

Dream Tags Charitable Fund Open Request for Proposal

The Community Foundation of Western Nevada is accepting proposals for grants from the Dream Tags Charitable Fund. Proposals will be considered by the Advisory Board on Dream Tags and grant recommendations must be approved by the Board of Trustees of the Community Foundation.

The Dream Tags Charitable Fund provides funding to engage Nevadans in wildlife conservation by focusing donated funds to restore resilience in at-risk Nevada habitats with strategic collaborative projects for sustained impact that supports the preservation, protection, management, or restoration of wildlife and its habitat. To be considered for funding, project proposals must demonstrate measurable impact in accordance with this purpose.

Applicants must be registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit agencies, nonprofit educational institutions, or governmental entities. Projects must be performed in Nevada. Grants are typically paid on a reimbursable basis for actual expenditures. Funding will not be provided for work performed prior to grant approval.

Please submit 1 pdf copy¹ via email of your proposal. Proposals are encouraged for the following:

- 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

Applicants must provide a minimum 25 percent match for funds requested. Guidelines for requests of matching funds are provided in the following application form.

Applications may be sent to the Community Foundation of Western Nevada by email to lrenda@nevadafund.org at any time during the year to be considered for funding. For questions or additional information, contact Tracy at the Community Foundation office. The application is also available online at www.nvdreamtag.org.

The application may be reproduced, retyped, or sections increased or reduced in length but must follow the same order. Please use the following checklist to ensure your application is complete:

- D Proposal, including Cover Sheet and narrative, is a maximum of 5 pages on 8 ½” x 11” paper in readable font (i.e. Times New Roman 12 pt.)
- D Budget is page 6
- D Pages are numbered
- D You are submitting 1 pdf copy
- D You have emailed the pdf to lrenda@nevadafund.org and received confirmation of receipt

If you/your organization are submitting more than one project for consideration, be prepared to prioritize the projects.

¹ Note: Put your application, budget, and any photos into ONE pdf file. Submit your required attachments via email clearly labeled with your organization’s name in the file name. Send your files to lrenda@nevadafund.org.

Dream Tags Charitable Fund
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Cover Sheet

| | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Organization Name: Nevada Department of Wildlife | | | | |
| Organization Type: 501(c)(3) EIN# _____ Governmental entity? Yes | | | | |
| Address: 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120, Reno Nevada 89511 | | | | |
| Project Name: 2021 Emergency Fire Rehab | | | | |
| Amount requested: \$250,000 | | Website: www.ndow.org | | |
| Project start date 08/2021 | | Project completion date 11/2022 | | |
| This funding will be used to supplement seed mixes agencies put on high priority wildlife habitat burned in 2018-2021 wildfires and to provide support for effectiveness monitoring. | | | | |
| Key People: | Director: | Tony Wasley | | |
| | Board Chair: | | | |
| | Project Contact: | Name: | Mark Freese | |
| | | Position: | Habitat Staff Specialist | |
| | | Phone: | 775-688-1560 | |
| | | Fax: | 775-688-1595 | |
| Email: | mfreese@ndow.org | | | |
| Organization Mission: The NDOW manages, protects, and restores Nevada's wildlife and its habitat, and promotes safe boating on Nevada waters. | | | | |
| 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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"/> (See Attachment A) | If yes, | | | |
| | Date awarded: | | | |
| | Project # & title: | | | |
| | Amount of Award: | | | |
| | Date awarded: | | | |
| | Project # & title: | | | |
| Amount of Award: | | | | |

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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

Provide answers for all sections below; use the numbers and topics (in bold) to label each section in your response. Your application is limited to 5 narrative pages, including the cover sheet. Your budget is page 6. All projects are required to have measurable outcomes:

1. **Specific project goals and measurable outcomes.** How do these ties to the project description? The monies from this funding request will be used to purchase seeds, apply seed and conduct other seed bed preparation during the rehabilitation of the 2017-2020 fires across high priority wildlife habitats, including sage grouse and mule deer habitat in the state of Nevada. The seeding and other activities will augment the amount and diversity of species that will be applied to key burned habitats on public and private lands across Nevada in fall and winter 2021.

The primary goal will be to work with Nevada BLM to supplement fire rehabilitation efforts. NDOW is seeking funding to provide assistance in two main ways. First, NDOW can add important species to seed mixes. Second, NDOW can seed and provide additional restoration activities on areas the BLM may not have received funding for including seed application via helicopter or fixed wing, seed bed preparations via herbicides and chaining where tree removal will enhance project outcomes. Associated with these treatment actions will be monitoring to evaluate success and develop adaptive management actions if necessary.

