

# **SNPLMA** ANNUAL REPORT | FISCAL YEAR 2010

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



#### **BOB ABBEY** DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

I am pleased to share the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) FY 2010 Annual Report to Congress. Included are highlights of some of the great projects that are being undertaken with funding generated from Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands sales in Las Vegas, as well as details of project status and completions. The BLM and its partners worked collaboratively to identify and implement over 800 projects that have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior since passage of the Act in 1998.

The projects further many of our goals for these shared landscapes, including minimizing the risk of wildfire to communities, preventing exotic species from entering Lake Tahoe, providing parks, trails, and natural areas to local communities, studying the potential impacts that climate change may have on habitats and wildlife, and acquiring environmentally sensitive lands throughout Nevada for protection and public use.

While the sale of public lands in Las Vegas has fallen off greatly due to the economic downturn, the funds that were generated from previous sales are being used to provide employment opportunities to communities in Nevada.

The BLM and its partners recognize the importance of these funds and continue to be responsible stewards. Federal and local agencies developed a five-year strategic plan intended to improve transparency and highlight the funding that is applied towards critical land acquisitions, conservation efforts, hazardous fuels reduction and wildfire prevention, and improvements to Federal lands and local parks and trails infrastructure.

I am pleased to report on the FY 2010 accomplishments made possible by the SNPLMA.

### INTRODUCTION

From 1990 to 2007, southern Nevada was one of the fastest growing regions of the United States. During that period, the population of the Las Vegas Valley (including the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Henderson) increased from 800,000 to nearly 2 million. However, during the nation's economic downturn, southern Nevada was one of the hardest hit regions of the country, negatively affecting real estate values, demand for raw land, and even population migration. The entire state has been presented with budgetary challenges and faces a steep recovery. One bright spot has been the continued success of the program to implement the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (Public Law 105-263) (SNPLMA).

In FY 2010, 49 new projects were approved by the Secretary of the Interior in the 11th "Round" of SNPLMA funding in seven categories totaling \$89 million. Included in Round 11 was \$34 million for

restoration work at Lake Tahoe as well as the last installment of \$8.1 million toward the Lake Tahoe commitment of \$300 million. FY 2010 accomplishments include completion of 56 projects from Rounds 1-9, resulting in development of 93 acres of parks and trailheads, construction of 1.25 miles of local trails in southern Nevada, completion of 14 studies/plans and 17 capital projects, and acquisition of over 16,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land. Projects include improvements at Bootleg Canyon Park, a world-class mountain biking destination; closures of more than 150 hazardous abandoned mine sites; and upgrades to facilities at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, improving visitor experience and safety.

The BLM sold 22.5 acres within the SNPLMA boundary in FY 2010, comparable to sales in FY 2009, but considerably less than pre-recession sales, resulting in a substantial decline in revenue available for allocation. At the same time, interest

rates have declined nationally, thereby reducing interest income on the SNPLMA special account, another substantial form of revenue generation for the SNPLMA program. These reductions in revenue will most likely mean that for the foreseeable future SNPLMA rounds will be considerably smaller, funding only the highest priority projects.

FY 2010 also saw the successful implementation of improvements to accountability measures and program management, including adoption of the FY 2010 – FY 2014 SNPLMA Strategic Plan to provide increased focus on specific program goals and objectives. Information about the status of SNPLMA projects, land sales, and broad program information is regularly updated on a public website: www.blm.gov/SNPLMA.



SNPLMA Capital Improvement Project: boardwalk and interpretive signage at Red Springs, Red Rock Canyon NCA (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

Section 6 of the SNPLMA statute requires that the Secretary of the Interior report annually to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives on all transactions under the Act. In FY 2010, the interagency partners completed numerous transactions as shown in the table below, including the sale of 11 parcels and completion of 56 projects approved in previous rounds.

### FY 2010 COMPLETED PROJECTS BY CATEGORY

Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisitions	Capital Improvements	Conservation Initiatives	Lake Tahoe Restoration	Parks, Trails and Natural Areas	Hazardous Fuels	MSHCP†	ENLRP‡	Pre-Proposal Plans	Total
5	17	0	11	8	0	0	0	15	56

### **FY 2010 LAND DISPOSALS**

Form of Disposal	Number of Parcels	Acres	
Land Auctions	11	22.50	
Direct Sales	0	0	
Totals	11	22.50	

<sup>†</sup>Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

# **Recreation and Public Purposes Act**

The SNPLMA, as amended, authorizes the Secretary to make lands available for disposal, within the SNPLMA disposal boundary, as defined in the Act. The Act also provides for the units of local government and the State of Nevada to reserve these lands for future use in accordance with the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of June 14, 1926, as amended (R&PP).



Centennial Hills Park (Marc Sanchez | BLM)

Examples of typical uses under the R&PP are historic monument sites, schools, fire and police stations, parks, landfills, municipal facilities, hospitals, and fairgrounds. The land must be developed according to a plan of development approved by the BLM.

The R&PP allows governmental entities and non-profit organizations to obtain public lands for lease and conveyance at little or no cost, with pricing established by regulations at 43 CFR 2912.1-1(d) for lease rental and 43 CFR 2741.8 for conveyance. The BLM's policy is to first lease the identified lands and then convey the land once it has been developed. Governmental entities lease land for \$2 per acre with a \$25 minimum per transaction and patent lands for \$10 per acre with a \$50 minimum per transaction. Non-profits can lease and patent lands at between a 10 and 50 percent discount on fair market value, depending on usage. Recreation and Historic Monuments are available at no cost for lease or conveyance to governmental entities only.

