



**CARSON CITY, NEVADA**  
CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPALITY AND STATE CAPITOL

August 12, 2021

Community Foundation of Western Nevada  
Dream Tags Charitable Grant Fund  
Attn: Lauren Renda  
50 Washington Street  
Reno, NV 89503

RE: Prison Hill Recreation Area Fire Restoration Project

Dear Ms. Renda and the Community Foundation Board of Trustees,

Please find enclosed a grant application to the Community Foundation of Western Nevada's Dream Tags Charitable Fund Grant (Emergency Request) to help fund the restoration of approximately 171 acres in Prison Hill Recreation Area that burned on July 2, 2021 as a result of the Prison Hill Fire. This funding request for up to \$37,372.85 will allow Carson City to complete native plant seeding in the burned area.

Completing post-fire restoration activities at Prison Hill Recreation Area is critically important to maintaining important wildlife habitat utilized by numerous terrestrial species, including small mammals, mule deer, and raptor species. Additionally, post fire revegetation is necessary in preventing the establishment of invasive and noxious plant species that will outcompete important native vegetation and increase our risk of wildfires in the future. Lastly, reseeding this burned site will help reduce erosion in future events of heavy precipitation and wind.

Please accept this funding request on behalf of the Carson City. Attached you will find information regarding the application for funding. If you have any questions regarding this application please contact Georgia Vasey Senior Natural Resource Specialist, at (775) 283-7693 or [GVasey@carson.org](mailto:GVasey@carson.org).

Sincerely,

Nancy Paulson  
Carson City Manager



**Dream Tags Charitable Fund: Emergency Request for Proposal**  
**Prison Hill Recreation Area Fire Restoration Project, Carson City, Nevada**

<b>Organization Name:</b> Carson City	
<b>Organization Type:</b> 501(c)(3) EIN# <u>88-60000189</u> Governmental entity? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
<b>Address:</b> 3303 Butti Way, Building #9, Carson City, Nevada 89701	
<b>Project Name:</b> Prison Hill Recreation Area Fire Restoration Project	
<b>Amount requested:</b> \$34,423.10 (Option A); \$37,372.85 (Option B)	<b>Website:</b> www.carson.org
<b>Project start date (mm/yyyy):</b> 10/2021	<b>Project completion date (mm/yyyy):</b> 12/2022
<b>This funding will be used to:</b> This funding will be used to restore a burned parcel of Prison Hill Recreation Area by establishing native vegetation and reducing competition with invasive weeds, with the goal to enhance wildlife habitat.	
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b> Jennifer Budge, CPRP, Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department Director
	<b>Board Chair:</b> Alan Welch, Open Space Advisory Committee Chair
	<b>Project Contact:</b>
	<b>Name:</b> Georgia Vasey
	<b>Position:</b> Senior Natural Resource Specialist
	<b>Phone:</b> (775) 283-7693
<b>Fax:</b> (775) 887-2145	
<b>Email:</b> gvasey@carson.org	
<b>Organization Mission:</b> The Carson City Open Space Program works to acquire, interpret, preserve and enhance the natural landscape, agriculture, and cultural resources while balancing the needs of the public's opportunities for passive recreation.	
<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 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> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (use additional to list ALL funded projects)	<b>If yes,</b>
	<b>Date awarded:</b> February 28, 2019
	<b>Project # &amp; title:</b> DT #60 Carson River Canyon Rifle Range Fire Restoration Project
	<b>Amount of Award:</b> \$10,000.00
	<b>Date awarded:</b>
<b>Project # &amp; title:</b>	
<b>Amount of Award:</b>	

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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 emergency 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:** The goal of this project is to restore the area burned in Prison Hill Recreation Area in order to prevent the invasion of noxious and invasive weeds, like cheatgrass, and establish native vegetation that provides benefits for local wildlife. In addition, by reseeding the burned area with native vegetation, seedling root systems will reduce future erosion hazards by stabilizing the soil.
  
2. **Project location:**  
The project site is located at Prison Hill Recreation Area in Carson City, Nevada, 0.10 miles west of Carson River Road, 0.30 miles south of Fairview Drive, and 0.32 miles east of Gentry Lane. The project location is between 4,851 feet to 5,407 feet in elevation on the upper flanks of the mountain towards the northernmost end of the open space property. Latitude/Longitude: 39°08'42.60" N, 119°43'46.70"W; Township 15N, Range 20E, Sections 21, 22, 27, and 28. This property is owned by Carson City and managed by the Open Space division. Aerial maps and photos are attached (see pages 7-11).
  