2. **Project location.** Funding from this request will be used on 2021 fires that as of July 26 have burned nearly 112,000 acres. Additionally, funds may be used to augment or continue restoration on fires from 2018 to 2020 that impacted nearly 1.5 million acres collectively. Fires that burned or will burn in high quality sage grouse and mule deer habitat have been and will continue to be the highest priority for treatments. The activities proposed within this funding request could be applied anywhere within the state of Nevada that is high priority habitat.

Project description.

NDOW routinely works with the BLM, Forest Service, and private landowners to support or augment wildfire restoration through the purchase and application of seed or herbicide. NDOW will work with our partners to prioritize any remaining treatments and this Dream Tag funding request will supplement the federal and state funding.

3. **Permitting.** All national environmental policy act (NEPA) activities fall under BLM's (or Forest Service) emergency stabilization and rehabilitation (ES&R) program. For the 2018 -2020 fires, all necessary compliance with NEPA has been completed. Once the 2021 fires have been controlled and extinguished, the federal agency will undertake NEPA to allow post-fire seeding and other restoration activities.

Community Foundation of Western Nevada

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4. If future phases of the project will be needed, NDOW will continue to support and pursue funding to support these activities. Originally, there were few multi-year restoration activities, however recent experience in chemical fallowing and other herbicide application techniques have shown substantial benefit. There will be continuing work on the highest priority burned areas from fires as far back as 2018 fires. Where high quality habitat is burned in 2021, restoration activities will be planned, permitted and undertaken as funding is available.
5. Principals involved in leading or coordinating the project or activity.
Mark Freese, Habitat Staff Specialist
Lee Davis, Habitat Staff Specialist
Caleb McAdoo, Supervising Habitat Biologist Eastern Region
Vacant, Supervising Habitat Biologist Western Region
Brad Hardenbrook, Supervising Habitat Biologist Southern Region
Alan Jenne, Habitat Division Chief
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)
Regional Supervising Habitat Biologists will be the NDOW staff dedicated to facilitating the purchase of this seed and seedbed preparation within the statewide rehabilitation efforts. Other NDOW personnel will be involved in the application of the seed through either aerial or drill seeding efforts. No salary money is being requested through this Dream Tag proposal as all NDOW salaries are generated by other sources. All Dream Tag funding will be used for on-the-ground rehabilitation efforts.
6. Number of volunteers involved in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours.
The number of volunteers that may be involved in fire rehabilitation efforts is unknown at this time as NDOW frequently seeks out volunteer assistance when laborious activities such as planting rooted plants or collecting seed are necessary.
10. Timeline 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.²
 - September 2021-March 2022– Seed and herbicide purchase will occur in late summer to early fall with herbicide seedbed preparation occurring in early fall. Seed application via aerial or drill seeding will begin late fall and carry through to late winter with most application wrapping up by the end of February. Some rooted plantings may occur in late winter to early spring depending on need and site availability.
 - Monitoring crews will collect pre and post treatment data based upon schedules determined by the restoration efforts at individual fires. It is difficult to predict precise timing and locations for the monitoring.
10. Success.
Monitoring will be necessary to document recovery and will help in evaluating treatment techniques, allowing for adaptive changes of future restoration efforts. On public lands BLM recovery criteria will be used to evaluate success. In BLM Districts this means:
 - A minimum of three seeded perennial grasses per square meter rooted firmly in the soil, with consideration to site selection factors such as soils, topography, native release of desirable

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species, and the potential for seedling establishment.

- A qualitative assessment of soil and site stability, and hydrologic function, that results in ratings of none to slight departure from that expected from the same kind of ecological site considered to be in stable condition.
- Bitterbrush (native release or artificially planted) and Sagebrush
- For the bitterbrush sites the objective is, a minimum of 50% of live plants sampled directly within the burn area will have third year's woody stem leader growth as measured on established or new monitoring transects.
- Private and public lands may be monitored through the establishment of long-term photo points to track community establishment through time.

NDOW conducts habitat project effectiveness monitoring focused on the vegetation change at various habitat project sites across Nevada.

11. Grant match.

For fire restoration on the 2018 -2020 wildfires, NDOW secured over \$7,500,000 from Private donations, Pittman-Robertson and NGO donations committed for fire rehabilitation from a multitude of sources including sportsman's and conservation organizations. It should also be noted that the land management agencies will also be providing the majority of the fire rehabilitation funds and that this proposal simply captures the NDOW related partnerships, expenditures and efforts.

NDOW assumes that funding will come from the same variety of sources as in previous years however, precise amounts are not known at this date.

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.

① Note: Project budget must be on its own on page 6.

Grants from the Dream Tags Charitable Fund are typically paid on a reimbursable basis for actual expenditures only. Craft your budget in such a way that requests for reimbursement correspond to the original budget.