In accordance with the SNPLMA, funds collected for the R&PP lease/conveyance actions, though minimal (e.g., \$647.40 for R&PP leases issued in FY 2010), are deposited into the SNPLMA Special Account.

The R&PP provides governmental entities including the State of Nevada with a substantial cost savings in the purchase price, benefitting the public with lower cost of projects such as schools, parks, and fire stations.



Centennial High School (BLM)



SkyView Multi-Generational Center (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

<sup>‡</sup>Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project

### **ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LAND ACQUISITION**

#### **FY 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Completed Projects** 

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SNPLMA funding supports the acquisition of environmentally sensitive land and interests in land within Nevada with priority to lands in Clark County.

Lands have been proposed for acquisition by fee or easement in 11 rounds through FY 2010. The USDA Forest Service (USFS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the National Park Service (NPS), the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), and the BLM have continued to make excellent progress over the last year in finalizing acquisition projects approved in early rounds. All land acquisition projects approved for funding in Rounds 1 through 6 are completed or were terminated because of title issues or because the acquisition price could not be agreed upon.

The High Rock, Home Camp, and Capital Camp acquisitions are three of the success stories of 2010.



Cultural ruins of Hardin City in High Rock Acquisition (Libby White | BLM)

#### **High Rock Acquisition**

The BLM has acquired nearly 1,300 acres of environmentally sensitive land around the Black Rock Desert National Conservation Area north of Reno, Nevada. The property was purchased from private land owners with the help of the Nevada Land Conservancy, which nominated this project in 2007 during Round 8. The purchase will help to protect resource-rich land along the Applegate-Lassen Trail, a covered wagon route used by 19th century pioneers.

The acquisition includes parcels in the Little High Lake Basin, the Poodle Mountain Wilderness Study Area, and the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area.



Historic Yount-Williams Homestead Cabin (Bob Taylor | BLM)

#### Williams Ranch Acquisition

The USFS acquired the 94-acre Williams Ranch property, located in Trout Canyon, Nevada, approximately 29 miles west of Las Vegas within the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. This acquisition provides unrestricted access to the upper Trout Canyon area, located entirely on National Forest System Lands. The property is home to the original "Yount-Williams" homestead cabin built in 1904-05, a hand-hewn log structure that is one of the oldest remaining original homestead sites in the Pahrump Valley of southern Nevada. Federal ownership and management of the property helps preserve scenic, historic, cultural, and natural values that contribute to the public enjoyment and biological diversity of the surrounding area.



Creek on Home Camp Property (Libby White | BLM)



Riparian Meadow on Home Camp Property (Libby White | BLM)

#### **Home Camp Acquisition**

The BLM acquired nearly 14.840 acres of dispersed parcels located in rural northern Washoe County, Nevada. The Round 7 acquisition included over 2,000 acre feet of surface water rights. The parcels are located entirely within the California Surprise Field Office management area and generally located in Hays Canyon, Mountain View Creek, Boulder Flat, Boulder Mountain and Boulder Reservoir areas. The subject lands provide habitat for the Wall Canyon Sucker, a BLM Sensitive Species, and for the Greater Sage-Grouse, a species warranted but precluded from listing under the Endangered Species Act. Most of the acreage is adjacent to the Wall Canyon Wilderness Study Area and facilitates recreational access. The property has numerous riparian and wetland sites, springs, and wet meadows, including the headwaters for Mountain View Creek as well as sections of Boulder Creek and Boulder Reservoir.



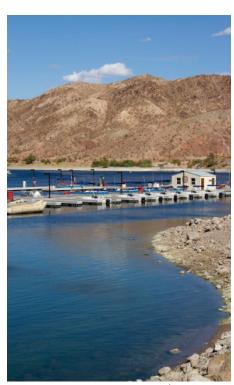
Landscape features on Williams Ranch Acquisition (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

**Completed Projects** 

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The SNPLMA funds capital improvements at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, the Desert National Wildlife Refuge, the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, the Great Basin National Park, and other areas in Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties. These projects include repair or rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, construction of new facilities, and other improvements needed to protect resource values. Examples include the construction of fire stations, re-contouring of streams to improve habitat, and improvements to campgrounds and other visitor facilities.

There were a number of significant accomplishments in 2010, including two projects at Lake Mead NRA (NPS) and at Red Rock Canyon NCA (BLM).



Upgraded amenities at Willow Beach (Ken Ozawa | BLM)



Construction at Willow Beach Campground (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

#### Willow Beach Rehabilitation

The NPS redevelopment of the Willow Beach Area is nearing completion. The area was previously developed in the 1950s. After significant flash flooding in 1979, the four washes that converge at Willow Beach were studied and it was determined that each could carry a significant flood flow, putting many of the existing facilities at risk.

Fundamental elements of the project included the complete replacement of the utility infrastructure including water systems and placing the electrical and telephone systems underground. Wells were drilled to provide fresh water, and a state-of-the-art water treatment system was installed due to more stringent drinking water standards. Most important was the construction of a flood control system with flood channels and warning systems.

