

Request for Comments Notice of Proposed Action

Central White Pine Riparian Exclosure Project Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Ely Ranger District White Pine County, Nevada February 1, 2013

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

'13 FEB 4 AM 11:46

This project involves the construction and/or reconstruction of four riparian exclosures to restore and/or protect several springs and meadow complexes within the White Pine Range. The exclosures will be constructed using Forest Service fencing standards to minimize impacts to wildlife. The Forest Service will also utilize materials to construct the exclosures which will reduce potential impacts on wildlife. Examples include:

- Flashers/reflectors to reduce collision impacts from sage grouse.
- Steel corner posts to limit raptor perches.
- Other identified measures proposed during scoping or analysis.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project area is located within the White Pine Mountain Range on the Ely Ranger District about 30-40 miles southwest of Ely, Nevada. The following are specific project locations being considered:

- Stone Cabin Springs: T15N, R58E, Section 24
- Sage Hen Springs (reconstruct/expand): T15N, R58E, Section 36.
- Copper Creek (two exclosures): T13N, R59E, Section 18.

THE DECISION TO BE MADE

The decision to be made is whether or not to construct four riparian exclosures.

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 think about this proposal and let us know if you support the project or if you have concerns and specifically what those concerns are. This comment/scoping period provides those interested in or affected by this proposal an opportunity to make their concerns known prior to any decision being made.

In light of a recent court ruling (Sequoia ForestKeeper v. Tidwell, 11-cv-00679-LJO-DLB (E.D. Cal.)), the Forest Service will provide public notice, comment, and opportunity for administrative appeal for projects and activities documented with a "Decision Memo" (36 CFR 220.6(e)) until new instructions are issued by the Washington Office, or the Agency issues regulations addressing the Court's ruling. In addition, the Forest Service will prepare Decision Memos and offer notice, comment and appeal opportunities for timber sales and proposed approvals of oil or gas exploration and development activities that rely upon Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Only those who provide comment or express

interest in this proposal during this comment period will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations.

HOW TO COMMENT AND TIMEFRAME

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of this notice in the Ely Times, Ely NV. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period.

Written comments must be submitted to: Jose Noriega, District Ranger, Ely Ranger District 825 Ave. E Ely NV 89301. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Official's office during normal business hours via telephone (775) 289-3031 or in person, or at an official agency function (i.e. public meeting) that is designed to elicit public comments. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, pdf, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc or .docx) to kathyjohnson@fs.fed.us. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to appeal must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 215.6.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project, will be available for public inspection, and released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

We want to hear from you ...

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

Kathy Johnson
Wildlife Biologist
Ely Ranger District
825 Ave E
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-5121

kathyjohnson@fs.fed.us

Central White Pine Riparian Exclosure Project

Comment Form

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 3, 2013 to: Kathy Johnson, Wildlife Biologist (kathyjohnson@fs.fed.us), or Jose Noriega, District Ranger (jnoriega@fs.fed.us), 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: _____

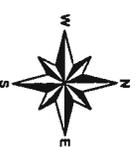
Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Here are my concerns, issues, and/or ideas about the Central White Pine Riparian Exclosure Project:

Central White Pine Riparian Exclosures



- Exclosures
- National Forest
- ▨ Wilderness
- 10 Miles