² Funding will not be provided for work performed prior to grant approval.

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Grant Match

| | | | | | |
|--|---|------|--------------|---------|----|
| Match amount to be provided: | Over \$2,000,000 | | | | |
| 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" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px;">Cash</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$ 2,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">In-kind</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$</td> </tr> </table> <p style="font-size: small;">Note: Provide an itemized breakdown of volunteer match in your budget with rationale.</p> <p>For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes XXX</p> | Cash | \$ 2,000,000 | In-kind | \$ |
| Cash | \$ 2,000,000 | | | | |
| In-kind | \$ | | | | |
| Description of matching funds/in-kind donations: | <p>Matching funds will be comprised of a combination of funds including but not limited to federal grant dollars, federal partner dollars provided to NDOW through agreements, numerous NDOW generated funding sources (e.g. Habitat Conservation Fee), and non-governmental organization donations.</p> | | | | |

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

Governmental entities submit:

- Departmental budget in lieu of audited financial statements

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SAMPLE BUDGET TEMPLATE

| Budget Item Description* | ORIGINAL PROJECT BUDGET | | | REIMBURSEMENT | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| | DT \$ | Other Funding Name** | Match \$ | Total | Expenditures to date DT | Expenditures to date (other) |
| Design/Engineering | \$xx,xxx | Agency X | - | \$xx,xxx | \$xx,xxx | |
| Permitting | \$xx,xxx | Agency X | \$x,xxx | \$x,xxx | | \$x,xxx |
| Labor--paid | \$x,xxx | Agency X | \$x,xxx | \$x,xxx | \$x,xxx | |
| Labor— | | Own people | \$xx,xxx | \$xx,xxx | \$x,xxx | |
| Construction | \$xx,xxx | Agency Y | \$xx,xxx | \$xx,xxx | | |
| Materials -Seed & Herbicide | \$ 100,000 | NDOW Accounts, NGO Donation, WSFR Federal Grant | \$1,000,000 | \$1,100,000 | | |
| Contracting for seed application and additional restoration activities | \$150,000 | NDOW, Private Donation, Habitat Conservation Fee and Dream Tag | \$600,000 | \$750,000 | | |
| Overhead | \$xx,xxx | Own agency | \$xx,xxx | \$xx,xxx | | |
| TOTAL | \$250,000 | | \$1,600,000 | \$1,850,000 | \$0 | \$0 |

*These are sample descriptions.

**Explain status of other funding if not in hand.

***Provide an itemized breakdown by skillset per hour.

If project is to be implemented in phases, please separate budget into each phase.

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GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding, grantees must adhere to the following requirements:

Monies are to be used and/or disbursed exclusively for the charitable uses and purposes.

The Dream Tags Fund shall be used exclusively to provide support for the preservation, protection, management or restoration of Nevada's wildlife and its habitat.

The Charitable Beneficiaries may include 501(c)(3) organizations and governmental entities. Any grants to governmental entities must be made exclusively for public benefit purposes.

All grantees will be required to sign a grant agreement stipulating their agreement with all of the terms, conditions, and reporting requirements.

To maintain eligibility to receive grant funds, each Charitable Beneficiary must comply at all times with the following requirements:

1. Charitable Beneficiaries must be exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code;
2. Charitable Beneficiaries shall use all Fund distributions toward projects that are appropriate and legal public expenditures;
3. Charitable Beneficiaries must provide financial details and/or reports of their organizations upon request;
4. Charitable Beneficiaries must not use any Fund distributions for political contributions or political advocacy;
5. Charitable Beneficiaries must implement the projects, activities, and/or programs for which they received Fund distributions as agreed upon in the grant acceptance agreement, or must return all such distributions to the Community Foundation forthwith;
6. Charitable Beneficiaries must provide the Community Foundation with quarterly reports detailing the activities of their projects and/or programs; and
7. Charitable Beneficiaries must sign an agreement regarding their compliance with the qualifications hereof.

PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each proposal will be evaluated on criteria that include but are not limited to:

Measurable outcomes in accordance with the exclusive goal of the Dream Tags Charitable Fund. Monitoring and reporting to learn from the project and track project accomplishments. Closeness of project focus to areas of funding emphasis (on-the-ground habitat improvements). Readiness of sponsoring organization to undertake and complete project.

Opportunities to partner with others to leverage funds and accomplish larger outcomes.

Consistency with established Dream Tags Charitable Fund operations (timeline, match, etc.).

Impact on preservation, protection, management, or restoration of Nevada's wildlife and its habitat. Absence of negative or unintended consequences.

Solutions to known problems as identified through past research and monitoring.