3. **Project description:**  
On Friday, July 2, 2021 two lightning strikes started a fire at the north end of Prison Hill Recreation Area in Carson City, Nevada, burning approximately 171 acres. The fire occurred close to the summit, which is characterized by rocky outcrops and very stony loam soils. The plant communities affected were primarily sagebrush scrublands and a small grove of pinyon-juniper woodland. Both of these habitats support a wide variety of wildlife; the sagebrush scrublands provide extensive forage and host many different insects, small mammals and a variety of reptile species, while the pinyon-juniper woodland is a vital food source for many animals (e.g. pinyon nuts for bird species including the Clark's nutcracker, Stellar's jays, and scrub jays, as well as several small rodents).

According to Nevada Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool, the burned area encompasses three zones that rank 2, 3, and 4. The ranking system describes the probability, or risk, that a high-priority species or wildlife habitat would be encountered in a given area with 1 as "most crucial" to 6 as "least crucial." Some of the species that ranked with highest priority value in the project area included the occupation of mule deer and various species of raptors (e.g. American kestrel, bald eagle, barn owl, etc.; taken from report provided by Nevada Department of Wildlife). Mule deer are the only big game species in decline in North America, with wildfires impacting their transitional and winter ranges. Similarly, raptor species often suffer from habitat destruction, which diminishes sufficient home ranges, reduces available nesting sites, and decreases adequate vegetation coverage to support prey species.

On April 1, 2019, Open Space staff joined wildlife biologists with the Nevada Department of Wildlife, and conservation specialists with Nevada State Parks, on a site visit at Prison Hill Recreation Area to evaluate and design a plan for conserving raptor populations, specifically golden eagles. From their visit, they determined that many of the cliffs and rock outcrops at Prison Hill are suitable for golden

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eagle nesting, although no nests were present at the time. They did observe a pair of golden eagles using the rocky outcrops for perching, as well as flying throughout the property, likely for hunting. Other raptors that were observed during the visit included red-tailed hawks, turkey vultures, Cooper's hawk, and northern harriers. Having both numerous rock features and abundant scrub cover create ideal hunting grounds for raptor species. Thus, restoring the habitat for raptors with new scrub cover is a high priority following vegetation loss from the fire.

We aim to utilize funding received from the Dream Tags Charitable Fund to assist with the restoration of Prison Hill Recreation Area, specifically on the revegetation efforts, with the goal to restore Nevada native vegetation essential for the health and sustainability of local wildlife. To this aim, we plan to aerially reseed perennial bunchgrasses, scrub, and forb species to allow for the establishment of desirable vegetation that would otherwise be invaded by invasive weeds like *Bromus tectorum*, commonly referred to as cheatgrass. In the spring, using city funding, we will spot-spray patches of any newly emerged noxious and invasive weeds using aqueous herbicide (Imazapic) to further encourage the growth of native vegetation and reduce competition. Until the vegetation has developed deep enough root systems to stabilize the loose soil and rocks, we will prioritize mitigating potential erosion hazards and sediment runoff by installing rock check dams using local materials with the help of volunteer groups. Pre- and post-monitoring will be used to measure the success of the restoration project.

4. **Permitting:** No permitting is required as the project area is located on Carson City owned property managed by the Open Space Division.
5. We plan to address **future phases** of this restoration project by applying for additional grants. One anticipated source of funding is through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In order to achieve restoration success and meet project goals, it is anticipated that restoration activities will need to be completed over the course of three years.
6. **Principals involved:** Georgia Vasey, Senior Natural Resource Specialist, Carson City Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Department; Jared Whitaker, Open Space Maintenance Coordinator, Carson City Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Department.
7. Number of **staff positions involved** in project: Fulltime \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time 2  
 The Senior Natural Resource Specialist will be the staff member that purchases the seed blend, determines seeding rate, and works with the aerial contractor to apply the broadcast seeding application. The Open Space Maintenance Coordinator will be responsible for applying the spot-spray herbicide applications in the spring, as well as helping with the construction of rock check dams. Both of these positions are considered "part-time" for the purposes of this grant as only a portion of their time will be dedicated to the project. No salary money is being requested through this Dream Tags Charitable Fund application, as Carson City Open Space salaries are generated by other sources. No in-kind match will be requested for reimbursement as a scope of this project, however staff and volunteer time will be utilized.
8. Number of **volunteers involved** in project and estimated number of volunteer hours: We anticipate that erosion control measures will involve an experience volunteer group, such as Muscle Powered. The group of volunteers will be around 15 people over the course of 2-3 programs, equating to approximately 180 volunteer hours. We may also have volunteers help with a small amount of seed collection, drill-seeding, and outplanting activities, which would equate to approximately 100 hours.
9. **Time Line of Project:**

