

Request for Comments

Silver Creek Fish Barrier

USDA Forest Service – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Ely Ranger District

May 4, 2011

RECEIVED
MAY 11 2011
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

Why we are proposing this project

Non-native trout currently occupy the Silver Creek drainage. Silver Creek is the last creek within historic habitat within the Mount Moriah Range that currently does not have native Bonneville cutthroat trout. A barrier will be placed in Silver Creek to prevent the movement of non-native trout upstream. After installation of the barrier, non-native trout will be removed above the barrier, and pure strain Bonneville cutthroat trout will be reintroduced. Stream restoration activities will also occur in conjunction with the barrier and will likely include planting willow cuttings, stabilizing streambanks, and placing rock structures or vegetation along the banks. This project will re-introduce Bonneville cutthroat trout back into a stream system within their historic range.

What we propose to do

The District proposes to construct a wire mesh gabion fish barrier and re-introduce native Bonneville cutthroat trout into Silver Creek within the Mount Moriah Range.

Where we propose to do this

The fish barrier location is within the Mount Moriah Range, about thirty one miles east of Ely, Nevada. The legal location is T15N, R69E, Section 22, as shown on the enclosed map.

How we will figure out what to do

We will use the issues we receive from you to analyze the effects of implementing the project.

After hearing from you, we will decide how to meet our goals and what measures we can take to reduce any negative effects.

How you can help us decide what to do

We ask that you let us know what you think about this proposal. Comments we receive, including names and addresses, are part of the public record and are available through the Freedom of Information Act.

Please provide your comments by June 4.

The decisions to be made

The decision to be made is whether or not to construct a fish barrier in Silver Creek in the Mount Moriah Range.

We plan on approving this project under a categorical exclusion.

We want to hear from you ...

If you would like more information, write or call:

Kathy Johnson, Wildlife Biologist or
Jose Noriega, District Ranger
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775-289-3031

To provide electronic comments, in rtf or doc:
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