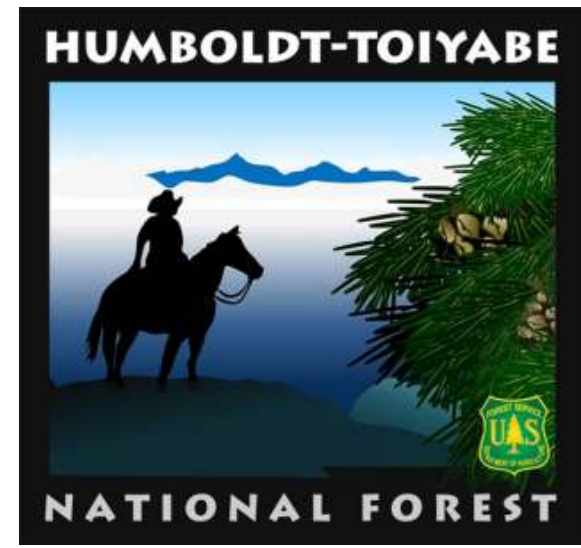
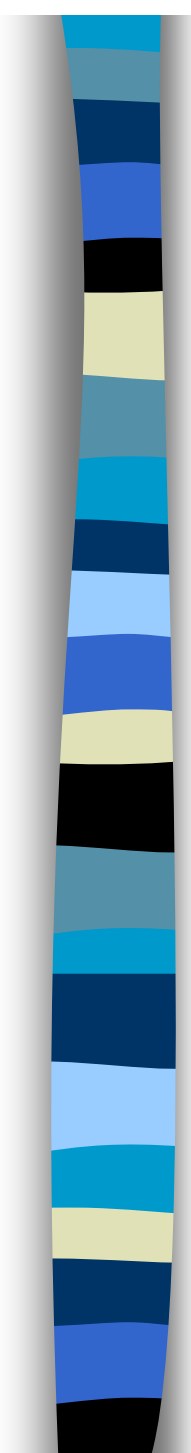


Nevada Joint Military Affairs Committee Briefing



Planning issues that may affect
military affairs in Nevada

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
February 2015





Planning Issues

- Bi-state sage-grouse Forest Plan Amendment and 10-year Conservation Action Plan
- Greater sage-grouse Forest Plan Amendment
- Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center
 - Permit Environmental Assessment
 - Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan



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
- Final Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Record of Decision Issued
 - 60-day formal objection period now open
 - Final Record of 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.
 - Will be implemented through a series of site-specific projects



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
 - Consistency with Bi-state sage-grouse amendment
- Draft EIS released for comment in November 2013
- Formal objection period expected to open in March 2015
- Decision expected June 2015



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 Winter 2015
- Decision expected July 2015



USMC Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan

- Marine Corps is the Lead Agency for NEPA compliance
- H-T is a coordinating 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

Questions?

