

Dream Tag Charitable Fund 2012 Request for Proposal  
Overland Pass/Big Wash Habitat Project

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Nevada Department of Wildlife			
<b>Organization Type:</b>	501(c)(3) EIN#	Governmental entity? Yes State Government		
<b>Address:</b>	1100 Valley Road Reno, Nevada 89512			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Overland Pass/Big Wash Sage Grouse and Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project			
<b>Amount requested:</b> \$25,000.00	<b>Website:</b> www.ndow.org			
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b>	This funding will be used to supplement a large scale sage grouse and mule deer habitat enhancement project. Project located in Ruby Mountains near Ruby Marsh Nat. Wildlife Refuge, NV.			
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b>	Ken Mayer		
	<b>Board Chair:</b>			
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Dr. Lee Turner	
		<b>Position:</b>	Habitat Ecologist- Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) Coordinator-Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development (NPCD)	
		<b>Phone:</b>	775-688-1542	
		<b>Fax:</b>	775-688-1595	
<b>Email:</b>		leeturner@ndow.org		
<b>Organization Mission:</b>	The NDOW manages, protects, and restores Nevada's wildlife and its habitat, and promotes safe boating on Nevada waters.			
<b>Project is on (check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private land.</b>				
<p><b>Are government permits or decision documents needed for the project? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</b>  <b>If so, are those permits and decision documents already secured? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</b>  <b>If permits and decision documents are needed but not yet secured, in #4 of the Narrative Requirements provide a list of permits and documents needed and a schedule for securing them.</b></p>				

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- A. Projects that improve, protect, or restore habitat
- B. Projects that embrace unique opportunities for advancing the mission of wildlife conservation in Nevada
- C. Projects that address emergent needs
- D. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria

### **Specific Project Goals and Measurable Outcomes**

An increasing awareness to Nevada's mule deer herds has increased in recent years and as such, increased focus has been placed on how to better managed Nevada's mule deer populations. Many publications regarding mule deer habitat suggest that pinyon and juniper invasion can create senescent browse and create less desirable browse conditions. This project is aimed at rejuvenating areas that are critical to mule deer in Management Area 10 by reducing the densities of pinyon and juniper and creating more desirable habitat conditions.

Due to less frequent fires, late succession plants, such as pinyon and juniper trees begin to dominate the landscape and as a result, understory species composition and abundance decreases. These tree dominated sites are typically low in wildlife diversity and provide very little wildlife value. Additionally, catastrophic wildfires are more likely to occur in these heavy fuel loaded areas and these treatments will lower catastrophic fire risk. For sage-grouse these sites provide inadequate habitat due to the presence of perching areas for predators and the decrease in forbs, grasses and sagebrush. For mule deer, these areas provide marginal habitat, with the best asset being that of thermal cover from the trees.

This project proposal is aimed at conducting pinyon and juniper thinning within the project boundary (Figure 1) to enhance and restore mule deer winter and transitional range habitat. Most treatment areas would be located on sagebrush ecological sites that had been invaded by pinyon and juniper and occurred on slopes less than 25%. There are a variety of treatment types proposed based on current and desired condition of the habitat and each treatment is specific for individual outcomes.

### **Project Location**

The project is located in Ruby Mountains around the Overland Pass/Big Wash area in White Pine County, Nevada (Figure 1). Work will take place on: T26N R56E Sections 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 34 and 35; T26N R57E Sections 15, 16, 21, 22, 27 and 28; T25N R57E Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 19-35; T25N R56E Sections 3, 4, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 21-28, and 36; T24N R56E Section 1; T24N R57E Sections 5 and 6.

### **Project Description**

Figure 1 shows Overland Pass/Big Wash project area in White Pine County, Nevada. The project sites where this funding would be utilized are largely on the BLM lands immediately adjacent to Overland Pass on County Road 006.

### **Principals Involved**

Lee Turner (NDOW and NPCD), Cody Coombs (Ely BLM), Caleb McAdoo (NDOW), Alan Jenne (NDOW) and Gar Abbas (Wells USFS) are the primary leads for the Duck Creek Project work

### **Permitting**

The work that this funding would support is being performed on both public and private lands. The nature of the treatments requires National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses be completed. Because the project spans USFS, USFWS, BLM and private lands the Ely BLM is the lead agency so that one large Environmental Analysis (EA) can cover all project work under all jurisdictions. The analyses are well underway and the final decision for the projects to proceed is expected in late fall of 2012.

### **Future Phases**

All the Pinyon-Juniper thinning is being scheduled occur in FY13-17 (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2017). It is anticipated that there will be more acres of PJ permitted for thinning than the current budget will allow work on and as such there will be future phases based on funding availability and new partners being brought into the process.

### **Time Line**

- Treatment areas located in 2010
- Initial funding sources secured and verified in 2011 and 2012 (and will continue)
- Permanent plots located and vegetation sampled in June and July of 2011 and 2012
- NEPA process underway in late 2011 (anticipated to be complete in fall 2012)
- It is anticipated that a contractor will begin PJ removal in spring 2013. Final treatments are currently proposed to be complete by late summer 2016 however unforeseen circumstances may alter longer term schedule.
- Fires within the project sites may alter scheduled activities but as of August 22, 2012 none of the selected treatment sites had been impacted by wildfire.

### **Success and Measuring Results**

The Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development (NPCD) installed and sampled permanent vegetation sampling locations within the all treatment areas in summer 2011 and 2012 prior to any vegetation treatments. The project area will be monitored by the NPCD in years following treatments to resample the permanent plots. Obtaining pre-treatment data allows for baseline conditions to be assessed and rigorous comparisons to be made once the treatments are complete and the permanent points are revisited post-treatment. Initial baseline breeding bird point count surveys were conducted by the Great Basin Bird Observatory (GBBO) in the Overland Pass/Big Wash project site in 2012.

Once treatments are begun the NPCD will revisit the permanent vegetation sampling locations, recollect the vegetation data then compare the results to the goals and aims of the project. The GBBO would be contracted to revisit their sampling sites and provide post treatment information. This allows for success or some deviation from success to be quantitatively determined. Should there be deviation from original project goals adaptive management strategies may be employed. At this early stage in the process it is difficult to be explicit as to specific adaptive strategies and some flexibility on the part of the planners and project managers is key. The GBBO will also resample transects from 2012 following PJ treatments.

### **Staff Positions**

The Ely BLM, NDOW, USFS and NPCD project ecologists, fuels managers and biologists are dedicated on a part-time basis to this project. No salary money is being requested via this Dream Tag proposal. All salary for state and federal employees is generated by other sources. Project oversight will be performed by Ely BLM, USFS and NDOW employees to ensure contractor compliance with project specifics.

### **Volunteers Involved**

There is a commitment from two private landowners within the project boundary to provide personnel to work on a variety of chores including operating machinery and chainsaws. To date no firm commitments have been made by any outside groups or individuals for volunteer efforts. Primarily this is because firm dates to begin treatments have not been established. Once the schedule of treatments is available there are a number of groups including Nevada Muleys and the Northeast Nevada Stewardship Group that will be approached and asked to provide volunteers.

Dream Tag Charitable Fund 2012 Request for Proposal  
 Overland Pass/Big Wash Habitat Project

