

Cover Sheet

Organization Name: Nevada Department of Wildlife	
Organization Type: 501(c)(3) EIN# <u>State Agency</u> Governmental entity? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N	
Address: 60 Youth Center Road, Elko, Nevada 89801	
Project Name: Smith Ranch Fire Rehabilitation Herbicide Project	
Amount requested: \$20,000.00 (U.S. Dollars)	Website: Not applicable
Project start date (mm/yyyy): September 24, 2014	Project completion date (mm/yyyy): September 25, 2014
This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences): Apply herbicide to control Cheatgrass within the recently rehabilitated Smith Ranch fire.	
Key People:	Director: Tony Wasley
	Board Chair: Not Applicable- Steve Foree (Supervising Habitat biologist)
	Project Contact:
	Name: Caleb K. McAdoo
	Position: Game Biologist
	Phone: (775) 777-2323
Fax: N/A	
Email: cmcadoo@ndow.org	
Organization Mission:	
Project is on (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private land.	
Are government permits or decision documents needed for the project? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If so, are those permits and decision documents already secured? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 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.	
Has your organization received other grants from the Dream Tags Fund? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (use additional to list ALL funded projects)	If yes,
	Date awarded: February 25, 2014
	Project # & title: #28 Spruce Mountain Restoration
	Amount of Award: \$25,000.00
	Date awarded:
	Project # & title:
Amount of Award:	

Grant Match

Match amount to be provided:	<p>\$33,000.00*</p> <p><i>*Approval pending by authorizing committee for \$20,000.00 of this match.</i></p>				
Match details:	<p>Please provide the form of your matching funds. If match is made up of both cash and in-kind, fill in both sections.</p> <p>Match is:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="397 430 1364 630"> <tr> <td data-bbox="397 430 527 493">Cash</td> <td data-bbox="527 430 1364 493">\$5,000.00 NDOW and \$20,000.00 Nevada Muley's</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="397 493 527 630">In-kind</td> <td data-bbox="527 493 1364 630"> <p>\$8,000.00</p> <p>Note: Provide an itemized breakdown of volunteer match in your budget with rationale.</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Cash	\$5,000.00 NDOW and \$20,000.00 Nevada Muley's	In-kind	<p>\$8,000.00</p> <p>Note: Provide an itemized breakdown of volunteer match in your budget with rationale.</p>
Cash	\$5,000.00 NDOW and \$20,000.00 Nevada Muley's				
In-kind	<p>\$8,000.00</p> <p>Note: Provide an itemized breakdown of volunteer match in your budget with rationale.</p>				
Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:	<p>The cash funds from NDOW will be in the form of paying a contractor to conduct the application of herbicide.</p> <p>The cash funds from Nevada Muley's will be in the form of paying a contractor to conduct the application of herbicide.</p> <p>The In-kind donation from the BLM is the current market value for 65 gallons of Imazapic.</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

NARRATIVE

1. Specific project goals and measurable outcomes. How do these tie to the project description?

The objectives of this project are to:

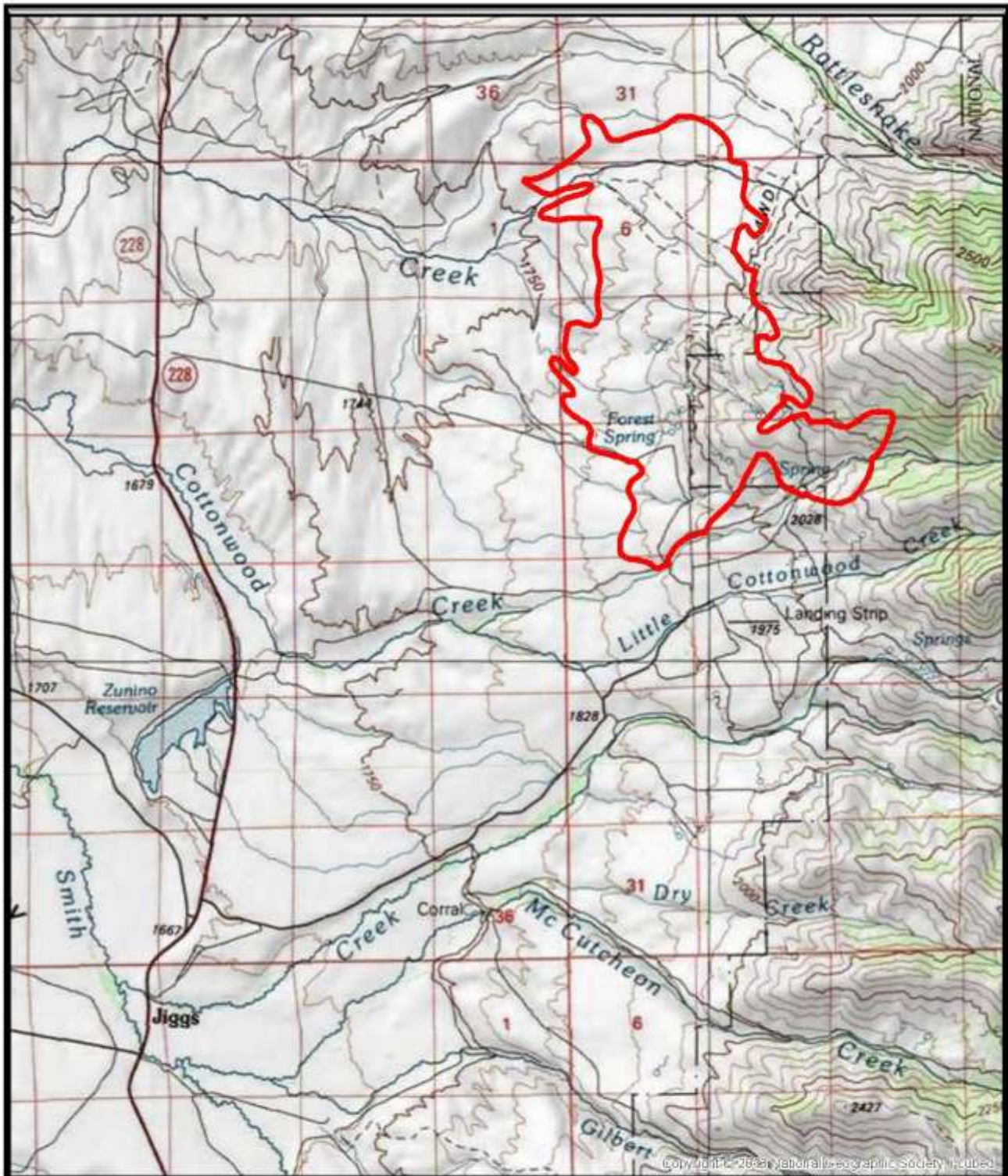
- Ensure resilient ecosystem function, within the boundary of the Smith Ranch fire by reducing the competition of the invasive annual grass, cheatgrass, with desirable perennial species within the boundaries of the Smith Ranch fire, thereby ensuring adequate habitat for wildlife including mule deer and sage-grouse.

The measurable outcomes of this project will be:

- Reduced densities of cheatgrass after the application of Imazapic.
- Perennial\desirable species will dominate the vegetative community within the Smith Ranch fire burn post-Imazapic application.

2. Project location


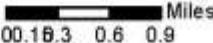
The Project is located on the western flank of the Ruby Mountains, near Jiggs, Nevada. See Figure 1.




Legend

 Fire Boundary

**Figure 1
Smith Ranch
Fire Perimeter**

  Miles



3. **Project description**

The Smith Ranch Fire (Figure 1) was sparked by lightning on July 19, 2013. The fire was located on the slopes of the Ruby Mountain northeast of Jiggs, Nevada and burned in important mule deer transition range (Photo 1) within the highest used movement corridor for the Ruby mule deer population. The Ruby Mountain Deer herd is the State's largest herd and successful establishment of herbaceous and shrub species within the burn scar will ensure that important habitats remain connected for this important mule deer population. In addition to mule deer, sage-grouse were also largely affected by this fire, which burned approximately 2,047 acres within Greater Sage-Grouse (GSG) Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH), of which 479 acres occur on lands administered by the BLM. The remaining 55 acres of the burn on BLM is located within Preliminary General Habitat (PGH).

During the fall and winter of 2013, Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) treatments were implemented (See Photo 2), which included 402 acres of drill seeding, and 2,101 acres of aerial seeding across BLM, Forest Service, and private lands. To date, \$120,000.00 has been spent towards the rehabilitation of the Smith Ranch Fire.

Initial monitoring and observations of rehabilitation efforts show that the seeding treatments have been largely successful in establishment; however, there is a large presence of cheatgrass (enhanced by significant summer moisture) that currently occupies the site and has the potential of out-competing and ultimately compromising the Smith Ranch ESR seeding treatments. Left unchecked, cheatgrass is likely to overtake any existing perennial vegetation (seeded and unseeded), leading to more frequent and larger fires, and leading to further loss of mule deer and GSG habitat. This project will apply herbicide which will specifically inhibit the establishment of cheatgrass in the near term, allow seeded species to further establish and increase the density of perennial grasses and shrubs.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Elko Bureau of Land Management, are proposing to conduct an aerial application of a chemical treatment (4 oz./acre of Imazapic) on up to 2,000 acres to impede the invasion of cheatgrass within the boundaries of the 2013 Smith Ranch Fire. The application of Imazapic would take place in the fall of 2014.

4. **Permitting**

This project will require no further permitting at the time of potential award from the Dream Tag Charitable Foundation.

5. If **future phases** of the project will be needed, identify anticipated sources of funding.

No future phases are anticipated at this point in time.

6. **Principals involved** in leading or coordinating the project or activity.

Caleb K. McAdoo (NDOW) - Mr. McAdoo is the managing biologist for the Smith Ranch area and is Project lead for the Department of Wildlife

Steve Foree (NDOW) - Mr. Foree is the Supervising Habitat biologist for the Eastern Region and is responsible for overseeing project completion, standards, and permitting.

Tyson Gripp (BLM) – Mr. Gripp is the Fuels and Forestry Specialist with the BLM and is the Primary Point of contact for the Bureau of Land Management on this project.

7. Number of **staff positions involved** in project: Fulltime_____ Part-time_____ (“Fulltime” means 100% of their staff position will be dedicated to this project; “part-time” means only a portion of their staff position will be dedicated to this project)

The overseers of this Project are comprised entirely of Government Agencies\employees and project implementation will be conducted in conjunction with a aerial-herbicide contractor. No money used from the Dream Tag Fund or other donations, will be used for salaries or administrative costs, but rather, will be used for direct implementation of herbicide through the use of contract services.

That being said, three part-time positions (NDOW and BLM) will be involved in the Project to ensure objectives are met and to ensure quality assurance and quality control. These positions include; Game and Habitat Biologists and Fuels and Forestry Specialists.

8. Number of **volunteers involved** in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours.

Because of the scope of this proposal, and subsequently the required training and laws governing the application herbicide and aerial safety, volunteers will not be utilized for this project.

9. **Time Line** of Project. List key dates and include project milestones. *Note:* Be realistic in your estimate of dates and milestones. List any factors that may cause a delay in implementing and/or completing the project.

It is anticipated that the aerial application of Imazapic in the Smith Ranch fire will take no more than two-days. Because of conflicts with hunting seasons, and increased effort will be made to complete the project within a few hours in the morning of September 24.

10. **Success.** Tell the committee how we will know you succeeded in what you proposed to do.

The Project Proponent would not only inform all charitable donors of endeavors towards the completion of the Spruce Mountain Restoration Project, but to also publicly recognize them, as well, as the opportunity arise. As a funding partner in this project, the Project proponents would commit to submitting progress reports which would, at a minimum, document: treated acreages and any available monitoring data which would document the success or failure of this project. Furthermore, at the request of the Committee, coordinated field tours could be made to show the ongoing progress and responses to treatments.

In addition to alerting the Committee of Project completion, the Project proponents would eagerly recognize our funding partners in all publications and media releases (website publications, T.V. spots, Facebook and Twitter posts, radio, etc.). At the desire and approval of the committee, the Nevada Dream Tags Fund logo would be used in such social media to give further recognition and advertisement of the benefit of the fund towards worthwhile projects.

11. **Grant match.** All applicants must provide a match of at least 25 percent for dollars requested. The match may be with funding and/or in-kind services. Complete the Grant Match section of the application.

The Project proponents fully recognize the importance of leveraging dollars towards the benefit of habitat improvement and wildlife projects and towards having investment into the project. We (NDOW and BLM) have a vested commitment of over **60 percent total grant-match** of that being requested from the Nevada Dream Tags Fund. Additionally, further match-dollars are anticipated from Nevada Muley’s. This 60 percent has already been dedicated and implemented for this project in the purchase of herbicide .

12. **Project budget** (see Sample Budget Template on page 5 of this RFP). Provide detail on line-item expenditures and show which costs are to be paid for by the Dream Tags Charitable Fund grant, which expenses will be paid by other sources of funding, and which will be paid for with in-kind services.
- *Note:* Project budget must be on its own on page 6.

Table 1 Smith Ranch Fire Rehabilitation Projected Budget Needs and Funding Sources

Budget Item Description/Implementation Year	Dream Tag Fund	Other Funding Name**	Match \$	Total	Projected Budget Needs***
FY2015					
Implementation	\$20,000.00*	Nevada Muleys	\$20,000.00*	\$40,000.00	
Implementation		NDOW	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
Herbicide Purchase		BLM	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	
Totals	\$20,000.00	-----	\$33,000.00	\$53,000.00	
FY 2015 Total				\$53,000.00	\$53,000.00
TOTAL Requested from NDTCF	\$20,000.00	-----			
*Approval pending by authorizing committee					



Photo 1 Migrating mule deer through the Smith Ranch burn.



Photo 2 Rehabilitation activities of the Smith Ranch Fire.