Date	Work Plan
August 2021	Pre-monitoring: Set up photo-monitoring points for baseline

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	data.
October/November 2021	Aerially reseed 171 acres using helicopter contractor, El Aero Services, LLS. Rate should be 22 lbs/acre of seed. Timing will need to coincide with precipitation events.
November 2021	Install rock check dams and water bars with Muscle Powered volunteers.
November 2021	Seed collect sagebrush seeds at Prison Hill with community volunteers to use for winter 2022 outplantings.
March/April 2022	Monitoring and Data Collection: Install 5-10 permanent transects throughout site to evaluate species diversity and percent cover.
March/April 2022	Herbicide Treatment: Spot-spray annual grass patches using combined Imazapic + glyphosate herbicide with a backpack sprayer.
August 2022	Monitoring: Take annual photos and compile photo-monitoring report.
September/October 2022	Evaluate, compile, and analyze data collected; identify project success rates.
December 2022	Write report and grant close-out.

10. **Success:** To measure the success of this restoration project, we will use our monitoring, both photo-points and vegetation transects, to compare vegetation and plant coverage before restoration initiatives and 1-year following restoration initiatives. This information will be compiled in a report that will be submitted at grant close-out. Per NRCS guidelines, specific measurements of success include:
- A minimum of three seeded perennial grasses per square meter along established transects rooted firmly in the soil;
  - A target density of 0.5-3.0 seeded plants/ft<sup>2</sup> along established transects;
  - Seedlings show high plant vigor evaluated by the number of seedlings reaching the three-leaf stage (or beyond); and
  - A qualitative assessment of invasive annual plant establishment using repeat photo-point monitoring and species richness data.
11. **Grant match:** Matching funds for this project will be provided by the Carson City Quality of Life Initiative, which funds the Carson City Open Space Program. These funds will pay for 25% of the seeding materials and aerial application. See following table and budget on page 6.
12. **Project budget:** (see page 6)

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<b>Grant Match</b>					
<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>	<b>OPTION A: \$11,474.37; OPTION B: \$12,457.62</b>				
<b>Match details:</b>	<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"> <tr> <td>Cash</td> <td>OPTION A: \$11,474.37; OPTION B: \$12,457.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In-kind</td> <td>\$ 0.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>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 <u>X</u> No _</p>	Cash	OPTION A: \$11,474.37; OPTION B: \$12,457.62	In-kind	\$ 0.00
Cash	OPTION A: \$11,474.37; OPTION B: \$12,457.62				
In-kind	\$ 0.00				
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:</b>	Matching funds will be provided by the Carson City Quality of Life Initiative as cash match. No in-kind match will be requested for reimbursement as a scope of this project, however staff and volunteer time will be utilized.				

**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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<i>Prison Hill Recreation Area Fire Restoration -- Budget</i>			
<b>Budget Item Description</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Dream Tags (75%)</b>	<b>Carson City Open Space Cash Match (25%)</b>
Comstock Seed – seed (perennial grasses, shrubs, and forbs)	\$42,274.96	\$31,706.22	\$10,568.74
El Aero Services, LLC (to complete reseeding via helicopter)	A: \$3,622.50 (from CXP) <sup>1</sup>	A: \$2,716.88	A: \$905.63
	B: \$7,555.50 (from EKO) <sup>1</sup>	B: \$5,666.63	B: \$1,888.88
<b>TOTAL – Option A</b>	<b>\$45,897.46</b>	<b>\$34,423.10</b>	<b>\$11,474.37</b>
<b>TOTAL – Option B</b>	<b>\$49,830.46</b>	<b>\$37,372.85</b>	<b>\$12,457.62</b>

<sup>1</sup>Price varies depending on starting location for day of application. El Aero Director of Operations noted the rate will likely be the lower estimate as long as there are other jobs in the area at that time.

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Figure 1. Project area map outlining the fire boundary in Carson City, NV.