Overnight facilities will return to Willow Beach in the form of an RV campground with electrical, water, and wastewater hook-ups. The shoreline commercial facilities are being replaced with a new building that will include a store and grill with a large covered patio. Shoreline use is being enhanced with the construction of a mile of shoreline trail and 20 new picnic shelters. New boat pumpout facilities are being installed along with a 100-slip marina, and increased parking to support the new amenities. New employee housing and maintenance areas will support operations in the area.

The new facilities were designed according to established sustainability initiatives: the heating/cooling system for the store includes water-source heat pumps and underwater coils cooled the lake. Photovoltaic systems are installed for the store, maintenance building, and water treatment plant; and solar water heating is included in the campground comfort station.



Exhibits and canyon viewing area at new Red Rock Visitor Center (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

#### **New Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center**

The new Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) Visitor Center offers an information station, outdoor interpretive exhibits, a larger bookstore, and an amphitheater. This project replaces the old center, which opened in 1982 during a time when RRCNCA received about 20,000 visitors a year compared to more than one million a year now. The visitor center earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification and features a large photovoltaic panel array.



Educational exhibits at the new Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

**Completed Projects** 

n

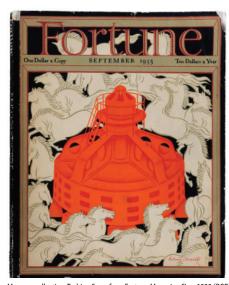
Conservation Initiatives promote conservation and improve the quality of Federal lands in Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties, and Carson City, Nevada.

Conservation Initiatives include planning, implementation, monitoring, and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. Also included are delivery of programs that are critical to protecting and sustaining resources in Nevada, such as litter and desert dumping clean-up and prevention, natural and cultural resource protection, recreation, and habitat restoration.

In FY 2010, substantial project work was accomplished within the program, including work to protect and preserve cultural resources at Hoover Dam as well as a mobile fire prevention education center.



Tilting Level from Hoover Dam Collection (BOR)



 $Museum \, collection: Turbine \, Cover \, from \, Fortune \, Magazine \, Circa \, 1933 \, (BOR)$ 



Architectural rendering of Hoover Dam from museum collection (BOR)

#### Lower Colorado Dams Office Museum Property Protection and Preservation

The Lower Colorado Dams Office Museum Property Protection and Preservation is a BOR Conservation Initiative which focuses on cultural resources related to the construction of Hoover Dam.

All of the project deliverables have been completed except the conservation and preservation of the Colorado River topographical model. Work to date has included:

- Preservation, restoration, and online public access to significant cultural museum properties from the construction era of the Hoover Dam, Boulder City, and related cultural resources;
- Condition surveys were performed by a conservator. They included a review of the proposed preservation, public availability, and public education scope of work;
- Condition survey and conservation of existing photographs and negatives;
- Conservation of the museum collection including paper items like newspaper clippings, brochures, postcards, and lithographs and three dimensional objects such as badges, hard hats, electrical instruments, tools, and models.

A contractor was hired to restore the Colorado River topographical model, which had been damaged by years of wear-and-tear. The restoration work is currently in progress.



Fire Education Trailer (Daniel B. Thompson | USFS)

#### Mobile, Place-Based, Multi-Media Education Center

The USFS "Mobile, Place-Based, Multi-Media Education Center" project was funded in Round 6 to purchase a fire education trailer that is used to inform the public about the role of fire, the need for wild-fire prevention and protection, and many other topics.

The major components of this project were: 1) purchase a trailer with its own power system and customized exterior graphics, 2) outfit the trailer with a media package, and 3) provide for signage and other educational materials.

Over the course of the project, the trailer was the focal point for public information from all of the southern Nevada fire organizations. Project deliverables were complete as of May 3, 2010, and the project is scheduled for closeout in early FY 2011. After project completion, the USFS, NPS, and BLM will continue to use the trailer for prevention programs in southern Nevada; all costs associated with these programs will be covered by the USFS fire prevention budget and the participating agencies.



Fire Education Trailer (Daniel B. Thompson  $\mid$  USFS)

**Completed Projects** 

11

The SNPLMA was amended in 2003 to provide funding for the Federal share of the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) as set forth in the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA).

Lake Tahoe is one of the largest and deepest lakes in the United States and is known for the crystal clarity of its water; however, the lake and surrounding basin are threatened by land disturbance on public and private land, transportation patterns, and climate change. The LTRA authorized up to \$300 million for expenditure by the USFS and its partners for projects to restore and protect water, air, and forest resources throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin.

In FY 2010, a total of 11 projects were completed, including the Taylor, Tallac, and Spring Creek Watershed Ecosystem Restoration Plan. Significant progress was also made on the Cold Creek/High Meadow Ecosystem Restoration project.



A backhoe stacks logs, some of which will be used in construction of the new stream channel at High Meadow (USFS)



Diversion of stream flow in order to prepare Cold Creek for restoration (IJEES)



A yellow arrow overlay shows the location and direction of the new stream channel at High Meadow (USFS)

# Cold Creek/High Meadow Ecosystem Restoration

High Meadow is sited on 1,790 acres of land originally acquired by the USFS in 2003 under the Santini-Burton Act.

The Forest Service's Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) conducted a comprehensive Ecosystem Assessment and Restoration Plan for the Cold Creek watershed, with special attention to the High Meadow site, which had suffered adverse effects such as erosion and sedimentation from decades of livestock grazing and water diversion. The project's goal is to restore natural, physical, and biological processes that sustain healthy ecosystem functions in the Cold Creek watershed.

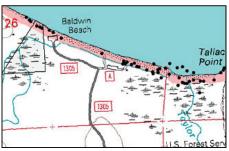
Implementation was initiated in 2010, which included the construction of 3,200 linear feet of new stream channel and 2 acres of inset floodplain, as well as re-routing the Cold Creek Trail. Work is scheduled for completion by the fall of 2012, including re-routing flows into the new channel segments, decommissioning existing channels, and restoration of legacy diversion ditches.

# Taylor, Tallac, and Spring Creek Watershed Ecosystem Restoration Plan

The LTBMU has completed the first phase of the Taylor, Tallac, and Spring Creek Watershed Ecosystem Restoration Project (Round 6). The LTBMU completed a restoration plan utilizing information from physical and biological field surveys as well as the Ecosystem Assessment Report, which was completed in 2004. The peer-reviewed plan provides a framework to restore aquatic habitat and improve water quality. The plan identifies specific sub-actions that will:

- Enhance wetland/lagoon function;
- Enhance habitat for riparian dependent native species; and
- Upgrade existing recreation facilities.

The restoration plan will serve as the foundation for meeting land management planning requirements under the National Forest Management Act and NEPA by identifying existing and desired conditions and restoration options.



Riparian dependent native species locations within the project area

**Completed Projects** 

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This funding category benefits local communities through the development of parks, trails, and natural areas (PTNA) in Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties in Nevada. Washoe County and Carson City, Nevada are also eligible for PTNA funding, subject to certain limitations. Funds are provided for acquisition of lands, easements, or rights-of-way necessary to develop parks, trails, and natural areas, as well as for construction or renovation of such projects by local and regional governmental entities.

During FY 2010, eight PTNA projects were completed, including new park construction and renovations in older, economically challenged, culturally diverse, and underserved areas. Ideally, the renovation projects will be catalysts for more investment and rehabilitation in the surrounding neighborhoods. The park enhancements improve public health and safety, provide a more modern recreation experience, and offer aesthetically pleasing and functional facilities.

Two PTNA projects are featured in this report: Craig Ranch Regional Park and enhancements to the Flamingo Arroyo Trail.



Wind Harp at Craig Ranch Regional Park (Ken Ozawa | BLM)



Entry arch, trail, signage, and shade shelters at Pecos-McLeod trailhead on the Flamingo Arroyo Trail (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

#### **Craig Ranch Regional Park**

The 135-acre Craig Ranch Regional Park in North Las Vegas is situated on the former site of the Craig Ranch Golf Course. By siting the new park on a former golf course, the designer was able to take advantage of the thousands of mature trees that lined the fairways. Incorporating such existing elements into the design helped drastically reduce the landscaping budget typically necessary for new park construction. The park design also takes advantage of the existing Regional Las Vegas Wash Trail system. The first phase of construction will connect the park's landscaped walkways to the trail system.

Phase I of the park includes a 4-acre, ranchthemed playground complex including a forest play village, water spray plaza, play stream, misting stones, and a water slide. A concession stand to be run by a non profit community-based organization, restrooms, illuminated walking paths, a dog park, and shaded picnic areas along the water features are also included in the \$12 million first phase. Future phases will add baseball diamonds, basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts, an expanded dog park, and a nearly 60,000 square foot skate and bike park.

The contractor reported significant progress during FY 2010. The site has been graded and major progress was made on underground utilities, the restrooms and concession stand, water features, forest play village, climbing structures, shade structures, and the installation of benches, trash cans, bike racks, and associated facilities. The first phase is now complete.

#### Flamingo Arroyo Trail

Trail enhancements at the Pecos-McLeod trailhead of the Flamingo Arroyo trail in Las Vegas were completed in 2010. Regional artists collborated to complete the design, including shade structures, water fountains, seating, rest areas, signage, and entry archways.

The artists (Barbara Grygutis, Buster Simpson, and Kevin Berry) drew inspiration from both modern and traditional Paiute Tribal architecture and design. Artists also helped to design the trail's landscaping, and artist-designed amenities can also be found along the trail at Lamb Boulevard, Sloan Lane, and at a site just east of the Sunrise Mountain Trailhead.

The shade shelters, signage, and some of the other design elements were fabricated from steel and given a natural, weathered patina. The arid climate of the Las Vegas Valley will allow the steel to develop its oxidized character with negligible corrosion. Other components of the design such as seating were created using reclaimed debris from the demolished Stardust Hotel. The construction phase of the project took approximately 3 years to complete.



Artist-designed shade shelter on Flamingo Arroyo Trail (Ken Ozawa | BLM)

### HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION AND WILDFIRE PREVENTION

#### **FY 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Completed Projects** 

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The SNPLMA was amended in 2006 to allow funding for development and implementation of comprehensive, cost-effective, multi-jurisdictional hazardous fuels reduction and wildfire prevention plans for the Lake Tahoe Basin, the Carson Range in Douglas and Washoe Counties and Carson City, and the Spring Mountains in southern Nevada. Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention projects may include project level planning, fuels reduction treatment activities, biomass utilization, and biofuels energy development and production activities.

Because this category was not established until 2006, no implementation projects have yet been completed. However, significant project work was accomplished in FY 2010, including progress on projects such as the Clear Creek Multi-Jurisdictional Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project and the State of Nevada Urban Lot Fuel Reduction at Lake Tahoe.

#### State of Nevada Urban Lot Fuel Reduction



NDSL crews remove biomass on urban lots (NDSL)

The Nevada Division of State Lands (NDSL) is responsible for 487 urban lots in the Lake Tahoe Basin. These urban parcels are held in the public trust and managed for watershed and wildlife protection. Hazardous fuels reduction activities protect homes, utilities, and watershed resources, ultimately protecting the water quality of Lake Tahoe. Treatments (hand-thinning and pile burning) continued throughout FY 2010 and the project is now complete. A total of 183 urban lots were treated in 2010 comprising 119 forested and brush acres. Hand thinning was completed on 55 acres and pile burning on 64 acres. A Round 9 project was awarded to reach the goal of treating all state-owned lots for fuels in the wildland-urban interface.

#### Clear Creek Multi-Jurisdictional Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Steady work on the Round 9 Hazardous Fuels and Wildfire Prevention project "Clear Creek Multi-Jurisdictional Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project" continued through the third quarter of FY 2010. The USFS Region 4, the Washoe Tribe, and the State of Nevada are working together to implement this project. The State of Nevada completed the piling of 625 deadfall trees in preparation for burning, completed 22 acres of burning, removed 800 small diameter green trees, thinned 46 acres, and initiated road construction for access into other portions of the project area for treatment the following year. The small diameter green trees were transported to a cogeneration facility for biomass energy production.



Mechanical thinning of brush in the project area (USFS)

### **CLARK COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN**

#### **FY 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Completed Projects** 

0

The Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) targets 78 sensitive, threatened, and endangered species, including the threatened Desert Tortoise. The plan ensures that the loss of habitat, as authorized by a USFWS Section 10 incidental take permit, is adequately minimized and mitigated. Clark County, the other permittees, and the Federal agencies on whose land the mitigation actions take place, work together to implement projects under this category of work. Although no projects were completed in total in FY 2010, important work was performed within the program, including assessment of the Population Status and Reproductive Ecology Of The Western Burrowing Owl.

# Population Status and Reproductive Ecology of the Western Burrowing Owl

Habitat destruction resulting from human encroachment, eradication of burrowing mammals, and intensive pesticide use near occupied burrows have been pivotal in population declines of the Western Burrowing Owl. This species has been listed under the Clark County MSHCP as a High Priority Evaluation Species; however, conservation needs of the burrowing owl in Clark County could not be adequately defined until a better understanding of its distribution and population status was developed. This project: 1) conducts population surveys with a protocol specific to the Mojave Desert to determine density and abundance; 2) provides estimates of owl density, detection probability, apparent nest success, and productivity; 3) relates nest site selection and reproductive success to habitat and environmental variables; and 4) constructs a habitat model for predicting potential habitat based on landscape level habitat components.



Western Burrowing Owl (USFWS)

#### EASTERN NEVADA LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT

#### **FY 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Completed Projects** 

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The SNPLMA 2006 amendments authorize funding for implementation of the Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project (ENLRP).

The ENLRP category supports projects that promote resilient and healthy ecosystems within the Great Basin ecosystem in White Pine and Lincoln Counties. Projects include planning, implementation, research, monitoring, environmental analysis and associated documentation, NEPA compliance, and delivery of programs such as fire management and improvements to forests, woodlands, and rangelands. Research projects must demonstrate a practical application to management of Federal lands in order to be accepted for consideration.

Because this category was not established until 2006, no projects have been completed to date; nevertheless, substantial progress was achieved in many projects in FY 2010, including work done in White Pine County's Ward Mountain area.

#### **Ward Mountain Restoration Project**

The BLM, along with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is completing an ecological assessment for approximately 120,000 acres surrounding and including Ward Mountain southwest of Ely, Nevada. The project area includes lands managed by BLM and the USFS, as well as Ely Shoshone Tribal Lands. Private in-holdings are scattered throughout the project area.

The assessment's primary purpose is to inform and guide the formulation of future site-specific, cost-effective vegetation management projects to protect, enhance, and restore the ecological integrity of the area. The assessment was developed using satellite imagery, remote sensing, predictive ecological models, and cost-benefit assessments.

Significant project work was completed in September 2010 with a final report identifying the ecological condition of all major vegetation communities within the Ward Mountain area, and a prioritized list identifying where future treatments should be completed to obtain the best return on investment. The report also identified which ecological systems are likely to suffer future impairment over the next 20 years if corrective measures are not taken.

Future Ward Mountain restoration activities are planned and will be implemented as funding becomes available.



