



BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

WILDLIFE HERITAGE ACCOUNT PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Person Submitting Proposal/Project Manager: Moira Kolada

Organization/Agency: NDOW

Date: 8 January 2020

Address: 1218 N. Alpha St.

City: Ely

State: NV

Zip Code: 89301

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NDOW Monitor (if the project would be managed by someone other than a NDOW employee):

Caleb McAdoo- cmcadoo@ndow.org

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Egan Johnson Basin Restoration

State Fiscal Year(s) Wildlife Heritage Account Funds are Needed: 2021

Project Location: Egan and Johnson Basin, White Pine County

Amount of Funds Requested from Heritage Account: \$75,000

Is a Project Map Attached? Yes No

(a map must include the project title, map scale, date map was created, and a north arrow)

Purpose of the Project: The purpose of this project is to help restore natural site conditions, reduce potential for large wildfires by reducing fuel loading, increase understory grass and forb species diversity, and to improve wildlife habitat. The need of this action is to respond to the ecological departure of plant communities from the natural range of variability within Egan and Johnson Basins relative to desired conditions. The need arises primarily due to successional changes in sagebrush and pinyon-juniper stands resulting in establishment and above normal density of



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single-leaf pinyon pine (*Pinus monophylla*) and Utah juniper (*Juniperus osteosperma*) trees.

Important habitat for Greater Sage Grouse (GRSG), mule deer, antelope and elk has been identified within the project area. There are several GRSG leks within close proximity to the proposed treatments. The presence of these leks increases the likelihood the GRSG are utilizing the area for nesting, early brood rearing, and wintering. The proposed treatment area also includes crucial summer for both mule deer and elk, crucial winter habitat for mule deer, and general winter and summer habitat for mule deer and elk. Pinyon and juniper encroachment has been identified by NDOW as one of the limiting factors for mule deer crucial winter range. The proposed treatments would specifically benefit GRSG by removing potential perches for avian predators. All species would see an improvement the habitat conditions due to the expected rebound in native shrubs, perennial grass and forbs. The increases in these native vegetation components directly translate to increased foraging opportunities which are extremely important for all species especially during crucial summer and crucial winter periods, especially in years that have severe weather conditions i.e. drought or high snowfall winters.

Detailed Description of Project (include any development plans such as vegetation removal, planting, seeding, or installation of structures; also include the schedule for obtaining any necessary permits, completing NEPA compliance, etc.):

The Egan Johnson project boundary is approximately 84,675 acres and encompasses 21 treatment units identified within that boundary. The 21 treatment units are approximately 37,455 acres of public lands administered by the BLM and 1,045 acres of private lands in the Egan and Johnson Basins. Treatment of private land would only occur if a cooperative agreement is executed with the private landowners. Up to 65% of the treatment unit acres may be treated within the identified units. A combination of vegetation treatment methods would be used to achieve resource objectives. The proposed treatment methods would include mechanical and manual tree thinning. Areas targeted for treatment are sagebrush communities where pinyon-juniper trees have become established. Within that project boundary and between treatment units, hand thinning of Phase I pinyon-juniper would occur.

The Bureau of the Land Management (BLM), Ely District has completed all necessary NEPA for this project and is currently developing treatment polygons in conjunction with the Nevada Department of Wildlife. This proposal focuses on continuation of treatments that BLM and NDOW began in 2019 within Egan Basin and the Cocomongo Mountains. The areas around Flint Spring have also been identified and maybe included based on the availability of funds.



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How Does this Project Meet the Objectives of the Wildlife Heritage Program? (See NRS 501.3575)

This project specifically meets the objectives in subsection 1(a) of NRS 501.3575, "...the protection, propagation, restoration, transplantation, introduction, and management of any game fish or mammal, game bird or fur-bearing mammal in this State." The treatments funded by the Wildlife Heritage Fund would greatly improve habitat for many big game, non-game species, and greater sage grouse.