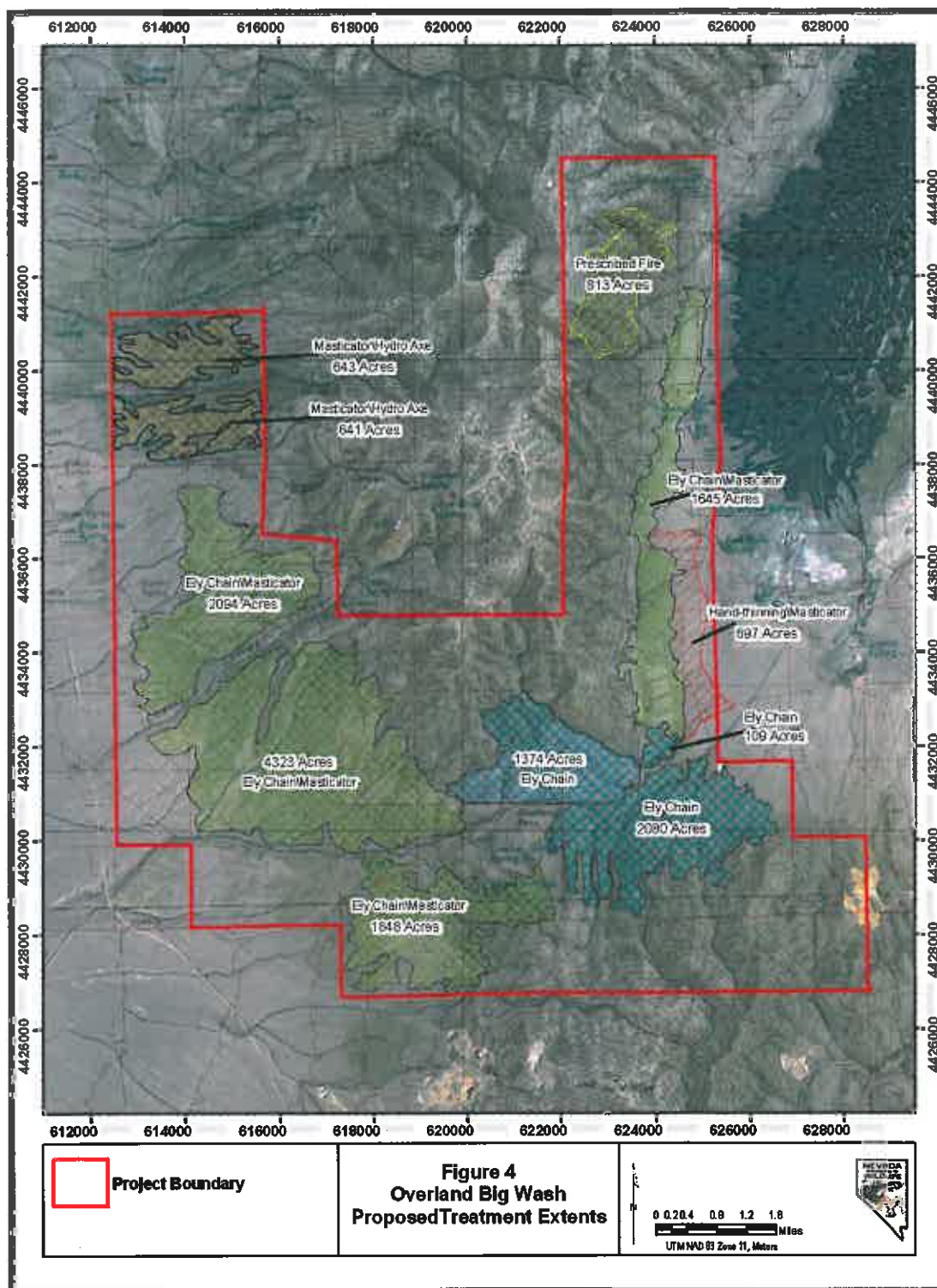


Figure 1. Overland Big Wash treatment project sites.

Dream Tag Charitable Fund 2012 Request for Proposal  
Overland Pass/Big Wash Habitat Project

**Grant Match**

Grant Amount Provided: \$660,000

Match details:

This Dream Tag proposal is not intended to be the primary source of funding for the Overland Pass Habitat Improvement project. The total match budget of secured funding (including in-kind) is \$660,000.00 and budget detail is provided. The total budget of non-federal monies necessary to satisfy the Dream Tag requirement of at least 25% match has been met and exceeded. The Dream Tag request is being made to allow for the overall effectiveness and collaborative nature of the project to be expanded.

For most habitat projects, numerous funding sources are necessary and each source applied for has a match requirement. Obtaining the \$25,000.00 requested here will allow leveraging of an additional \$75,000.00 in federal funds. This additional \$100,000.00 will be used to put ecologically meaningful treatments on the ground across the Overland Pass project site.

*Existing Funding and In-Kind Breakdown*

1. Cash Funding Sources (period from 2010 to present)		
a. Heritage Trust Fund (NDOW)	\$	65,000.00
b. Habitat Conservation Fee (NDOW)	\$	70,000.00
c. BLM Funding NEPA analysis	\$	70,000.00
d. USFS Funding	\$	15,000.00
e. Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development	\$	110,000.00
f. Barrick Mining Corporation	\$	100,000.00
g. Natural Resource Conservation Service	\$	25,000.00
h. Private Landowner	\$	15,000.00
i. <i>Total Other Funding Sources</i>	\$	<i>470,000.00</i>
2. In-Kind Services and Donations for This Project		
a. Volunteer Time	\$	35,000.00
b. Equipment (Barrick and private landowner tractors)	\$	155,000.00
<b>TOTAL MATCH BUDGET (As of August 22, 2012)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>660,000.00</b>

The funding that is being held by the applicant for this project applies to Heritage Trust Funds, Habitat Conservation Fee, BLM, and USFWS funding.

Dream Tag Charitable Fund 2012 Request for Proposal  
 Overland Pass/Big Wash Habitat Project

**Budget**

<b>Budget Item</b>	<b>DT \$</b>	<b>Other Funding Name</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Project Total</b>	<b>Expenditure to Date DT</b>	<b>Expenditure to Date DT</b>
NEPA analysis contract	0.00	Ely BLM	70,000.00	70,000.00		
Pinyon-Juniper vegetation contractor	25,000.00	See note	270,000.00	295,000.00		
Monitoring vegetation and birds	0.00	NPCD and GBBO	30,000.00	30,000.00		
Equipment and operators (includes in-kind)	0.00	See note	250,000.00	250,000.00		
Weed spraying	0.00	Private landowner and USFS (includes in-kind)	15,000.00	15,000.00		
NRCS funding for private landowner work	0.00	NRCS	25,000.00	25,000.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>		<b>660,000.00</b>	<b>685,000.00</b>		

Note: Funding sources are mixed and include NDOW, NPCD, NRCS and private parties.