TNC team plotting one of over 1,000 ground points to verify satellite imagery of Ward Mountain project area (Louis Provencher | TNC)



View of Ward Mountain Upper Terrace (Louis Provencher | TNC)

SNPLMA ANNUAL REPORT FY 2010

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**Completed Projects** 

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A \$25 million reserve for Pre-Proposal Planning (PPP) was approved for use in Round 6 by the Secretary of the Interior to fund feasibility, initial planning, and pre-proposal design for future project nominations within the eligible categories. The purpose of the reserve was to provide funding to conduct necessary planning and conceptual designs to determine if the proposed projects were feasible and so that future nominations would have more accurate cost estimates, project scopes, and schedules for completion. The Secretary authorized the SNPLMA Executive Committee to decide which projects should receive PPP funding. In Round 6, the Executive Committee approved 42 projects within various categories for eligible agencies/entities. A PPP reserve was also approved in Rounds 7 (\$5 million) and 8 (\$2 million); however, no additional PPP projects were approved beyond Round 6 because it was believed to do so would create a need and demand for future project work, which the SNPLMA could not sustain. If needed in the future, the Executive Committee can recommend that the Secretary of the Interior approve a PPP reserve in future rounds. Two examples of FY 2010 PPP Projects are the SR-159 Corridor Feasibility Study and the Lincoln County Rodeo and Fairgrounds.

#### SR-159 Corridor Trail Feasibility Study

The BLM is proposing the development of a trail system within the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA). The trail would provide a broad range of nonmotorized recreational opportunities. This hiker/biker trail would provide a safe link from the end of West Charleston Boulevard at the north end of State Route 159 to State Route 160 running roughly parallel to SR-159. The trail system would include the trail alianment as well as elements such as trailheads and underpasses. This alianment would serve as a trail "spine" from which connections to nodes such as the Red Rock Canyon Campground, Red Springs, Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park (SMRSP), Bonnie Springs, and Blue Diamond could be made. The trail system would also connect trail users to existing and planned trail systems in the greater Las Vegas Valley.



Map of proposed SR-159 Corridor trail system

#### **Lincoln County Rodeo and Fair Grounds**



Lincoln County Rodeo and Fairgrounds Masterplan

In 2002 Lincoln County was granted 100 acres of BLM land under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act for use as rodeo and fairgrounds. This project funded a contract to develop a master plan to evaluate site development options, including other recreational uses and events that can be accommodated at the site, and determine if leasing or purchasing the site would best meet the County's needs.

### APPENDIX A: SNPLMA REVENUE TO DATE

### **TOTAL REVENUE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 (INCLUDES INTEREST INCOME)**

Revenue Generated by Land Auctions	\$2,786,620,111
Revenue Generated by Direct Sales	\$118,270,397
Land Auction Mineral Conveyances and Deposit Forfeitures	\$2,158,900
Revenue Generated from Leases and Sales of Cooperative Management Area Lands	\$101,648,145
Revenue Generated from Affordable Housing Disposals	\$673,000
Amount Collected as Monetary Payment to Equalize Land Exchange Transactions	\$12,131,750
Interest Redeemed on the Special Account	\$319,499,932
Total Revenues through September 30, 2010	\$3,341,002,235

# **APPENDIX B: FUNDING ALLOCATIONS THROUGH ROUND 11\***

# **FUNDING ALLOCATED AS OF OCTOBER 21, 2010**

Round	Land Acquisitions	Capital Improve- ments	Parks, Trails and Natural Areas	Lake Tahoe Restoration	MSHCP†	Conservation Initiatives	ENLRP‡	Hazardous Fuels	Special Account Reserve	Pre- Proposal Planning	Total Secretarial Approved Funding
Round 1	\$24,081,525	\$5,440,000	\$4,200,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$33,721,525
Round 2	\$54,518,800	\$6,083,050	\$9,292,800	-	\$4,648,334	-	-	-	\$5,000,000	-	\$79,542,984
Round 3	\$48,599,100	\$26,405,625	\$43,792,942	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,000,000	-	\$123,797,667
Round 3 Supplemental	\$9,792,200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$9,792,200
Round 4	\$111,850,099	\$117,567,613	\$99,895,004	-	\$15,851,237	\$36,222,170		-	\$10,000,000	-	\$391,386,123
Round 5	\$51,853,791	\$97,293,394	\$388,479,612	\$37,084,900	1	\$53,250,972	ı	-	\$15,000,000	ı	\$642,962,669
Round 6	\$124,149,740	\$169,538,170	\$468,708,922	\$44,762,000	\$30,706,817	\$80,331,758		-	\$35,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$978,197,407
Round 7	\$49,582,170	\$19,612,908	\$37,469,300	\$48,111,065	-	\$8,435,618	•	-	\$14,900,000	\$5,000,000	\$183,111,061
Round 8	\$7,061,956	\$15,111,475	\$25,213,548	\$45,365,000	\$2,972,487	\$9,606,696	\$1,829,575	\$14,603,430	\$15,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$143,764,167
Round 9	\$7,629,600	\$26,213,171	\$19,298,969	\$27,966,000		\$4,504,742	\$3,813,469	\$11,521,654	\$14,000,000	-	\$114,947,605
Round 10	\$13,066,000	\$8,246,129	\$10,239,022	\$27,891,285	-	\$7,655,107	\$1,931,721	\$10,963,140	\$10,000,000	-	\$89,992,404
Round 11	\$11,267,250	\$9,647,508	\$14,722,396	\$34,680,353	-	\$1,184,836	\$1,290,835	\$3,949,800	\$5,000,000	-	\$81,742,978
Total	\$513,452,231	\$501,159,043	\$1,121,312,515	\$265,860,603	\$54,178,875	\$201,191,899	\$8,865,600	\$41,038,024	\$128,900,000	\$37,000,000	\$2,872,958,790

