

# Request for Comments

## Grant-Quinn PJ Whacking Project

USDA Forest Service – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest  
Ely Ranger District  
Nye County, Nevada  
February 29, 2012

### Why we are proposing this project

We are proposing this project to maintain and enhance sagebrush and mountain brush communities which provide important habitats for sage grouse, mule deer and other sagebrush obligate species

### What we propose to do

This project involves the cutting of small pinyon and juniper trees that are invading the mountain brush habitats on the eastern portion of the Grant and Quinn Mountain ranges. Potential treatment areas will be between 5 to 400 acres in size within the project area. Trees selected for removal are young encroaching trees (e.g., <100 years or less than six feet tall) that have established within the mountain and basin big sagebrush habitats. On an average there are about 10-50 trees/acre. Slash generated from the treatment will be left on the ground to provide a microclimate that will retain moisture and facilitate the establishment and growth of grasses. This treatment will maintain and enhance the sagebrush-grass community types.

We will mechanically cut young pinyon and juniper trees within the project area. The total project area includes about 58,000 acres, and up to 15,000 acres may be treated. The treatments will involve chainsaws, brushers, loppers and/or hand saws. Vehicles will stay on existing roads and trees to be cut within individual project areas will be accessed by foot.

### Where we propose to do this

The areas are located approximately eighty miles southwest of Ely, Nevada in the Grant and Quinn mountain ranges, Nye County. See the enclosed map.

### Key project components

- We will avoid sensitive cultural resources.
- No riparian areas or meadows will be adversely impacted.

### 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 eliminate or 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 March 30, 2012.

### The decision to be made

The decision to be made is whether or not to cut small pinyon and juniper trees from mountain brush communities.

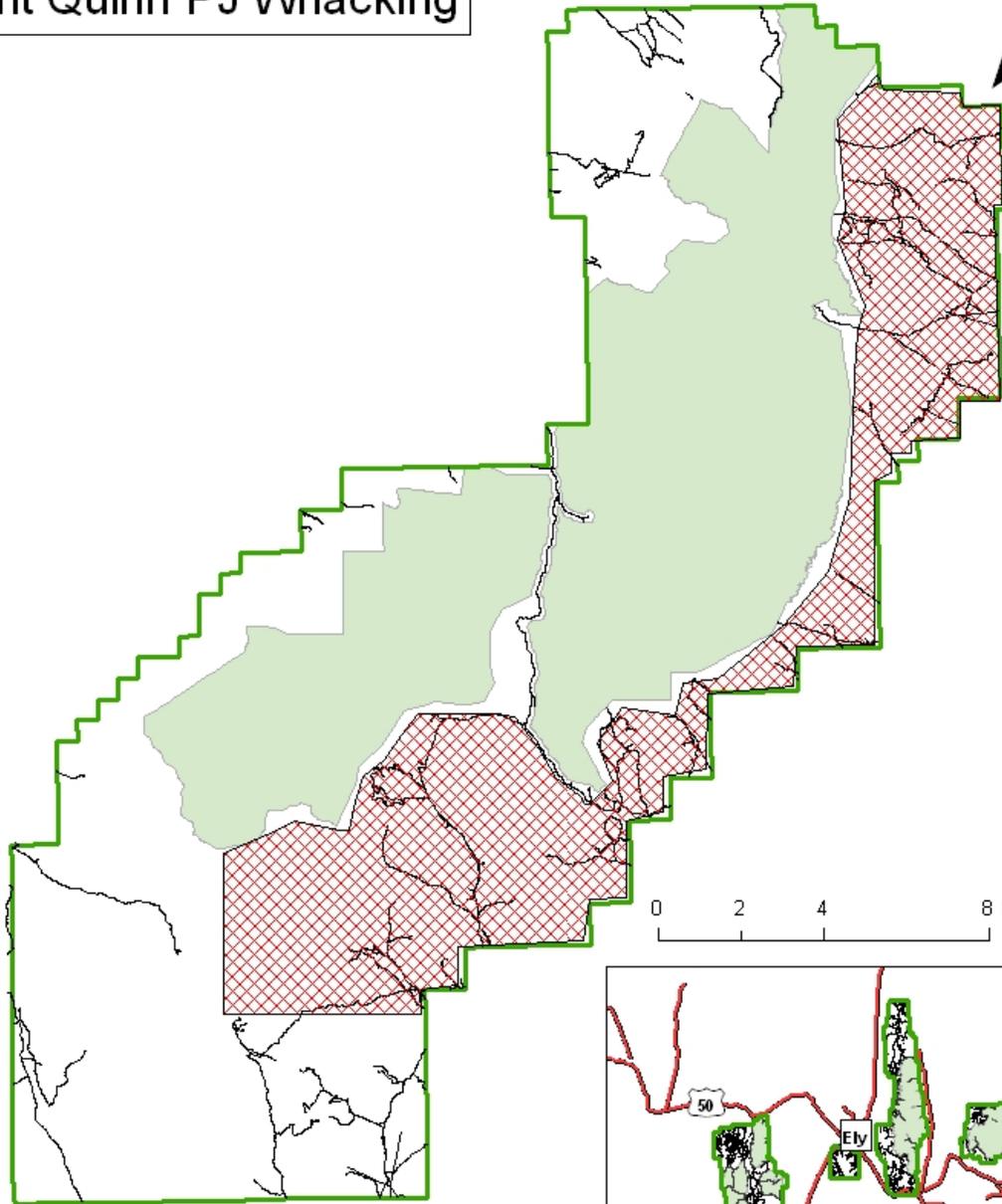
### We want to hear from you ...

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

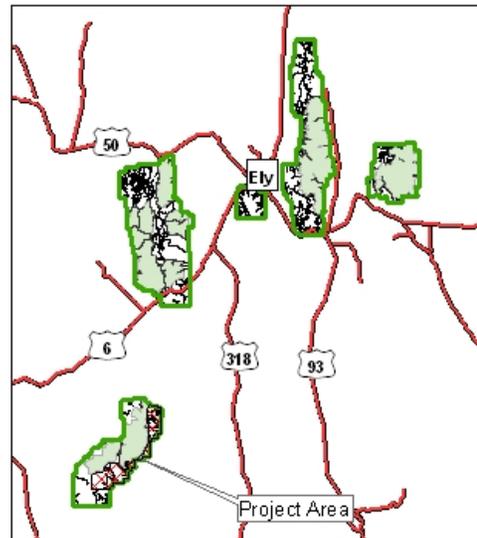
**Kathy Johnson**, Wildlife Biologist or  
**Jose Noriega**, District Ranger  
Ely Ranger District  
825 Ave E  
Ely, NV 89301  
775-289-3031  
kathyjohnson@fs.fed.us or jnoriega@fs.fed.us

# Grant Quinn PJ Whacking

N



-  Project Area
-  Ely RD District Boundary
-  Wilderness
-  Highways
-  Roads



*Ely Ranger District – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest*

**For Official Use Only**

Comment #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Logged in by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grant-Quinn PJ Whacking Project**

**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 March 30, 2012 to: Kathy Johnson, Wildlife Biologist, 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 Grant-Quinn PJ Whacking 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.**