[Main Menu](#) > [Budget Status Report Input](#) > [Budget Account List](#) > [Summary Budget Status Report](#) > [Receipts/Funding](#)

REPORT DATE AS OF: 08/22/2012

PROC ID: BSR\_REC\_FUND\_SUM

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**Office of the State Controller**

**Budget Status Report - Receipts/Funding**

Fiscal Year: 2013

Fund: 101 GENERAL FUND

Agency: 702 WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Budget Account: 4467 HABITAT

Organization: 0000 WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

	YTD Actual	Work Program	Difference
<b>Total Receipts/Funding</b>	409,440.47	4,493,630.00	-4,084,189.53

Code	Description	YTD Actual	Work Program	Difference
3500	FEDERAL RECEIPTS	.00	.00	.00
3501	FEDERAL RECEIPTS-A	.00	.00	.00
3502	FED WILD RESTORATION FW3T	.00	686,306.00	-686,306.00
3503	FED WILD RESTORATION FW4D	.00	1,061,433.00	-1,061,433.00
3504	FED WILD RESTORATION W61	.00	152,496.00	-152,496.00
3505	FED WILD RESTORATION W58	.00	506,085.00	-506,085.00
3510	FED WILD RESTORATION FW24	.00	414,515.00	-414,515.00
3520	FED SPORTFISH FW3T	.00	245,890.00	-245,890.00
3521	FED SPORTFISH FW4D	.00	224,425.00	-224,425.00
3524	FED SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM	.00	.00	.00
3525	FED NAT'L COOP STATS SYS	.00	.00	.00
3594	STATEWIDE WILDLIFE GRANT	.00	.00	.00
3595	FED BLM GRANT	.00	.00	.00
3597	FED DINGELL JOHNSON AID	.00	.00	.00
4760	TRANS UNRESTRICTED REVENUE	374,130.97	761,701.00	-387,570.03
4763	TRANS HABITAT CONSERVE FEE	15,464.63	113,446.00	-97,981.37
4765	TRANS DUCK STAMP	.00	95,246.00	-95,246.00
4767	TRANS MINING ASSESSMENT	6,931.13	86,344.00	-79,412.87
4768	TRANS UPLAND GAME STAMP	12,913.74	145,743.00	-132,829.26

[Return to Selection Screen](#)   [Download the Report](#)

[Main Menu](#) > [Budget Status Report Input](#) > [Budget Account List](#) > [Summary Budget Status Report](#) > [Obligations](#)

REPORT DATE AS OF: 08/22/2012

PROC ID: BSR\_GEN\_BCLS\_REPORT

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**Office of the State Controller**

**Budget Status Report - Obligations**

Fiscal Year: 2013

Fund: 101 GENERAL FUND

Agency: 702 WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Budget Account: 4467 HABITAT

Organization: 0000 WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

	YTD Actual	Work Program	Difference
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	349,552.18		
<b>Total Encumbrances</b>	.00		
<b>Total Pre-encumbrances</b>	.00		
<b>Total Obligations</b>	349,552.18	4,493,630.00	4,144,077.82

Category	Description	Expended	Encumbered	Pre-encumbered	Obligated	Work Program	Difference
<u>01</u>	PERSONNEL SERVICES	213,848.58	.00	.00	213,848.58	2,347,788.00	2,133,939.42
<u>04</u>	OPERATING	.00	.00	.00	.00	4,211.00	4,211.00
<u>10</u>	CARSON WETLANDS	1.09	.00	.00	1.09	126,184.00	126,182.91
<u>11</u>	TECHNICAL GUIDANCE	910.12	.00	.00	910.12	14,774.00	13,863.88
<u>12</u>	WMA SYSTEM	98,929.14	.00	.00	98,929.14	442,939.00	344,009.86
<u>13</u>	SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM RESTORATN	13,768.24	.00	.00	13,768.24	413,331.00	399,562.76
<u>14</u>	HABITAT REHAB/RESTORATION	1,973.35	.00	.00	1,973.35	136,381.00	134,407.65
<u>15</u>	UPLAND GAME	1,266.77	.00	.00	1,266.77	29,384.00	28,117.23
<u>16</u>	WILDLIFE WATER DEVELOPMENT	18,506.86	.00	.00	18,506.86	110,594.00	92,087.14
<u>17</u>	WILDLIFE MINING REHABILITATION	168.19	.00	.00	168.19	24,325.00	24,156.81
<u>18</u>	DUCK STAMP PROJECTS	179.84	.00	.00	179.84	69,125.00	68,945.16
<u>20</u>	TRANSFER VEHICLES	.00	.00	.00	.00	769,346.00	769,346.00
<u>26</u>	INFORMATION SERVICES	.00	.00	.00	.00	5,248.00	5,248.00

[Return to Selection Screen](#)   [Download the Report](#)