### **MANDATORY FUNDING**

Payments to State of Nevada Education Fund	\$152,377,788
Payments to Southern Nevada Water Authority for infrastructure improvements	\$287,941,204
Payments to Clark County Department of Aviation	\$10,164,373
Amount Allocated to Lake Tahoe Basin Land Acquisition Fund (Santini-Burton)	\$79,781,637
Amount Allocated to Virgin River MSHCP Fund	\$12,181,891
Amount Allocated to Sloan Canyon Fund	\$73,288,420
Amount Allocated to Ivanpah Airport Fund	\$23,980,378
Total Operating Costs and Reserves through 2011	\$72,303,388
Available for Future Allocations (Round 11+) as of September 30,2009	\$23,091,799
Total	\$735,110,878
Total current and anticipated funding	\$3,409,080,572

<sup>\*</sup>SNPLMA Round 11 was signed by the Secretary of the Interior on October 21, 2010 (FY 2011)

<sup>†</sup>Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

<sup>‡</sup>Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project

# **APPENDIX C: PROJECT STATUS BY CATEGORY THROUGH FY 2010**

# **STATUS OF PROJECTS, ROUNDS 1-10**

Category	Status	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Rd. 4	Rd. 5	Rd. 6	Rd. 7	Rd. 8	Rd. 9	Rd. 10	Totals
Environmentally	In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	2	7
Sensitive Land	Terminated	6	8	10	28	4	3	1	0	0	0	60
Acquisitions	Completed	5	14	8	22	4	8	3	4	0	0	68
Acquisitions	Total	11	22	18	50	8	11	5	5	3	2	135
	In Progress	0	0	12	25	25	37	6	5	7	6	123
Capital	Terminated	1	3	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	10
Improvements	Completed	13	21	29	14	6	4	0	0	0	0	87
	Total	14	24	44	40	32	42	6	5	7	6	220
Parks, Trails,	In Progress	0	0	4	8	28	42	6	9	11	10	118
and Natural	Terminated	0	1	1	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	11
Areas	Completed	1	5	15	16	9	3	0	0	1	0	50
Aleas	Total	1	6	20	28	40	47	6	9	12	10	179
Multi-Species	In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	44	0	3	0	0	47
Habitat	Terminated	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	15
Conservation	Completed	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Plans	Total	0	1	0	2	0	59	0	3	0	0	65
Lake Tahoe	In Progress	0	0	0	0	14	21	58	45	40	38	216
Restoration	Terminated	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	1	1	7
Projects	Completed	0	0	0	0	35	28	4	0	0	0	67
	Total	0	0	0	0	51	50	64	45	41	21	290
	In Progress	0	0	0	12	19	29	5	10	7	12	94
Conservation	Terminated	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Initiatives	Completed	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
	Total	0	0	0	12	21	30	6	10	7	12	98
Eastern Nevada	In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	11	20
Landscape	Terminated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	11	20
Hazardous Fuels	In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	11	4	29
and Wildfire	Terminated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prevention	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prevention	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	11	4	29
Pre-Proposal	In Progress	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	21
Planning	Terminated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	21
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	42
Round Project	Totals	26	53	82	132	152	281	87	94	88	83	1,078

# **SUMMARY OF PROJECT STATUS, INCEPTION TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2010**

	Total Projects	% of Total
In Progress	677	62%
Terminated	106	10%
Completed	302	28%
Total Projects	1,085	100%

# **APPENDIX D: STATUS OF OTHER PROJECTS THROUGH FY 2010**

### STATUS OF PROJECTS WITH MANDATORY FUNDING

In Progress	9
Santini-Burton Terminated	1
<b>Acquisitions</b> Completed	12
Total	22
In Progress	1
Virgin River Terminated	0
MSHCP Completed	0
Total	1
Total Projects	23

# **APPENDIX E: LAND DISPOSAL THROUGH FY 2010**<sup>1</sup>

### **LAND DISPOSAL BY YEAR UNDER SNPLMA**

Fiscal Year	Acres Sold	Gross Sales Revenue <sup>2</sup>
1999	760.66	\$1,320,000.00
1999 CMA	5,067.98	\$0.00
2000	2,902.02	\$40,999,276.14
2001	2,801.22	\$101,484,489.00
2002	341.01	\$62,102,153.04
2003	11,181.35	\$444,322,909.91
2004	10,025.53	\$887,331,313.75
2005	2,427.85	\$613,060,597.15
2006	3,152.29	\$796,509,363.21
2007	40.00	\$26,376,150.00
2008	52.50	\$19,833,000.00
2009	26.45	\$1,902,500.00
2010	22.50	\$2,290,000.00
Totals	38,801.36	\$2,997,531,752.20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Land Disposal includes auctions (oral, internet, sealed bid, and modified competitive); and direct sales including patented, reserved, and R&PP lands and exchanges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mineral sales and lease payments are not included in the revenue figures.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  Revenue from the CMA disposal is recognized as Clark County disposes of the lands, generally by sale or lease.

