

February 1, 2015



FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

To: Community Foundation of Western Nevada

RE: Dream Tag Charitable Fund Grant Application

Attached is our proposal for a Dream Tag Charitable Fund project. We propose a total of 11 projects; six projects will be focused on habitat restoration and re-seeding efforts in four different wildfire burn areas; four projects will focus on the removal of abandoned barbed wire fencing; and one project will protect and rehabilitate a key wildlife water source. The fire restoration efforts will take place in the Hanson Burn Area (2012), the Coleman Burn Area (2014), the Holloway Burn Area (2012), and the Cold Springs Burn Area (2015). These burn areas are located in the Santa Rosa Mountains, U.S. Forest Service (USFS); the Mosquito Valley, Surprise Valley Bureau of Land Management (BLM) District; the Disaster Peak Wilderness Study Area (WSA), Winnemucca BLM District; and the Desatoya Mountains, Carson BLM District, respectively. Of the four proposed fence removal projects, two will be located in the Santa Rosa Mountains (USFS), and two will be located in the Toiyabe Mountains (USFS). The spring restoration will be located near the Arc Dome Wilderness area in the Toiyabe Mountains (USFS) as well.

All proposed projects have been identified as high priority and approved by partnering agencies. Friends of Nevada Wilderness (FNW) staff will begin work as soon as funding is secured. We would like to invite all Dream Tag Charitable Fund Board members to join us on one or more of our proposed projects, and would be pleased if you could help us protect the wildlife and wilderness so unique to Nevada!

If this grant is awarded, we ask that a portion of the grant be funded upfront, with the remainder to follow after successful completion of the grant.

If you have any questions about this grant please feel free to contact Mike Rowan or Nora Kaufmann in our Sparks NV office at (775) 324 7667.

Thank you for your consideration.

For the Wild,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Shaaron Netherton'.

Shaaron Netherton  
Executive Director

<b>Organization Type:</b> 501(c)(3) EIN# 88-0211763		<b>Governmental entity?</b> No		
<b>Address:</b> 1360 Greg St., Suite 111, Sparks NV 89431				
<b>Project Name:</b> Burn area rehabilitation and big game habitat restoration across northern and central Nevada				
<b>Amount requested:</b> \$91,103		<b>Website:</b> www.nevadawilderness.org		
<b>Project start date (mm/yyyy):</b> 03/2016		<b>Project completion date (mm/yyyy):</b> 04/2017		
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b> Rehabilitate critical wildlife habitat in burned areas through the planting of native seedlings. It will also be used to reduce habitat fragmentation through barbed wire fence removal and protect big game water sources through protection of spring head sources.				
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b>	Shaaron Netherton, Executive Director of Friends of Nevada Wilderness		
	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Roger Scholl		
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Nora Kaufmann	
		<b>Position:</b>	Stewardship Coordinator	
		<b>Phone:</b>	775 324 7667	
		<b>Fax:</b>	775 324 2677	
<b>Email:</b>	nora@nevadawilderness.org			
<b>Organization Mission:</b> Friends of Nevada Wilderness is dedicated to preserving all qualified Nevada public lands as Wilderness, protecting all present and potential Wilderness from ongoing threats, educating the public about the values of and need for wilderness, and improving the management and restoration of wild lands.				
<b>Project is on (check all that apply)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private land.				
<b>Are government permits or decision documents needed for the project?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>If so, are those permits and decision documents already secured?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <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>				
<b>Has your organization received other grants from the Dream Tags Fund?</b> <b>Yes</b> (use additional to list ALL funded projects)	If yes,			
	Date awarded:	Sept 2012		
	Project # & title:	#22 Burn Area Rehabilitation		
	Amount of Award:	\$25,980		
	Date awarded:	Sept 2014		
	Project # & title:	#30 Burn Area Rehabilitation on the Hanson, Tom Basin, and Lost Fires - 2014		
Amount of Award:	\$18,542			

## 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 REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Project goals and measurable outcomes:

The project's goal is to restore critical wildlife and big game habitat. Through seedling plantings, fence removal, and spring source protection, we will improve and preserve multiple facets of wildlife habitat in Northern and Central Nevada.