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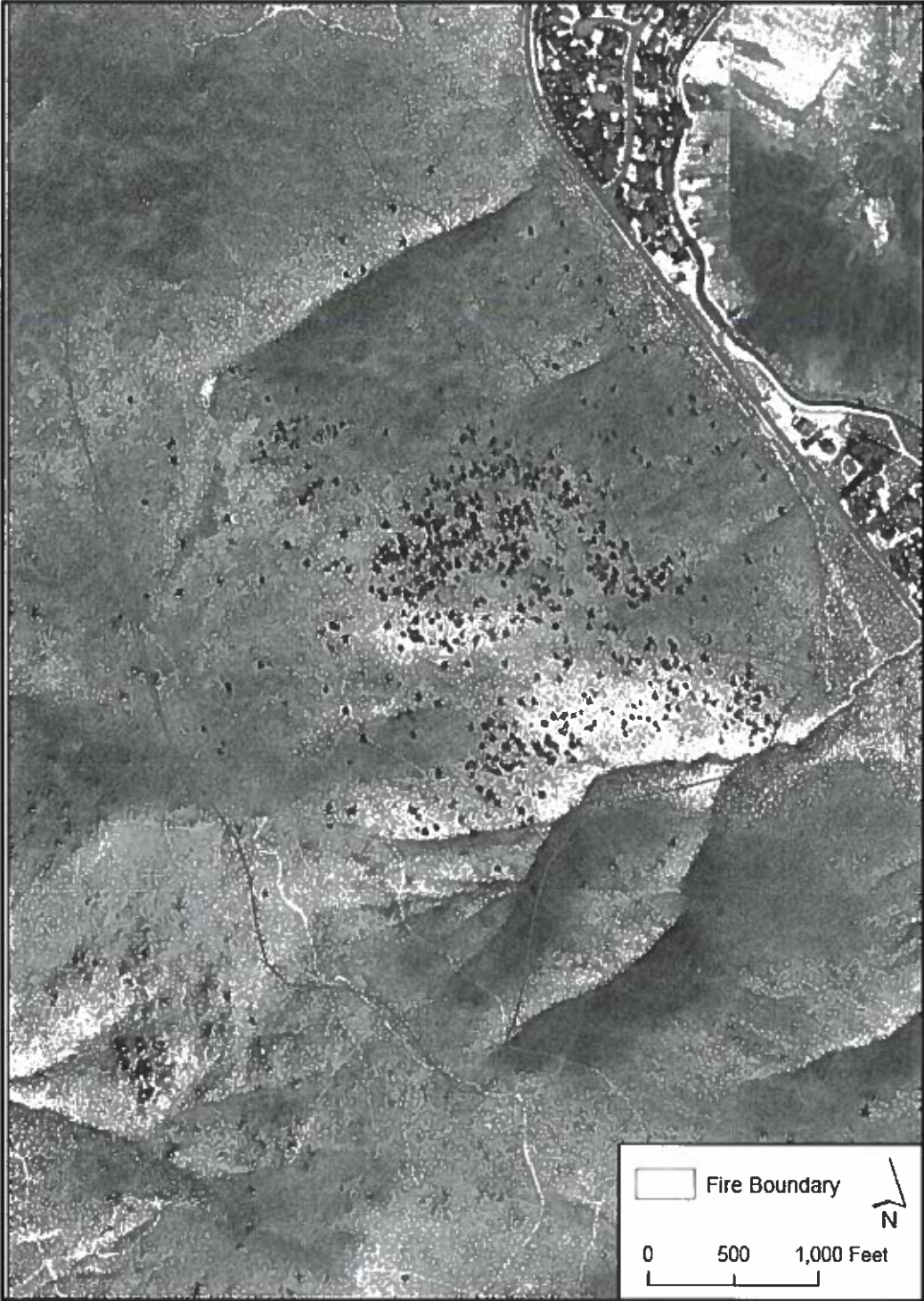
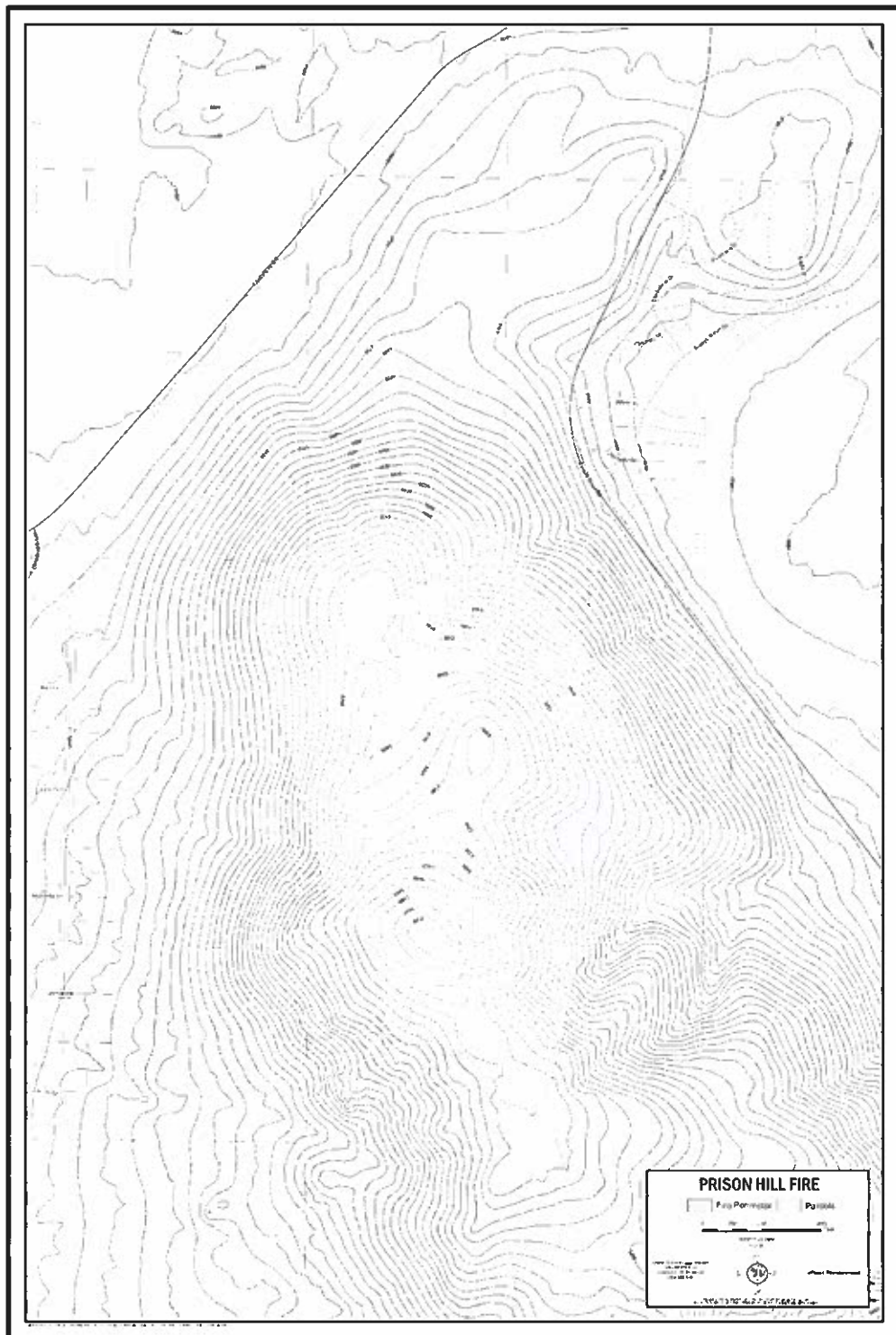


Figure 2. Project area map zoomed in to highlight vegetation within burned area.

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*Figure 3. Topographic map of project area to illustrate that the fire burned at the northern summit.*

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*Photograph 1. Burn scar at the summit looking north.*

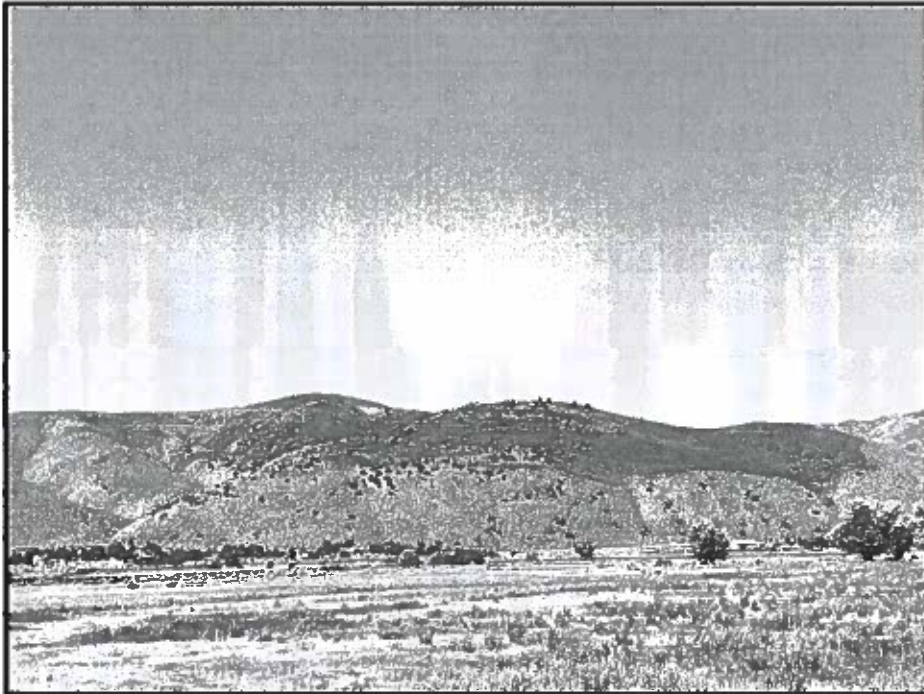


*Photograph 2. Burn scar taken from the North Loop Trail on the eastern side of the mountain.*

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***Photograph 3. Burned pinyon-juniper woodland looking east towards Buzzy's Ranch.***



***Photograph 4. Burn scar on the eastern side of the mountain taken from Buzzy's Ranch.***

**Quality of Life Fund  
FY 2021 Budget**

	<b>20% Park Maintenance</b>	<b>40% Park Capital</b>	<b>40% Open Space</b>	<b>Fund Total</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Beginning Balance	15,000	55,000	80,000	150,000
<b>Sales Tax Revenue</b>	<b>576,938</b>	<b>1,153,877</b>	<b>1,153,877</b>	<b>2,884,692</b>
Interest Income	3,000	6,000	6,000	15,000
Total	<u>594,938</u>	<u>1,214,877</u>	<u>1,239,877</u>	<u>3,049,692</u>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	133,939	-	631,979	765,918
Services and Supplies	151,129	70,788	520,828	742,745
Equipment	19,150		7,070	26,220
Construction - Parks 5046		400,000		400,000
Park/Trail Improvements		14,763		14,763
Carson River		12,000		12,000
Undesignated Projects		19,640		19,640
Boys & Girls Club	120,000			120,000
Transfer Out - General Fund (Pool)	105,720			105,720
Transfer Out - General Fund (mac)	50,000			50,000
Transfer Out - Debt Service		642,686		642,686
Total	<u>579,938</u>	<u>1,159,877</u>	<u>1,159,877</u>	<u>2,899,692</u>
Ending Balance - June 30, 2020	15,000	55,000	80,000	150,000

**Quality of Life Fund  
FY 2021 YE Estimated**

	<b>20% Park Maintenance</b>	<b>40% Park Capital</b>	<b>40% Open Space</b>	<b>Fund Total</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Beginning Balance	237,427	822,230	1,969,221	3,028,878
<b>Sales Tax Revenue</b>	<b>667,588</b>	<b>1,335,178</b>	<b>1,335,178</b>	<b>3,337,944</b>
Interest Income	4,000	8,000	8,000	20,000
Charges for Services			334	334
Federal Grants		0	1,903,455	1,903,455
State/Other Grants		0	4,296	4,296
Miscellaneous	0	14,794	-	14,794
Transferred In from GF	0	0	-	0
Total	<u>909,015</u>	<u>2,180,202</u>	<u>5,220,484</u>	<u>8,309,701</u>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	127,891	0	545,926	673,817
Services and Supplies	145,022	70,788	517,858	733,668
Pool Improvements	0			0
Finish MAC 010708				0
Equipment	6,107	13,100	17,500	36,707
Rifle/Pistol Range Improvements	0			0
Park/Trail Improvements		0		0
Prison Hill 5th St.			-	0
Carson River Trail System Ph2			-	0
Golden Eagle Lane			-	0

CWSD Mexican Ditch Trail			-	0
Carson River		0	-	0
Construction - Parks 5046		709,631		709,631
Construction - Parks 5047			1,741,204	1,741,204
Land Acquisition			-	0
Undesignated Projects	219,979	688,997	2,317,996	3,226,972
Boys & Girls Club	120,000			120,000
Transfer Out - General Fund (Pool)	225,016			225,016
Transfer Out - General Fund (mac)	50,000			50,000
Transfer Out - Debt Service		642,686		642,686
Transfer Out - Group Medical		0	-	0
Total	<u>894,015</u>	<u>2,125,202</u>	<u>5,140,484</u>	<u>8,159,701</u>
Ending Balance - June 30, 2021	<u>15,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>