



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca District Office
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445-2921
Email: wfoweb@nv.blm.gov
Phone: (775) 623-1500; Fax: (775) 623-1503



In Reply Refer To:
1792/9214 (NV024.10)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Winnemucca District (WD) is proposing to construct and maintain fuelbreaks around the greater Winnemucca and Grass Valley areas of Humboldt County. An Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to analyze the expected environmental impacts associated with implementation of this proposed project.

The communities of Winnemucca and Grass Valley are surrounded by a checkerboard of private and public lands with a history of large, fast moving wildfires that pose threats to public safety and to property.

Over the last 6-8 years, the BLM, WD has implemented several fuelbreak projects in an effort to protect the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas, as well as the rangelands that surround the communities. These fuelbreaks are currently in need of maintenance. A new fuelbreak would be constructed to connect two existing fuelbreaks in order to protect additional areas along the Water Canyon Road.

The following types or combinations of treatments would be used to perform the needed maintenance and/or additions to the fuelbreaks to restore their functionality as firebreaks and are described below.

- **Mowing or Manual Removal of Vegetation**

Existing and proposed fuelbreaks would be mowed to remove older dead fuels and shrubs that have accumulated over the past 4-6 years. Mowing would be accomplished using a rubber tired tractor and rotary mower. Some manual (hand) work may be used in some areas where it is inappropriate to use a mower (near streams, steep or very rocky terrain). A Dixie Harrow may be used in some cases to remove brush or brush and grass where appropriate.

- **Herbicide Application**

Fuelbreaks would be treated with the herbicide Imazapic which would be applied by truck and mounted sprayer, four-wheeler and mounted sprayer, or by backpack sprayer. The herbicide would control the amount of cheatgrass within the fuelbreaks thereby reducing the fuel loading and fire hazard. The herbicide would be applied by certified applicators according to label directions....

- The herbicide Tebuthiuron may also be used on the fuelbreaks to limit the amount and growth of sagebrush in the fuelbreaks. The herbicide would be applied by a truck and mounted spreader or a four-wheeler and mounted spreader.
- **Drill Seeding**
A rubber tired tractor and drill seeder or broadcast seeder would be used to plant fire resistant perennial plants. The proposed seed mixture is a combination of crested wheatgrass and forage kochia and/or native species depending on the fuelbreak location.

Maps of the proposed treatment areas are enclosed; Portable Document Format (pdf) maps of the proposed treatment areas can also be viewed online at:
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/nepa0.html.

The BLM WD would like to receive your input and/or comments to this proposal by the close of business June 10, 2010. Comments can be sent to the BLM-Winnemucca District Office (Attn: Angie Arbonies) at this address: 5100 E. Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, NV 89445. Comments may also be submitted by email to: wfoweb@nv.blm.gov. Email comments should reference "Winnemucca WUI Fuelbreak" (A. Arbonies) in the subject line.

Public comments submitted for this project, including names and addresses of commenters will be available for public review at the Winnemucca District Office during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Should you have questions, please contact Angie Arbonies-Fire Ecologist and Project Lead, at (775) 623-1545.