Habitat Restoration: Four high priority fire restoration areas have been selected by the Forest Service and BLM. We plan to host one seedling planting project in the Coleman Fire, one in the Hanson Fire, one in the Holloway Fire, and three projects in the Cold Springs Fire burn areas. We will plant at least 2,000 seedlings per project. We will plant primarily bitterbrush; sagebrush, elderberry and other native seedlings may be included as well. Depending on availability and cost of seedlings, we may include other seeding methods such as broadcast seeding. Post-fire restoration efforts such as seedling plantings help establish a seed bank and provide support in areas which would otherwise be slow to regenerate and susceptible to invasive weeds. The areas where we will be working are in critical forage habitat and will directly benefit the large mammals who rely on those areas for food.

We will also enhance critical big game habitat and forage areas by ridding them of dangerous and restrictive barbed-wire fence. Barbed-wire fencing fragments migration patterns of big game species and ensnares animals, unnecessarily killing wildlife. By removing these fences, we help restore natural migration patterns and reduce the risk of severe injury and death.

Lastly, we propose protecting a spring source by building an enclosure and piping water to a trough or guzzler, preserving the spring for continued use by wildlife.

Measurable Outcomes: Friends of Nevada Wilderness has a variety of data tracking methods that are used in annual reports, and can be disseminated to our agency partners and funders. We will track volunteer hours, in-kind labor donations, specific project trips, mileage, number of seedlings planted and cages utilized, miles of fence pulled, area of springs rehabilitated, and acreage of habitat improved. We document projects with photographs, and record GPS/GIS data as specified by our partnering agencies.

Monitoring Effectiveness: Nevada Division of Wildlife (NDOW), BLM, and USFS agency partners will continue to monitor rehabilitation efforts on burn areas. Our partnering agencies have the highest level of expertise regarding assessment and evaluation of the overall efforts, and whenever possible, FNW will assist in monitoring and evaluating previous seeding sites and current habitat restoration efforts. This will include an assessment of the most effective planting techniques and recommendations on ways to increase survival rates. Particularly in areas where we have planted before, we will be able to work with our partnering agencies to gather more accurate observations and comparative data. We will be able to provide the agencies with 'before' photos of each area, and will be able to revisit and provide 'after' photos when time and funding allows. We will also be able to provide agencies with accurate data and specific outcomes from each project to assist in their overall monitoring efforts. Please see the attached NDOW monitoring protocol for specific monitoring methods used by NDOW crews.

### 2. Project location:

Our work will be done on public lands managed by the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, and by the BLM Winnemucca, Carson, and Northern California (Nevada portion only) District Offices. We plan to

work on the Holloway, Coleman, Hanson, and the Cold Springs Fire burn areas. The spring restoration site is located near the Arc Dome Wilderness, and the fence removals are located near the Arc Dome and Paradise Peak Wilderness areas in the Toiyabe and Santa Rosa Mountain Ranges, respectively. *Please see attached maps for locations and visual representations of each project.*

3. **Project description:**

Seedling Plantings: Each location has a different prescription for planting seedlings depending on a variety of factors. One common method is the ‘Island Method’ which focuses on planting seedlings in ‘island’ patches which are intended to catch and cache native seeds, thus naturally building a larger seed bank. We will assist with BLM and USFS seedling plantings by planting anywhere from 100-600 seedlings per acre. The acreage treated per project should range from anywhere from four to 30 acres depending on the specific needs of the area. We are specifically working with each partner to individually identify the accurate prescription for each fire-affected area (see maps). We would like to use a powder polymer which will absorb water and help seedlings survive, as well as a rooting hormone to stimulate root growth when appropriate.

Fence Removals: We will also host four fence removal projects in the Santa Rosa Range and the Toiyabe Range. The abandoned barbed-wire fence fragments big game habitat and disturbs long-distance range movements and migration patterns of several species, including elk, mule deer, and pronghorn. The abandoned fence can also cause animals to be caught up in the wire, resulting in injury or death. We will be removing this fence by pulling the T-posts, and rolling the barbed wire using spoolers or by hand. There are 2.5 miles of fence identified for removal in the Santa Rosa’s and the Austin-Tonopah District in the Toiyabe’s estimates about four miles in the specific area we will be working. If past projects are an indicator, we expect to pull between one and two miles of fence per project, depending on terrain.

Spring Enclosure: Unprotected spring sources face severe degradation by impaction and trampling of the riparian habitat. By protecting the source and piping water to an external container, we will be able to preserve the spring for continued use by large animals. We will build a fence using the USFS’ preferred method (buck and pole, or other), and then use a pipe to direct some water to a trough outside of the fence. The animals will be able to use the trough without further degrading the sensitive riparian habitat.

4. **Permitting:**

All work will be on federal land administered by either the Forest Service or BLM. FNW will be working in partnership with the Forest Service and BLM so there will be no permitting requirements.

5. **Future phases:**

The projects will be ongoing with coordination through both the US Forest Service, NDOW, and BLM. Those agencies are providing direction for prioritizing areas for rehabilitation and restoration. NDOW has provided ongoing monitoring support and the USFS and BLM will provide equipment and support to the project work.

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

Friends of Nevada Wilderness: *Nora Kaufmann, Stewardship Coordinator; Mike Rowan, Grants Manager*  
Bureau of Land Management: *Jennifer Rovanpera, Archaeologist, Northern California District; Zwaantje Rorex, Wilderness Specialist, Winnemucca District; Ryan Elliott, Strategic Fire Planning Specialist, Carson District*  
Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest: *Boyd Hatch, Rangeland Management Specialist, Santa Rosa Ranger District; Megan Carter, Rangeland Management Specialist, Austin-Tonopah Ranger District*  
Nevada Department of Wildlife: *Lee Turner, PhD, Habitat Ecologist*

7. **Number of staff positions involved in project:** Fulltime 0, Part-time 5 (“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)

8. **Number of volunteers involved in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours:**  
 Our intent is to host at least 11 volunteer projects with 6 to 8 volunteers per project. We will use a match rate of \$23.07/hour which is the national standard rate calculated for volunteers by *Independent Sector*. Estimated volunteer are hours 14 hours per person, per trip, for a total of 1,078 hours.
9. **Time Line of Project:**  
 Friends of Nevada Wilderness will coordinate with the Forest Service and BLM on the best timing for planting to increase the survival rate of the seedlings. We plan to begin seedling plantings in mid-March of 2016 and have all projects completed by mid-April of 2017.
10. **Success:**  
 In the past, seedling plantings and other habitat restoration projects have been very popular with our volunteers, and we anticipate generating a lot of interest in these events. Eleven projects with an average of seven volunteers per trip will be considered a success. The ultimate measure of success, however, will be successful habitat restoration in our focus areas. Survival rates of seedlings can fluctuate largely depending on a variety of factors; the survival rates of seedlings in the Hanson fire has been around 25%, Winnemucca BLM reports survival rates of nearly 90% in areas similar to the Holloway Fire, and the Surprise Valley BLM district has reported around a 50% survival in areas near our project treatment plot. Although seedling success depends on many factors, we aim for a success rate similar to the success rates reported by the agencies in similar areas. We will work with NDOW, BLM and the USFS to evaluate habitat restoration successes as well as how to improve the effectiveness of our efforts in the future.
11. **Grant match:**  
*Total match estimate is approximately 33% (\$45,507 is 33% of the \$136,610 total budget, including match)*

<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>		<b>\$45,507</b>			
<b>Match details:</b>	Please provide the form of your matching funds. If match is made up of both cash and in-kind, fill in both sections.				
	Match is:				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Cash</td> <td><b>\$ 10,686</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>In-kind</td> <td><b>\$34,821</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Note: Provide an itemized breakdown of volunteer match in your budget with rationale.</p>	Cash	<b>\$ 10,686</b>	In-kind	<b>\$34,821</b>
Cash	<b>\$ 10,686</b>				
In-kind	<b>\$34,821</b>				
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:</b>	FNW will provide a cash match of \$5,886 for vehicles and mileage, as well as \$4,800 for two AmeriCorps service members, using the Truckee River Fund, the National Forest Foundation, and other agreements. Volunteer events will result in at least 1,078 hours of in-kind labor at \$23.07/hr according to the Independent Sector's latest estimated national value of volunteer time. Americorps in-kind labor will be calculated using the federal rate of \$23.07/hr minus their \$4.22/hr stipend, resulting in a rate of \$18.85/hr. Their estimated time spent on these projects is 528 hours.				

