeding Contract	\$25,000.00
<b>Detailed Cost Estimate Subtotal</b>	<b>\$325,000.00</b>
<b>OTHER NECESSARY EXPENSES (APPENDIX B-11)</b>	
<b>10. Examples of Other Necessary Expenses (providing a breakdown of these costs is optional, however a total estimate is required.)</b>	
<b>ADMINISTRATION COSTS</b>	
Budget Tracking/Accounting and Execution	\$
Allocation of Transferred Funds to the Region and to the Field*	\$
Preparation of OMB Reports Required in Association with Transferred Funds*	\$
Project Procurements and Contract Oversight (If any in addition to Direct Labor for the CO, COR, and PI already included on the Estimated Expense sheet)	\$
Preparing Transfer Requests*	\$
Transfer of Station cost (PCS) for Hiring Project Personnel	\$
Managing Allocation of Transferred Funds*	\$
Financial Audit Support	\$
Supervision and Oversight of SNPLMA-Funded Staff and/or Contractors	\$
Travel Administration for Required Project Travel	\$
Human Resource/Relations Tasks for SNPLMA-funded Personnel	\$
Preparing Quarterly Status Reports	\$
Tracking Project Activities, Expenses, IGOs, Task Orders (e.g., project database management)	\$
IT Services to Install Hardware/Wiring, Project-Required Software, and Maintain/Trouble Shoot Computers Used for SNPLMA Projects. Hours and costs must be tracked by project and based on percentage of time the computer(s) are used for those projects.	\$
A percent of Project-Related Indirect Costs for Support Based on Staff Time Spent on the Project(s), provided these expenses meet the three criteria of necessary expenses and are not covered elsewhere in the cost estimate	\$

(Examples of such indirect costs would be secretarial support, printing, copying, cost-center expenses, etc.)	
<b>PROJECT CONSTRUCTION, CONSULTATION AND MANAGEMENT</b>	
Duties of Project Manager/Supervisor (If not already included on the Estimated Expense Sheet)	\$
Construction Trailers and Utilities	\$
Required Project Consultations (e.g., safety and fire; cultural and historic, ADA, etc.)	\$
Public Scoping and/or Meetings for Environmental Review, Project Design, etc. (Does not include ribbon cutting or opening ceremonies for projects at or near completion.)	\$
Review of Contracted Surveys, Assessments, Designs/Drawings, Reports (If not already included on the Estimated Necessary Expense Sheet)	\$
Construction Site Security	\$
Cell Phones, Cell Service, Radios for Project Personnel Primarily in the Field	\$
Required Cultural, Wildlife, Biological, and other Similar Surveys (If not already included on the Estimated Necessary Expense Sheet)	\$
Interest Required to be Paid on Construction Contract Retention Amounts	\$
<b>TEMPORARY OFFICE SPACE</b>	
Lease Costs for New Temporary Space	\$
Design and Installation of Modifications to Meet Space Plan Needs	\$
Set Up Fees for Utilities (Gas, Electricity, etc.)	\$
Furniture and Fixtures	\$
Required Modifications to Meet Codes	\$
Computer Equipment (See section on equipment costs for limiting conditions)	\$
Installation Costs for Computer Networks, Telephone Service	\$
Other (describe)	\$
<b>Other Necessary Expenses Subtotal</b>	\$
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	
	<b>\$433,000.00</b>
<b>CASH/ IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	
<b>Contributor 1</b>	\$
<b>Contributor 2</b>	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>