

Dream Tags Charitable Fund Open Request for Proposal

Cover Sheet

Organization Name: Nevada Department of Wildlife		Office Use Only		
Organization Type: 501(c)(3) EIN# _____ Governmental entity? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No		Date received: _____		
Address: 60 Youth Center Rd, Elko, NV 89801		Project # _____		
Project Name: Pole Canyon Ranch Conservation Easement Is this proposal being submitted as an Emergency funding request? (Circle one) Yes / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		Grant Amount: _____		
Amount requested: \$150,000.00		Website: N/A		
Project start date (mm/yyyy): 04/06/2018		Projected completion date (mm/yyyy): 10/01/2022		
This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences): This funding will be used to purchase a conservation easement on the Pole Canyon Ranch.				
Key People: Caleb McAdoo Madi Ellingwood Scott Roberts	Director:	Tony Wasley		
	Board Chair:	N/A		
	Project Contact:	Name:	Caleb McAdoo	
		Position:	Eastern Region Habitat Supervisor	
		Phone:	775-388-1914	
		Fax:	775-738-2485	
Email:		cmcadoo@ndow.org		
Organization Mission: <small>To protect, conserve, manage and restore wildlife and its habitat for the aesthetic, scientific, educational, recreational, and economic benefits to citizens of Nevada and the United States, and to promote the safety of persons using vessels on the waters of Nevada.</small>				
Project is on (check all that apply) _____ Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private land.				
Are government permits or decision documents needed for the project? _____ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If so, are those permits and decision documents already secured? _____ 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? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes / <input type="checkbox"/> No (use additional pages to list ALL funded projects)	If yes,			
	Date awarded:	_____		
	Project # & title:	_____		
	Amount of Award:	_____		
	Date awarded:	_____		
	Project # & title:	_____		
Amount of Award: _____				
The NDOW has been awarded multiple grants from the Dream Tag Fund.				

Pole Canyon Ranch Conservation Easement

1. **Project Goals and Measurable Outcomes:** The primary purpose of the Pole Canyon Conservation Easement is to purchase a conservation easement and public access easement on the approximately 12,122.43 acres of the Pole Canyon Ranch. The measurable outcomes of this project will be the finalization of the conservation and public access deeds into county record.

The property lies along the southern boundary of the United States Forest Service Wilderness, 30 miles east of Elko, Nevada in the East Humboldt Range. The property is in Hunt Unit 101, which is one of nine hunt units that make up Management Area 10, one of the State's priority mule deer herds. The 12,122.43-acre Pole Canyon Ranch is comprised some of the most productive mule deer habitat in the State of Nevada. The property spans from approximately 6,700 ft in elevation to over 10,500 ft. and contains the headwaters of Lemons Creek, Wright Creek, Secret Creek, Woods Creek, and the Franklin River. The expansive ranch serves as summer, winter, and transition range for a large proportion of the Area 10 deer herd. There has been a holistic approach to protecting the seasonal habitats of the Area 10 deer herd and the Pole Canyon Conservation Easement is a crucial piece in the overall puzzle. With a large percentage of the summer range protected by Forest Service management and a majority of the utilized winter range being protected by BLM management, the Pole Canyon Conservation Easement will complete the long-term protection of the majority of the seasonal habitats and the migration corridor of the East Humboldt mule deer herd.

To further confirm the importance of the East Humboldt Range mule deer sub-herd to the overall health of Area 10 mule deer herd, look no further than the investments the Department has made at enhancing and protecting these extensive migratory corridors, the stopover sites, and the winter ranges in Unit 105 with the Spruce Mountain Restoration Project. The Spruce Mountain Restoration Project has been in the implementation stage since 2013, with a final treatment footprint of 10,000 acres to be completed in the winter of 2020-2021. The primary objective of this NEPA document was to restore, enhance, and rehabilitate BLM administered lands, with specific focus on the mule deer herd that summers within and adjacent to the targeted conservation easement.

To date, millions of dollars have been expended by the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, and numerous other private partners and NGOs to conduct treatment projects on the winter ranges specific to the same mule deer that would utilize the Pole Canyon Ranch during the summer, winter, and transition periods.

2. **Project Location:** The Project is located approximately 30 miles east of Elko, Nevada, in the northern portion of the East Humboldt Range in Elko County, Nevada. The Figure 1(attached) shows the vicinity of proposed Project location. The Project Area is located on private lands surrounded by National Forest System (NFS) land in the Ruby Mountain Ranger District.

3. **Project Description:** The Pole Canyon Conservation Easement will permanently protect 12,122.43 acres of private rangeland along the base of the East Humboldt mountains in northern Nevada. The corresponding public access easement will allow sportsman to access approximately 4,600 acres of private lands and thousands of acres of adjoining USFS lands. The proposed conservation easement will conserve habitat along a critical migratory corridor for the largest population of mule deer in Nevada and will serve as important sagebrush, grassland and riparian habitat for mule deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and several species of conservation priority, including the greater sage-grouse. The proposed conservation easement will also improve habitat connectivity to neighboring U.S. Forest Service administered lands for game and non-game species movement across the landscape.

Public access would initiate from County Road 786, the "North Ruby Valley Road", and would provide public access to and through the Access Area (4,680 acres) on Pole Canyon property through two primary ingress locations (See attached figure). From the County Road, two access routes are proposed, the "Franklin River Access" and the "Horse Creek Access", each with designated parking areas near the property boundary of the Forest Service and Pole Canyon property. Access to the vehicle parking areas from County Road 786 would be across Forest Service lands on existing roads. For the Franklin River Access, vehicular travel would be terminated just inside the property boundary at a designated parking area on the Pole Canyon property. From the parking area, members of the public could access adjacent Forest Service lands and the subject Access Area of the Pole Canyon property by walking or using stock (mules or horses) up the Franklin River Road and First Boulder/Pole Canyon Trail. The parking area would be designed to accommodate up to 5 vehicles at one time, including trailers.

For the Horse Creek Access, approximately 1,340 feet of the existing road traverses across the Pole Canyon property before the road ends on a steep rocky ridge near the headwaters of Woods Creek. From the road's end, the public could hike along the eastern edge of the Pole Canyon property to access adjacent Forest Service lands and portions of the Pole Canyon property. The topography of this ridgeline is such that it limits the number and type of vehicles that would be parked on the ridge at any given point, thus providing some daily access regulation. Vehicles hauling trailers would not be able to access this route.

4. **Permitting:** No permitting is required as the Project is located on private lands. The easement deeds will be recorded in Elko County.
5. **Future Phases:** The Project is a one-time purchase of a conservation easement and access easement on the Pole Canyon Ranch; therefore, no future phases will be required.
6. **Principles Involved:** Caleb McAdoo, Eastern Region Habitat Supervisor, is the lead for the project. Madi Ellingwood, Eastern Region Private Lands Habitat Biologist, is the coordinator for the project. Scott Roberts, Area 10 Game Biologist, has been assisting the project with his knowledge of the area.

7. **Staff Positions Involved:** Three full-time staff positions are involved in the project. The Eastern Region Habitat Supervisor, Private Lands Habitat Biologist, and the Area 10 Game Biologist.
8. **Volunteers Involved:** No volunteers are involved in this project.
9. **Timeline:** It is the Department's intent that the close date on the purchase of the conservation easement on Pole Canyon Ranch will be on October 1st, 2022. Should the close date be delayed from further negotiations, or lack of capacity be with the title company, it is anticipated that it will close by the end of 2022.
10. **Success:** The success of this project will be tangible in the form of recorded conservation and public access easement deeds recorded into county record.
11. **Grant Match:** Please see attachment.
12. **Project Budget:** Please see attachment.

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Grant Match					
Match amount to be provided:	\$ 1,340,000.00				
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;">\$ 1,340,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">In-kind</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Cash	\$ 1,340,000.00	In-kind	\$
Cash	\$ 1,340,000.00				
In-kind	\$				
Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:	Please see description of match in budget table below.				