Legal Description of the Property on Which the Proposed Project is to be Located (must include the property address, access roads, township, range and section):

T24N R62E Sections 3,4,9,10,15,16,21

T23N R62E Sections 22,23,26,27,34,35

T22N R62E Sections 1,2, 12

Does this Project Have Additional Funding Sources Other than Your Wildlife Heritage Account Request? Yes No

Does this Project Involve Habitat Restoration and Improvement of a Long-term or Permanent Nature? Yes No

Please Describe in Detail the Reason Why You Need Wildlife Heritage Account Funding to Fund this Project:

While many other funding sources have been identified and will be pursued outside of the Heritage Account, restoration activities are inherently expensive and any contribution towards this endeavor would provide great benefit to achievement of project objectives of improving habitat for GRSG, mule deer, and elk. Without funding Heritage funding this project will likely either become more smaller in scope or placed on hold until funding can be obtained. The density of the PJ encroachment is currently such that it is financially and ecologically feasible to treat using lop and scatter methods. Should the project be delayed it may become necessary to change treatment methodologies to more expensive methods in order to account for increased density of trees.

Project Duration: one year two years three years more



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Estimated Start Date: July 2021 _____

Estimated End Date: July 2022 _____

PROJECT FUNDING

The funding breakdown below should cover the total funding needs of the project. While projects may be extended beyond the fiscal year for which money was awarded, such an extension must be due to unusual circumstances and be approved by the Wildlife Commission (see NAC 501.340). (Double click on the table to activate the embedded spreadsheet.)

| | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Amount of Wildlife Heritage Account Cash Requested | | \$ 75,000.00 |
| 2. Other Cash Funding Sources for this Project | | |
| a. Habitat Conservation Fee | | \$ 25,000.00 |
| b. RMEF PAC | | \$ 25,000.00 |
| c. | | |
| d. | | |
| e. Total Other Cash Funding Sources (lines a - d) | | \$ 50,000.00 |
| 3. Donations or In-kind Services for this Project | | |
| a. Volunteer Time | | |
| b. Equipment | | |
| c. Materials | | |
| d. | | |
| e. | | |
| f. | | |
| g. | | |
| h. Total Donations/In-kind Services (lines a - g) | | \$ - |
| 4. Total Project Funding | \$ 125,000.00 | |



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PROJECT COSTS

The cost breakdown below should cover the total costs of the project you are seeking funding for. NOTE: THE HERITAGE ACCOUNT CANNOT BE USED TO PAY INDIRECT COSTS. (Double click on the table to activate the embedded spreadsheet.)

| | Heritage Costs | All Other Costs |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Land Acquisition | | |
| 2. Travel (NDOW travel costs can't be included) | | |
| a. Per diem | | |
| b. Mileage | | |
| c. Total Travel Costs (lines a & b) | \$ - | \$ - |
| 3. Equipment Items | | |
| a. | | \$ - |
| b. | | |
| c. | | |
| d. Total Equipment Costs (line a - c) | \$ - | \$ - |
| 4. Materials | | |
| a. Fencing | | \$ - |
| b. | | |
| c. | | |
| d. | | \$ - |
| e. Total Material Costs (lines a - d) | \$ - | \$ - |
| 5. Miscellaneous Costs including Contractor Costs (if you will be using a contractor, include their name and list the specific services they will be providing) | | |
| a. PJ Removal Contract | \$ 75,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| b. In Kind Labor | | |
| c. | | |
| d. | | |
| e. Total Miscellaneous Costs (lines a - d) | \$ 75,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| 6. Total Heritage Costs Only (add lines 1, 2c, 3d, 4e, and 5e) | \$ 75,000.00 | |
| 7. Total All Other Costs (add lines 1, 2c, 3d, 4e, and 5e) | | \$ 50,000.00 |
| 8. Total Project Costs (add lines 6 & 7) | \$ 125,000.00 | |
| (Note: total project funding from previous table must match total project costs) | | |
| | | |
| | | |



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Are there going to be any Ongoing Costs for this Project? Yes No

If There will be Ongoing Costs Associated with this Project, is there an Anticipated Funding Source for These Costs? Yes No

Do You Anticipate Needing Additional Wildlife Heritage Account Funds Beyond the Upcoming Fiscal Year? If So, Please Describe What Your Funding Requirements will be and for What Purposes (As noted above, extensions beyond the first fiscal year must be due to unusual circumstances and approved by the Wildlife Commission.):

