

## Dream Tags Charitable Fund Emergency Request for Proposal



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
*of Northern Nevada*



The Community Foundation of Northern Nevada is accepting proposals for emergency funding requests from the Dream Tags Charitable Fund. Proposals will be considered by the Advisory Board on Dream Tags on an as-needed basis 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 copy<sup>1</sup> 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 emergency needs
- D. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria (see page 6)

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 Northern Nevada by email to [lrenda@nevadafund.org](mailto:lrenda@nevadafund.org) to be considered for funding.** For questions or additional information, contact Lauren at the Community Foundation office. The application is also available online at [www.nvdreamtag.org](http://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:

- ☐ Proposal, starting with Cover Sheet plus narrative sections, is a maximum of 5 pages on 8 ½" x 11" paper in readable font (i.e. Times New Roman 12 pt.)
- ☐ Budget is page 6
- ☐ Pages are numbered
- ☐ You are submitting 1 pdf copy
- ☐ You have emailed the pdf to [lrenda@nevadafund.org](mailto: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.

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<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto:lrenda@nevadafund.org).

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### Cover Sheet

<b>Organization Name:</b> Nevada Department of Wildlife		<b>Office Use Only</b>	
<b>Organization Type:</b> 501(c)(3) EIN# _____ Governmental entity? Yes		Date received: _____	
<b>Address:</b> 60 Youth Center Rd. Elko, NV 89801		Project # _____	
<b>Project Name:</b> FY24 Wildcat Fire Mule Deer Migration Corridor Bitterbrush Planting <b>Is this proposal being submitted as an Emergency funding request? (Circle one)</b> Yes		Grant Amount: _____	
<b>Amount requested:</b> \$35,000		<b>Website:</b> www.ndow.org	
<b>Project start date (mm/yyyy):</b> 10/2023		<b>Projected completion date (mm/yyyy):</b> 05/2024	
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b> This funding will be used to plant antelope bitterbrush seedlings on the Forest Service portion of the 2022 Wildcat Fire burned area to improve mountain brush community for wildlife.			
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b> Alan Jenne		
	<b>Board Chair:</b>		
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b> Brittany Trimble	
		<b>Position:</b> Eastern Region Habitat Biologist	
		<b>Phone:</b> 775-777-2393	
		<b>Fax:</b>	
<b>Email:</b> btrimble@ndow.org			
<b>Organization Mission:</b> The NDOW manages, protects, and restores Nevada's wildlife and its habitat, and promotes safe boating on Nevada waters.			
<b>Project is on (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private land.</b>			
<b>Are government permits or decision documents needed for the project?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 pages to list ALL funded projects) ( <b>See Attachment A</b> )	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 tie to the project description?

This project aims to plant 74,000 antelope bitterbrush seedlings across 1,000 acres of critical habitat for various wildlife species that burned in the 2022 Wildcat Fire on Forest Service land. Most of the antelope bitterbrush that was burned in the fire is not expected to resprout in the burned area on a large scale due to the decadence of the plant community at the time of burning and the multiple years of drought stress prior to the fire. This planting effort will help give the bitterbrush community a jumpstart in reestablishing in an area that thousands of mule deer rely upon each year during their migration. Along with the seeding efforts completed in the project area on Forest Service land in February 2023 by the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), this planting will help achieve restoration goals of reestablishing the mountain brush community relied upon by elk, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, Greater sage-grouse, and dark kangaroo mice local to the area. This project will also contribute to the priority management action listed in the Nevada Wildlife Action Plan to restore 2+ million acres of degraded sagebrush habitat across the state by restoring a vital component of the mountain brush community that was burned.

The establishment of antelope bitterbrush in the recovering mountain brush community two years post-planting will be the measurable outcome of this project. The first year after planting typically has the sharpest decline in plant survival, but the survival in the second year after planting is typically a good representation of overall planting success.

2. **Project location.**

This planting will occur approximately 43 miles northwest of Wells, NV across 1,000 acres of the 3,075 acres of Forest Service land that burned in the 2022 Wildcat Fire on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (HTNF) Jarbidge Ranger District in Elko County, Nevada in NDOW Management Unit 072. The attached map shows the proposed project location.

3. **Project description.** Include site map and aerial photos if applicable/possible. Maps and photos must fit on 8-1/2" x 11" paper and may be attached at the end of your proposal after the budget.

The 2022 Wildcat Fire burned 21,423 acres total with 17,353 acres occurring on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, 3,075 acres occurring on Forest Service land, and 955 acres on private land. Elko BLM seeded a majority of the burned area with upland grasses, forbs, and shrubs in fall 2022 through March 2023 and is also planning to plant up to 1 million sagebrush and/or bitterbrush seedlings throughout burned BLM land in fall 2023 and/or spring 2024. Forest Service was unable to secure funding to be able to reseed or plant seedlings on their portion of the burn, so NDOW seeded sagebrush and a watershed mix on 1,550 acres of Forest Service land in February 2023, and the Area 7 Mule Deer Enhancement Program (MDEP) subcommittee proposed bitterbrush seedling planting in fall 2023 to accommodate the sagebrush seeding in restoring the mountain brush community so relied upon by the diverse wildlife community in the area. The MDEP Oversight Committee ranked this project as the number one priority for the entire State of Nevada. The USFS HTNF Jarbidge Ranger District is supportive of this effort and has committed to completing the required State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) clearance before planting is scheduled to occur in fall 2023. This project will also be a Shared Stewardship project.