# **APPENDIX F: PROJECTS COMPLETED IN FY 2010 BY CATEGORY**

### **FY 2010 COMPLETED PROJECTS**

	Project #	Round	Managing Entity	Project Title
Environmentally	BL51	7	BLM-Surprise Field Office, NCDO*	Home Camp
Sensitve	BL52	8	BLM-Black Rock Field Office, WDO†	High Rock
Land Acquisitions	BL55	8	BLM-Egan Field Office, Ely District Office	Indian Creek Ranch
·	FS50	6	USFS Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest	Williams Ranch
	NP05	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Capital Camp Mining Claims
Capital	BR58	5	BOR, Lower Colorado Region	Pedestrian Access Enhancements
Improvements	FS17	4	USFS Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest	Blue Tree/Sawmill Trail System Development
•	FS28	6	USFS Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest	Cathedral Rock Picnic Area Renovation, Phase II
	FW06	2	USFWS - Desert NWR	Replace Boundary and Interpretive
	FW07	2	USFWS - Desert NWR	Rehabilitate Mormon Wells Picnic Area
	FW08	4	USFWS - Moapa NWR	Moapa Dace Viewing Chamber
	FW11	4	USFWS - Desert NWR	Administrative and Visitor Center Complex, Phase II
	FW15	4	USFWS - Desert NWR	Boundary Fencing
	FW22	6	USFWS - Ash Meadows NWR	Improved Wildlife Dependent Visitor Services
	NP20	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Replace Back-Country Vault Toilets
	NP21	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Pave Boulder Beach Shoreline Road, Phase I
	NP26	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Pave Boulder Beach Shoreline Road, Phase II
	NP29	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Replace Inner Section of Gov't Dock
	NP31	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Construct Government Boating Repair/Aids to Navigation Complex
	NP42	3	NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Renovate Pyramid Island Causeway
	NP47 NP51	4	NPS - Lake Mead NRA NPS - Lake Mead NRA	Upgrade Canoe/Raft Launch Area Below Hoover Dam
	INPOL	4	NF3 - Lake Weau NKA	Upgrade Primary Power Supply, Echo Bay & Overton Beach
Conservation Initiatives	No comp	leted proj	ects in FY 2010	
Lake Tahoe	C002	5	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Best Management Practices Effectiveness
Restoration	E001	5	Environmental Protection Agency	Pelagic Zone Water Quality & Modeling Fine Sediment Source, Trans. & Fate
Projects	E002	5	Environmental Protection Agency	Direct Runoff Monitoring and Load Modeling
	F031	5	USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	Land Acquisitions
	F035	6	USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	East Shore Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration
	F037	6	USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	West Shore Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration
	F047	6	USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	Taylor, Tallac, & Spring Creek Watershed Ecosystem NEPA and Restoration Plan
	F060	6	USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	BMP Water Quality Retrofit - Forest Service Facilities
	F092	7	USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit	Spring Creek Road Crossing
PTNA	CC18	4	Clark County	Duck Creek Habitat Restoration/Enhancement
	CC42	6	Clark County	Wetlands Park Land Acquisition, Phase IV
	CC56	9	Clark County	Mesquite Regional Park and Trails System Phase I
	HN09	4	City of Henderson	Whitney Mesa Nature Preserve
	HN11	4	City of Henderson	Anthem East Trails
	LC05	6	Lincoln County	Rose Park Improvements
	NL02	3	City of North Las Vegas	Multi-use Western Tributary of the Las Vegas Wash Regional Trail
	NL10	5	City of North Las Vegas	Urban Park Renovation
Pre-Proposal	PC02	6	Clark County	Searchlight Trails Study
Planning	PC03	6	Clark County	Moapa Valley Trails Study
	PC04	6	Clark County	Glendale-Moapa Disposal Area Open Space Trail Study
	PC05	6	Clark County	Goodsprings Yellow Pine Rail Trail Study
	PE01	6	BLM-Egan Field Office, Ely District Office	Pioche/Castleton Wildland Urban Interface Project
	PF04	6	USFS Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest	Carson Range Comprehensive Multi-Jurisdictional Fuels Plan
	PF05	6	USFS Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest	Spring Mtn. Species Inventory, Monitoring Project Design and Protocol Prep.
	PH01	6	City of Henderson	Black Mtn. Nature Preserve and Park Study
	PH02	6	City of Henderson	MacDonald Canyons Nature Park Study
	PH03	6	City of Henderson	Nevada State College to Wetlands Corridor Feasibility Study
	PH04	6	City of Henderson	River Mtn. Loop Trail-McCullough Hills Trail Connect. & Equestrian Trailhead
	PH05	6	City of Henderson	Upper Pittman Wash - West Henderson Drainage Corridor Feasibility Study
	PH06 PL01	6 	City of Henderson Lincoln County	Lower Pittman Wash Corridor Feasibility Study Pioche Park Phase II: Park & Pool Area Feasability and Pre-Engineering Studies
Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention	No comp		ects in FY 2010	Troche Fark Fliase II. Fark & Foot Area reasoning and Fle-Engineering Studies
MSHCP		leted proj	ects in FY 2010	
ENLRP	No comp	leted proj	ects in FY 2010	
Santini-Burton (Land Acquisitions)	FS18		10 USFS Humbolt-Toiyabe National. Forest	Cave Rock Summit

<sup>\*</sup> Northern California Disrict Office † Winnemucca District Office



