NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

March 17, 2014

GENOA HAZARDOUS FUELS
REDUCTION PROJECT

HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST,
CARSON RANGER DISTRICT

Douglas County, Nevada

COMMENTS WELCOME

The Carson Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest welcomes your comments on this proposal to reduce vegetation contributing to hazardous fuels in the Genoa area of the Carson Ranger District.

Written, facsimile, hand delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days.

This project is being completed under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003. Section 102 (a) of the HFRA authorizes hazardous fuels reduction projects on: (a) Federal land in wildland-urban interface areas or Federal lands in condition class three or condition class two within fire regimes I, II, or III, in such proximity to a municipal water supply system or a stream feeding such a system within a municipal watershed that a significant risk exists that a fire

Figure 1: Project Vicinity Map
disturbance event would have adverse effects on the water quality of the municipal water supply or the maintenance of the system, including a risk to water quality posed by erosion following such a fire disturbance event.

The Forest Service expects to complete the environmental analysis (EA) for this project by May 2014 and to publish a final decision by June 2014.

BACKGROUND
The Carson Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest is proposing to reduce fuels, reduce the potential of catastrophic wildland fire, and improve forest health in the identified project area. This project, called the Genoa Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, is located west of the community of Genoa and stretches from Highway 50 to Highway 207, and from Genoa Peak Road to Foothill Road. The project analysis area consists of approximately 10,200 acres and treatments will occur on approximately 1,262 acres of National Forest Lands within the larger project analysis boundary. The analysis area incorporates the Genoa Canyon, Sierra Canyon, James Canyon, and Water Canyon sub-watersheds and consists primarily of a patchy distribution of open, sparsely treed areas interspersed with stands of dense brush and conifers that contain higher fuel loadings. Similarly, areas with forest health issues, including density, insect and disease mortality, and aspen decline also occur throughout the 10,200 acre project area. Under the Proposed Action areas located directly behind homes and other urban interface areas will be considered a priority for treatment to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire from destroying residences. Other areas that can be feasibly and safely accessed with appropriate equipment will also be treated to reduce fuels, improve forest health condition, and provide long-term resiliency to forested stands. Due to the steepness of the slopes in this project area, treatment areas have been identified where soil and slope stability is conducive to project activities.

The analysis area consists of forested and shrub vegetation. Trees within the area vary from seedlings to large diameter, but are mostly even-aged stands resulting from the Comstock logging in the late 1800’s. Natural changes have also shaped the current stand, with two separate bark beetle epidemics having occurred within the analysis area. A fir engraver (Scolytus ventralis) epidemic in the early 1990’s caused extensive mortality in the white and red fir and a mountain pine beetle (Dendroctonus ponderosae) epidemic in the early 2000’s caused extensive mortality in the lodgepole and western white pine. White pine blister rust (Cronartium ribicola), an exotic invasive disease, is also causing extensive damage and mortality in the western white pine, though trees exhibiting natural resistance to this disease occur within the area. Shrub species occur at intermittent densities throughout the project area, and are generally observed as decadent and over-grown. High densities of forested and shrub vegetation that occur directly behind home have the potential for ecologically uncharacteristic wildland fire. In addition, forest stand densities that exceed the site occupancy of the area compromise stand health, increasing the hazard of insect, disease, and density related mortality and increased fire hazard due to closed canopies, ladder fuels, and high canopy bulk densities.
Desired conditions of this project area will be consistent with the Toiyabe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan 1986 (As amended). On Federal lands that are adjacent to the wildland urban interface, the desired conditions include the following: 1) Stands are fairly open and dominated primarily by larger, fire tolerant trees. 2) Surface and ladder fuel conditions are such that crown fire ignition is highly unlikely. 3) The openness and discontinuity of crown fuels, both horizontally and vertically, result in very low probability of sustained crown fire.

Purpose and Need

The Carson Range Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction Wildfire Prevention Strategy is a fuels plan that was collaboratively designed with 16 different agencies in order to address the fuels reduction needs across the Carson Range. According to this multi-jurisdictional strategy plan, the proposed Genoa project area falls into two categories: the defense zone and the threat zone (USDA, 2007). Defense zones are defined as areas that display a wildland-urban interface consisting mainly of private property values, and are recognized as highly sensitive areas where defense from wildfire is the primary objective. Threat zones are defined as areas that are immediately adjacent to defense zones. In both of these zones, treatments to reduce the spread and intensity of wildfire are critical. Treatments implemented directly adjacent to the town of Genoa, in the defense zone, would be designed to defend the community in the event of a wildfire. Treatments implemented in areas not directly adjacent to private property would be designed to alter wildfire behavior in order to reduce the potential of catastrophic wildfire (USDA, 2007).

Wildfires in the Mountainous West are becoming larger, more destructive, and more frequent. The expansion of the Wildland Urban Interface means more communities directly adjacent to forested lands, and an increased hazard of catastrophic consequences in the event of wide-spread, fast-moving wildland fire (Burton, 2013). Locally, large fires have occurred along the Carson Range, demonstrating dangerous fire behavior close to urban areas. Previous stand replacing wildland fires in this area include the Fredricksburg Fire (1986), the Autumn Hills Fire (1996), and the Gondola Fire (2002).

