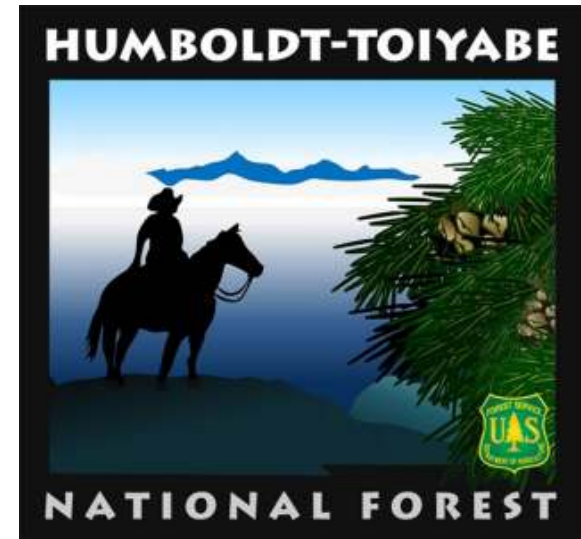
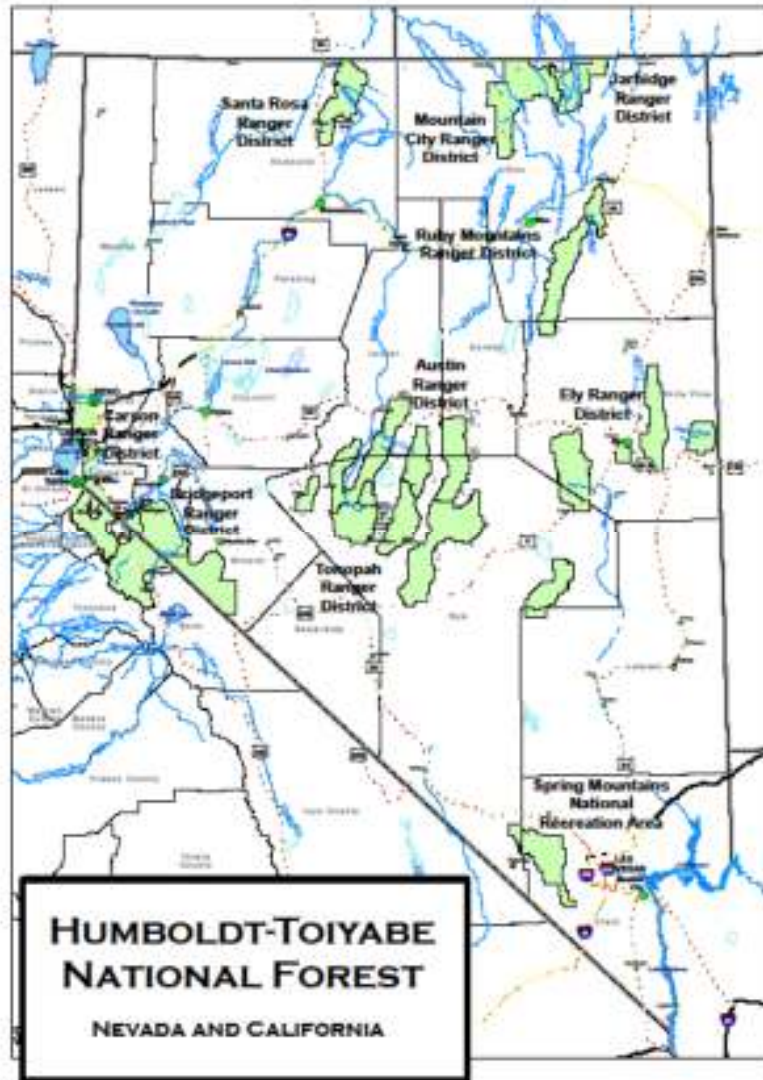


# Nevada Joint Military Affairs Committee Briefing



Planning issues that may affect  
military affairs in Nevada

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest  
2014





# Planning Issues

- Bi-state sage-grouse Forest Plan Amendment and 10-year Conservation Plan
- Greater sage-grouse Forest Plan Amendment
- Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center
  - Permit Environmental Assessment
  - Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan
- Special Status Species
- Wilderness Overflights
- Wildfire Air Operations



# Bi-state sage-grouse Forest Plan Amendment

- Establish specific management direction to conserve, enhance and restore Bi-state sage-grouse habitat
  - Amends the Forest Plan for Bridgeport and Carson Ranger Districts
  - Direction places seasonal and temporal limits on uses and activities, amount of ground disturbance in habitat
- Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement
  - 90-day comment period closes October 10, 2014
  - Changes from the August 2013 Draft EIS:
    - Modified Proposed Action - more specific management direction
    - New alternative - based on comments from conservation organizations
  - Decision expected May 2015



# Bi-state sage-grouse Ten-year Conservation Plan

- Interagency commitment to fund and implement the Bi-State Action Plan over the next 10 years
  - Focus and accelerate conservation activities
  - Cost estimate for all agencies: \$38 million
- Ten-year Conservation Plan for the Humboldt-Toiyabe
  - Cost estimate for Forest Service: \$13.9 million
  - Includes approximately 100,000 acres of pinyon-juniper removal on the H-T, plus meadow and post-fire restoration, etc.



# Greater Sage-grouse Forest Plan Amendment

- Establish management direction to address threats to Greater sage-grouse habitat
  - Will amend the Humboldt and Toiyabe Land and Resource Management Plans for N. Nevada
  - Consistency with Bi-state sage-grouse amendment
- Draft EIS released for comment in November 2013
- Decision expected December 2014



# USMC Mountain Warfare Training Center Permit EA

- Marine Corps is the Lead Agency for NEPA compliance
  - Forest Service to issue decision to authorize training operations on all or portions of the training area on National Forest System land
- Public review of Environmental Assessment begins in November 2014
- Decision expected July 2015



# USMC Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan

- Marine Corps is the Lead Agency for NEPA compliance
- H-T is a cooperating agency
  - Will provide review and comment throughout process as requested by USMC and participate in consultation with USFWS
  - Focus of review will be on consistency of INRMP with Toiyabe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan





# Special Status Species

- Sec. 7, Endangered Species Act: Consultation with USFWS needed for uses of National Forest System lands that may affect listed species or designated critical habitat
- Listed species on the H-T include, but are not limited to:
  - Mt. Charleston Blue Butterfly – Endangered (2013)
  - Webber's Ivesia – Threatened (2014)
  - Bull, Lahontan Cutthroat, and Paiute Cutthroat Trout – Threatened



# Wilderness Overflights

- Many of the Wilderness areas across the H-T experience military overflights.
- FS/FAA policy discourages flights over wilderness within 2,000 feet of the ground surface, except in emergencies or for essential military missions.



# Wildfire Air Operations

- Temporary Flight Restrictions: Wildfire management agencies recommend TFRs to Federal Aviation Administration. FAA determines size with input from agencies.
  - Size of TFRs is kept to a minimum to provide for public and aviation safety
  - TFRs are available for military briefings so pilots are informed of areas to avoid

Questions?