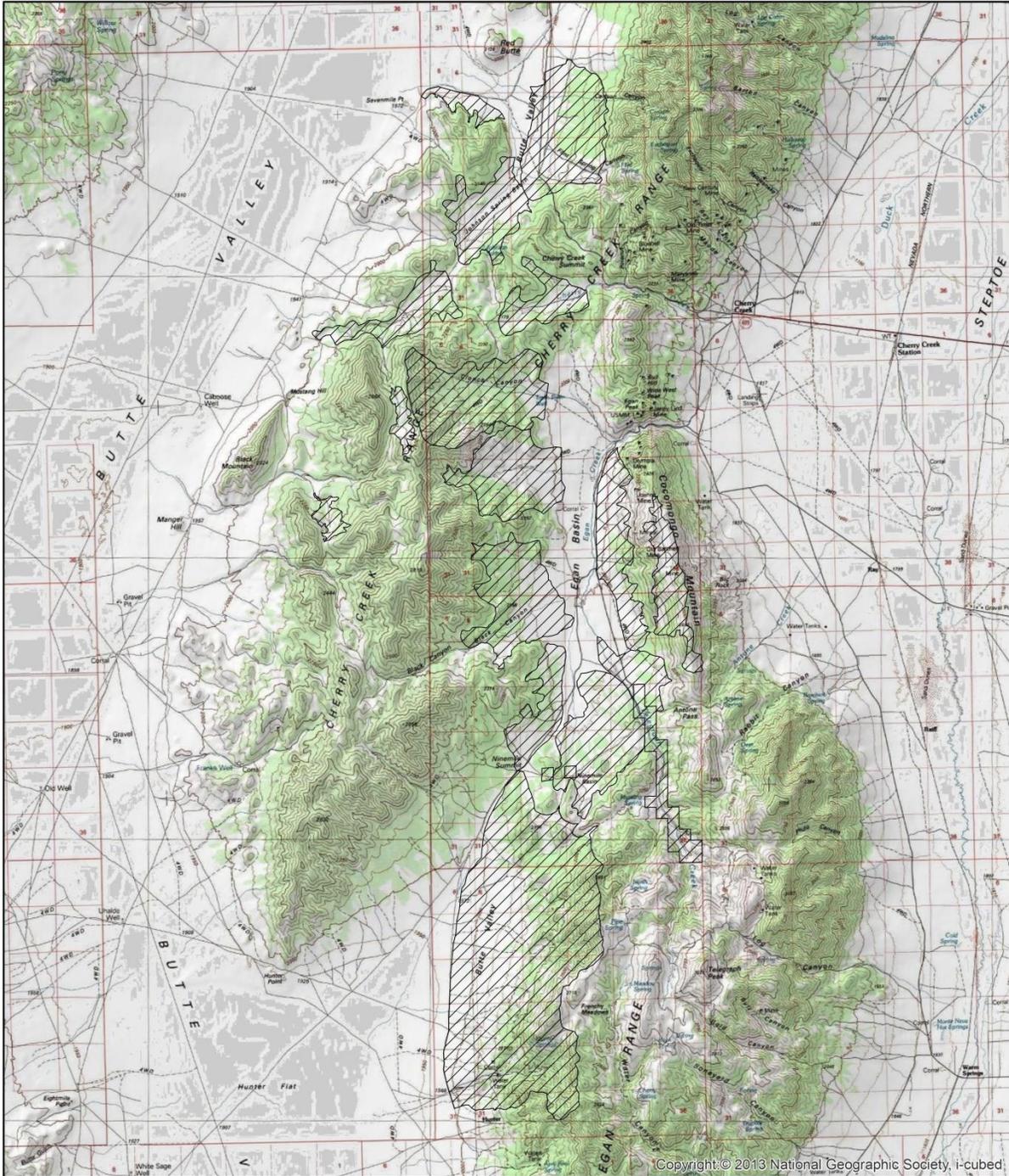
It is likely that we will seek additional Heritage Funding in subsequent years for this project. This request is for specific treatment work associated with FY21.

How Will You Give Credit to the Wildlife Heritage Account and Other Funding Sources?

NDOW and the Heritage Program would be credited as partners in the project for all public information releases and post treatment reports.

NDOW Authorizing Signature: *M. Lu Davis*

Review Date: 4/10/2020



Egan Johnson Basin Restoration Area



Treatment

 Open/Thin



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.
Projection: UTM Zone 11 North, NAD 83
Map Created: 15 January 2019