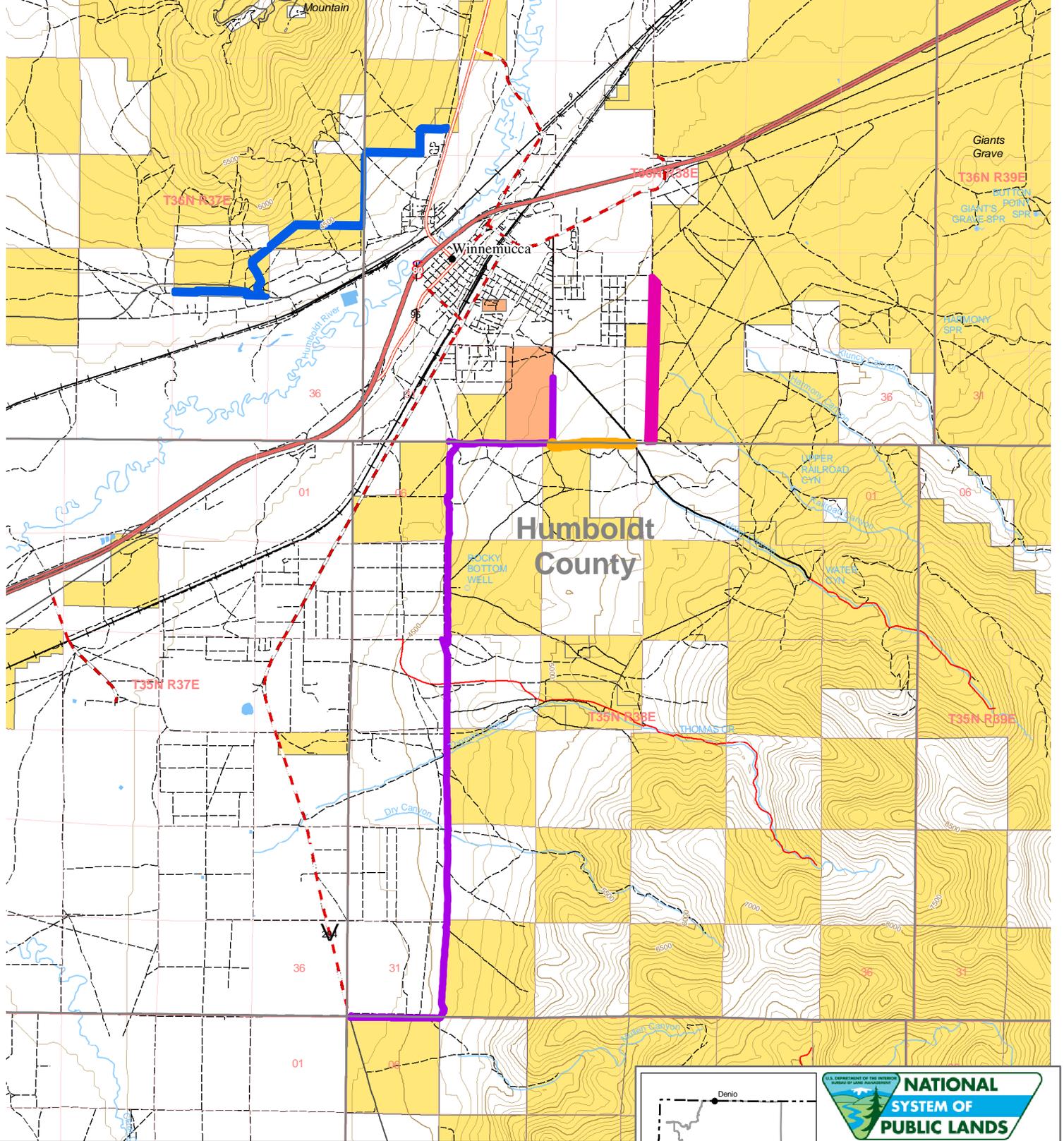
Sincerely,



Mike Fetic
Fire Management Officer
Winnemucca District

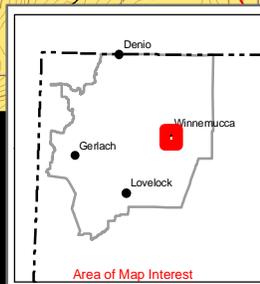
Enclosures

Winnemucca WUI Proposed Maintenance & Additions



Legend

	Winnemucca WUI Fuelbreak	Ownership	
	East Winnemucca Fuelbreak		Bureau of Indian Affairs
	West Winnemucca Fuelbreak		Bureau of Land Management
	Proposed Fuelbreak Addition		Private



NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS

Winnemucca District Office

Office of Fire Management
5100 E Winnemucca Blvd
Winnemucca, NV 89445



Scale: 0.05 0.2 Miles

Map Date: March 29, 2010

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