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The proposed project area has experienced severe drought in the years previous to the Wildcat Fire and, in combination with the decadent age of the mountain brush community, was in an extremely stressed state at the time of the wildfire. These conditions have been shown to reduce bitterbrush resprouting post-fire and, given the importance of bitterbrush to mule deer during their migration through this burned area, planting of bitterbrush seedlings was determined to be a priority to help re-establish the habitat values in the burned area. Additionally, decadent plants that are mowed back or burned to stimulate new growth have been shown to only produce nutritious forage for the next 3- to 5-years. Planting seedlings will allow for the establishment of new healthy plants to provide nutritious feed for decades.

Of the 3,075 acres of Forest Service land that burned in the Wildcat Fire, 1,000 acres have been targeted for planting 74,000 antelope bitterbrush seedlings in strategic locations with biodegradable caging to protect the seedlings from overutilization in the first couple years of establishment. Caging will allow for some utilization of the far-reaching branches through the caging but will prevent utilization to detrimental levels. Lucky Peak Nursery is currently growing 40,000 bareroot bitterbrush seedlings and 34,000 containerized bitterbrush seedlings for this project. Planting of the 74,000 seedlings will be partially done by volunteers and partially through a planting contract, ideally in fall 2023, but potentially in spring 2024 if weather and access conditions do not align with timing of seedling production.

4. **Permitting.** Provide a permitting schedule for your project along with your plan for getting the required permits and decision documents. Be sure to include the cost of permitting/decision documents as a line item in your budget.

The Jarbidge Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest is in full support of the project and ensures that surveys and archeological clearance through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) should be acquired before planned planting time in fall of 2023. No additional permitting is required.

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

There are no future phases planned for this project, but depending on the success of this planting there is potential for a second phase of planting in future years.

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

Brittany Trimble, Eastern Region Habitat Biologist  
Kari Huebner, Area 7-8-9 Game Biologist

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)

Two full-time staff positions are involved in the project: the Eastern Region Habitat Biologist and the Area 7 Game Biologist. The Eastern Region Volunteer Coordinator will be involved full-time for the volunteer portion of the project.

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

Approximately 50 volunteers are anticipated to participate in this project. Estimating 7 hours of work each and at least 48 miles of travel to the project site, volunteer match is estimated at \$15,726.00.

9. **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.<sup>2</sup>

Seedlings will be grown out by Lucky Peak Nursery spring through September of 2023 and ready for planting in October of 2023. The volunteer event will be planned for a weekend in October 2023. The planting contract will be solicited in summer of 2023 with a performance period of October 2023 through spring 2024. The

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seedlings will ideally be planted in fall 2023, but weather and/or access conditions could cause the planting to be pushed to spring 2024 if the timing of ideal conditions does not align with plant availability from the nursery and contractor availability to plant.

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

Project goals, objectives and success vs. failure determinations may vary depending upon site constraints (e.g. ecological site potential) and prescription (e.g. herbicide vs. seeding, simple seed mix vs. diverse seed mix). Below are examples of a few measurable objectives that could be used to measure success. The success of this project will be measured through observational estimates of establishment from planted seedlings and repeated photo points in key areas of planting taken before planting and each subsequent year for at least three years post-planting.

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.

Project match includes \$82,000 from NDOW Wildlife Heritage Fund (pending, award expected June 2023), \$35,000 from RMEF Wildfire Restoration Grant (awarded April 6, 2023), and volunteer match estimated at \$15,726.

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. **Project budget must be on its own on page 6.**

- Note: Indirect/overhead expenses cannot exceed 25 percent

Grants from the Dream Tags Charitable Fund are 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.

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<sup>2</sup> Funding will not be provided for work performed prior to grant approval.

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### Grant Match

<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>	<b>\$132,726.00</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" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Cash</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$117,000.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>In-kind</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$15,726.00</b></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 <u>X</u>*</p> <p><i>*NDOW Wildlife Heritage Funds are pending, expected award is June 2023</i></p>	Cash	<b>\$117,000.00</b>	In-kind	<b>\$15,726.00</b>
Cash	<b>\$117,000.00</b>				
In-kind	<b>\$15,726.00</b>				
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:</b>	<p>Volunteer Hours – in-kind match estimate = \$15,726.00 (break down of estimate included in budget table)</p> <p>NDOW Wildlife Heritage Funding (pending) = \$82,000.00</p> <p>RMEF Wildfire Restoration Grant (awarded) = \$35,000.00</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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**PROJECT BUDGET**

Budget Item Description	Line Item Cost	Total Cost
<b>Antelope Bitterbrush Seedlings</b>		<b>\$ 37,550.00</b>
40,000 Bareroot	\$ 18,000.00	
34,000 Containerized	\$ 19,550.00	
<b>Planting Contract</b>		<b>\$ 130,176.00</b>
Labor, estimated \$0.88/seedling	\$ 66,600.00	
Vexar Caging with Bamboo Stakes, estimated \$.86/seedling	\$ 63,576.00	
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>\$ 167,726.00</b>

Funding/Match Sources	Status	Amount
<b>Dream Tag</b>	Pending	<b>\$ 35,000.00</b>
<b>RMEF Wildfire Restoration Grant</b>	Awarded	<b>\$ 35,000.00</b>
<b>NDOW Wildlife Heritage Fund</b>	Pending	<b>\$ 82,000.00</b>
<b>IN-KIND MATCH: Volunteer Hours – Planting</b> Volunteer match: Estimated for 50 volunteers with 7 hours of volunteer work each @ \$36.36/hr, plus \$0.625/mile travel per volunteer @ 48 miles of travel to the project site from the nearest town (Wells, NV)	Estimated	<b>\$ 15,726.00</b>
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>\$ 167,726.00</b>

## **Dream Tags Charitable Fund**

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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.



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PROJECT MAP:

