

# Scoping Document Request for Comments

## Ward Mountain Campground Project

USDA Forest Service – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest  
Ely Ranger District  
White Pine County  
July 6, 2009

**RECEIVED**

JUL 08 2009

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

### PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose and need for this project is to reconstruct and upgrade developed recreational facilities at the Ward Mountain Campground to provide visitors with facilities which are safe, clean, accessible and meet all required standards. There is also a need to provide facilities that are low maintenance and meet the current needs of Forest visitors.

### BACKGROUND

Ward Mountain Campground and Recreation Area is a very popular local campground with extensive trails for hiking, bicycling, horse and winter activities along with camping facilities. This campground was built over 50 years ago and subsequently upgraded in the mid-60's. Since then, nothing has been done except minor upkeep and seasonal painting. The restroom facilities are cracked and may be leaking, the water system is aging and has continual problems, the roads and sites are too small for today's modern RV's and travel trailers and damage occurs every summer to some visitors' property as a result. Some of the on site facilities (horseshoe pits, railings, shade structures, cooking areas) are in a state of disrepair and are in need of some heavy maintenance or replacement.

### LOCATION

The Ward Mountain Campground & Recreation Area Renovation Project is located approximately 7 miles SW of Ely, Nevada. Nevada State Highway 6 from Ely takes you to the campground on top of Murray Summit. The legal description is T16N, R62E, Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35.

### PROPOSED ACTION

This Project will involve the reconstruction of the Ward Mountain Campground on the Ely Ranger District. The following are specific actions and requirements of the project:

- Upgrades and improvements to access roads, parking areas, and walking paths.
- Replacement of existing vault toilets with upgraded and accessible vault toilets.
- Reconstruction of campsites, picnic sites, and group use areas. This includes new tables, fire rings, grills, cement pads, shade structures and other features.
- Trimming and thinning of vegetation as needed.
- Reconstruction of the water system with new pipes and accessible water taps. This may also require reconstruction of part of the Ruth Water System or the development of a culinary well.

- Upgrades to the host site including full hook-ups.
- Installation of a dump station and septic system which will serve the station and the host site.
- Installation of information kiosks, signs, and traffic control barriers.
- Upgrades to or installation of recreational features at the group sites including but not limited to horseshoe pits, volleyball court, and swing sets.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public involvement in the NEPA process is essential. Scoping is performed as one of the first steps to receive input from interested individuals, organizations and government agencies including federal, state, and local agencies. We invite you to submit written comments stating your concerns and issues that are relevant to the proposed project. We are currently in the early stages of planning on this project and your comments will help us to refine the proposal. We will also use the comments we receive from you to analyze the potential effects of implementing this project.

To encourage public participation, the Forest Service will mail information to interested parties. Public involvement will be ongoing throughout the analysis process; however, at certain times public input will be specifically requested. Comments are requested by **August 10, 2009**. Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection. You must submit written comments or contact us if you want to ensure that you remain on the mailing list for this project.

Written comments must be submitted to the Responsible Official: District Ranger, Ely Ranger District: 825 Avenue E, Ely, NV 89301, or fax: (775) 289-2132. The telephone number is (775) 289-3031. Office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

### **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ...**

If you would like more information about or to comment on this proposal, write or call:

**Joshua Simpson**, Natural Resource Specialist or  
**Jose Noriega**, District Ranger  
Ely Ranger District  
825 Ave E  
Ely, NV 89301  
Phone (775) 289-3031  
Fax (775) 289-2132  
jtsimpson@fs.fed.us or jnoriega@fs.fed.us

**Ely Ranger District – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest**  
**Ward Mountain Campground Project**

**For Official Use Only**

Comment #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
Logged in by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comment Form**

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We have provided this form for your convenience. Please use this or any other format to let us know your concerns or ideas about this project. Send comments by August 10, 2009 to: Joshua Simpson, Natural Resources Specialist, or Jose Noriega, District Ranger, Ely Ranger District, 825 Avenue E, Ely, NV 89301.