12. Project Budget:

Budget Item Description	ORIGINAL PROJECT BUDGET			Total	REIMBURSEMENT REPORT	
	DT \$	Other Funding Name	Match \$		Expenditures to date DT	Expenditures to date (other sources)
<b>AmeriCorps Vol's</b>	\$2,800	NFF	\$4,800	\$7,600		
<b>Americorps Labor</b> \$18.85/hr x 528hrs		Americorps In-Kind	\$9,952	\$9,952		
<b>Labor - FNW staff</b> 11 projects x 48 hrs per project x \$35/hr x 2 staff	\$36,960		\$0	\$36,960		
<b>Labor- Volunteer</b> \$23.07/hr x 1,078 hrs	\$0	Volunteer In-kind	\$24,869	\$24,869		
<b>Volunteer support</b>	\$2,200		\$0	\$2,200		
<b>Project supplies</b>	\$2,640		\$0	\$2,640		
<b>Seedlings/supplies</b>	\$27,510		\$0	\$27,510		
<b>Mileage</b> 6,500mi x \$.54	\$3,510	NFF	\$2,106	\$5,616		
<b>Vehicle Rental</b>	\$2,000	NFF	\$3,780	\$5,780		
<b>Database/DeLorme</b>	\$1,050			\$1,050		
<b>Printing/Postage</b>	\$550			\$550		
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$79,220		\$45,507	\$124,727		
<b>Overhead (15%)</b>	\$ 11,883			\$ 11,883		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$91,103</b>		<b>\$45,507</b>	<b>\$136,610</b>		

**AmeriCorps Volunteers:** We will recruit, train and mentor youth to help build the conservation leaders of the future.

**Americorps Labor:** (National Volunteer rate of \$23.07) – (\$4.22/hr volunteer stipend) = \$18.85/hr. (11 projects) x (48 hrs per projects (will be working alongside staff)) = 528 hrs. (\$18.85/hr x 528hrs) = \$9,952 in-kind labor donation.

**Labor- FNW Staff:** \$35 is the average rate of staff working on these projects including taxes, benefits, etc. Project time includes planning and pre-projects stages, volunteer recruitment, training and management, travel time, on-the-ground work, and post-project data entry and clean-up. If there is any leftover labor funding, we will use the funds for additional project work and assisting partnering agencies with monitoring efforts.

**Volunteer Labor:** The Independent Sector calculates volunteer in-kind donation at \$23.07 per hour. (11 projects) x (7 volunteers/project) x (14 volunteer hours/project) x (\$23.07/hr) = total of 1,078 hours.

**Volunteer Support:** Most projects will be multi-day. Volunteer expenses are anticipated to include food, water, and other supplementary items at an average of \$200 per project.

**Project Supplies:** First aid supplies, PPE, auger fuel, auger maintenance, and bits and tips, and other costs directly associated with the equipment safety and efficiency of the project.

**Seedlings/Supplies:** Seedlings are consistently around \$2 per seedling for plugs. We will work with agencies to find the best prices on seedlings, cages, polymer powder, rooting hormone, etc.

**Mileage:** Total mileage to and from project sites across Nevada, calculated at the federal rate of \$.54 per mile.

**Vehicle Rental:** FNW will rent 4X4 vehicles as needed to safely transport gear and volunteers to project locations.

**Database/DeLorme:** This will cover a portion of our yearly subscription to the Volgistics volunteer data base, and our DeLorme In-Reach GPS based safety communication and location devices which we will take on every event to ensure safety.

**Printing/Postage:** This will help cover costs associated with project promotion and outreach materials which highlight our projects, partners, and funders and help recruit new volunteers.

**Overhead:** This amount is used to help with phones, office rent, utilities that indirectly support these projects.

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS**

Submit the following attachments via email. Clearly label each file with your organization's name.

**Nonprofits submit:**

- Last audited financial statements if your organization has been audited
- List of Board of Directors
- Copy of agency's IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Determination Letter
- Copy of the agency's most recent IRS Form 990