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

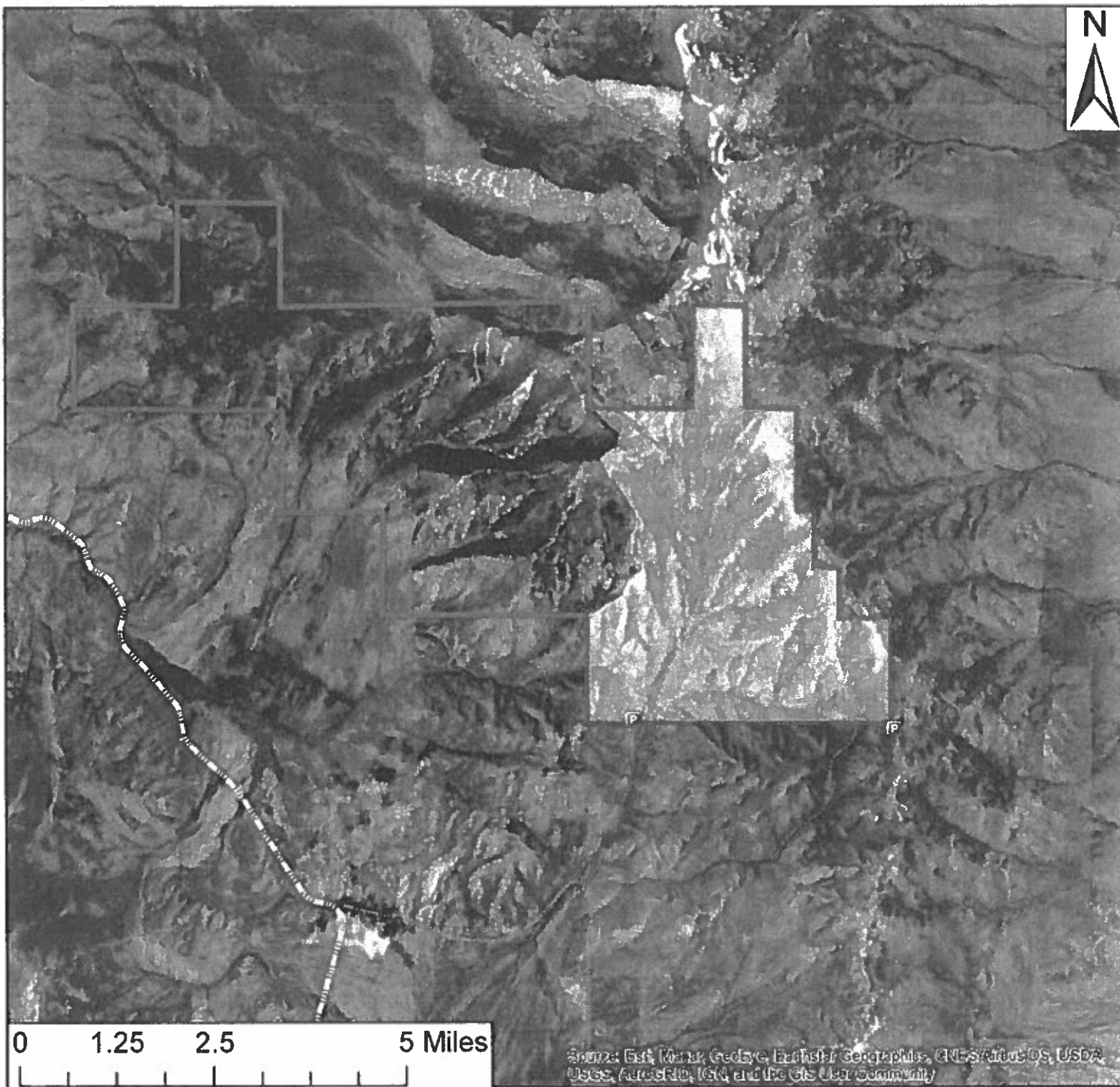
Governmental entities submit:

- ☒ Departmental budget in lieu of audited financial statements

POLE CANYON CONSERVATION AND ACCESS EASEMENT

<u>Conservation Easement Value</u>	\$	1,095,000.00
<u>Access Easement Value</u>	\$	285,000.00
Sub Total of Easement Value	\$	1,380,000.00
<u>Secured Budget Sources</u>		
NDOW Heritage Funding (FY22)	\$	200,000.00
NDOW Heritage Funding (FY23)	\$	100,000.00
NDOW NFWF - Migrations Corridor	\$	150,000.00
NDOW Conservation Bond	\$	280,000.00
RMEF	\$	150,000.00
RMEF- NFWF - Migrations Corridor	\$	50,000.00
NBU Reno	\$	250,000.00
Elko Bighorns Unlimited	\$	100,000.00
Sub Total of Secrued Funding	\$	1,280,000.00
<u>Pending Requests</u>		
Dream Tag	\$	100,000.00
Fallon NBU	\$	50,000.00
Midas Bighorns	\$	10,000.00
Total Secured Funding	\$	1,280,000.00
Pending Funding Requests	\$	160,000.00
*Total Funding	\$	1,440,000.00

**includes a %4 buffer on easement value an unanticipated closing costs.*



Legend

-  Parking
-  State Route 229
-  County Road 786
-  Foot/Animal Access
-  Vehicle Access
-  Access Area
-  Pole Canyon CE
-  USFS



Pole Canyon Conservation Easement Access

03/01/2022

Projection: UTM Zone 11 North, NAD83
No warranty is made by the Nevada
Department of Wildlife as to the accuracy,
reliability, or completeness of the data for
individual use or aggregate use with other
data.