*For your information: names and individuals commenting on Forest Service proposals may be released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Here are my concerns, issues, and/or ideas about the Ward Mountain Campground Project:**

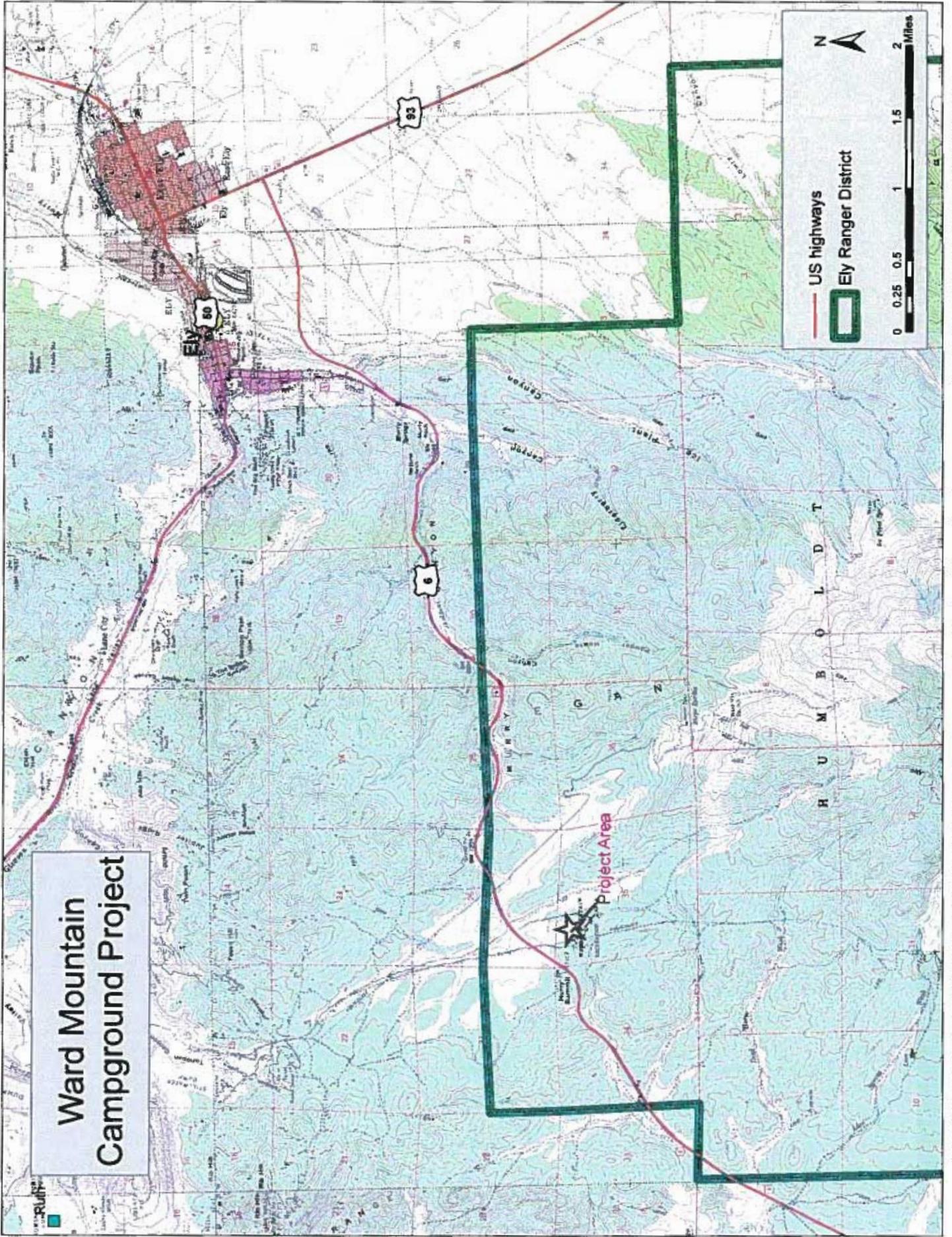
**Please check all that apply...**

**I have information about the area that may be helpful in the decision.**  
Feel free to contact me at \_\_\_\_\_.

**Please send me the final decision document.**

**I have no further interest in this proposal and do not want to receive further mailings.**

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Map data was compiled from multiple sources. The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest makes no warranties to the content or accuracy of this data.