The purpose of this project is to reduce fuel loading and ladder fuels in forested and shrub areas, and provide for long-term resiliency in the forested areas. Dense timber and shrub stands, high fuel loadings, closed canopies, and excessive ladder fuels have created a high hazard of uncharacteristic stand replacing wildland fires. Reducing the density of trees will increase the height to live canopy and reduce the canopy bulk densities in the forested areas. These actions will result in increased crowning and torching indices, thereby reducing the fire hazard rating. Competition from high tree densities has also reduced stand vigor, increasing the possibility of stand loss due to insects and disease outbreaks. Improving the health of the forested ecosystem and aspen stands will reduce the risk of tree mortality, provide for the long term resiliency on the landscape as climate change weather patterns indicate warmer and drier conditions, improve wildlife habitat, and improve watershed conditions. Current densities within areas proposed for treatment range from 80 to 225 square feet of basal area with 50 to 2,500 trees per acre. Western dwarf mistletoe (Arceuthobium campylodendron) occurs throughout the area and is prevalent in the conifer stands west of Genoa and in the Pine Basin area with 29% to 80% of the Jeffrey pine infested. Bark beetles, including pine
engraver beetles (*Ips pini*), mountain pine beetle, Jeffrey pine beetle (*Dendrocotonus jeffreyi*) and fire engraver beetle are also present throughout the conifer areas.

This action is needed because current tree and shrub densities in the project area have increased the severity of uncharacteristic wildfire and reduced the resiliency of the forests due to densities that exceed the capacity of the sites. The existing vegetation conditions also support fire intensity levels which threaten the safety of firefighters engaged in community and forest protection efforts.

This action responds to the goals and objectives outlined in the Toiyabe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (1986), as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision (January, 2004) and helps move the project area towards desired conditions described in those plans.

**PROPOSED ACTION**

This proposed action is designed to reduce the risk of a catastrophic wildland fire by reducing forest fuel loading through treating fuels located directly behind homes in the Genoa area, which would include thinning of brush and small diameter trees. In other portions of the project area, the proposed action is also intended to improve watershed conditions and long term resiliency through improvement of tree vigor, tree growth, and tree survivability, improved wildlife habitat, and aspen enhancement. The Forest Service proposes to meet the purpose and need within the Genoa Project area by implementing the following activities:

**Conifer Areas on Slopes Generally Less than 30 Percent:** On approximately 850 acres, in the Pine Basin area and around the Genoa Peak Road, trees less than 24” dbh would be thinned. Residual basal areas would be dependent on species, location, existing basal area, site productivity, and fire hazard and would range from 80 to 120 square feet per acre in treated areas. Residual overstory trees would be irregularly spaced across the landscape and small groups of typically three to six closely spaced overstory trees would be left to retain structural diversity.

On approximately 155 acres west of Genoa, smaller trees in the understory, up to 14” dbh would be thinned. Fir species, trees infected with western dwarf mistletoe and trees infested with insects would be a priority for removal. Residual trees may be pruned to increase the height to live crown distance. Branches with mistletoe infections would be pruned in lightly infected areas and heavy mistletoe branch infestations called “witch’s brooms” would also be pruned. Residual western white pine (*Pinus monticola*) trees may also be pruned to reduce lethal pine blister rust infections in the lower crown. Commercial sawtimber contracts, personal use firewood sales, biomass utilization and hand crews would be utilized to complete treatments. Only hand crews would be utilized in the conifer stands directly west of the community of Genoa. Approximately two miles of temporary road would be completed to remove products, and these roads would be obliterated after activities are completed. Whole-tree yarding, removing the bole, tops and limbs of trees, would be utilized where economically feasible. Landings and skid trails would be constructed in areas where commercial timber contracts are utilized. In areas where whole-tree yarding is not feasible, activity slash would be piled and burned, or chipped.
**Plantations:** On approximately 34 acres, within areas planted with Jeffrey pine seedlings, trees would be hand thinned to approximately 100 to 150 trees per acre with the spacing varied between the residual trees. The healthier, more vigorous trees and trees with no obvious signs of damage or disease would be a priority for retention. Any trees exhibiting signs of maladaptation such as rounded crowns and greater susceptibility to insects and disease would also be a priority for removal. Shrubs within the dripline of residual trees would also be removed. Trees and shrubs would be severed at the base below the lowest live limb and piled and burned at a later date. This treatment would occur on a total of approximately 15 acres. Pruning of some plantation trees will also occur to reduce ladder fuels by increasing the height to the live crown. Any Jeffrey pine less than 24” dbh infected with western dwarf mistletoe within 50 feet of plantation trees would be felled to remove the sources of infection.

**Planting:** Rust resistant western white pine trees would be planted in areas with low densities around the Genoa Peak Road. Within the Pine Basin area, seedlings not susceptible to western dwarf mistletoe would be planted to increase species diversity.

**Aspen Enhancement:** On up to 25 acres, aspen stands may be enhanced and expanded through removal of encroaching conifers and stimulation of aspen regeneration. Treatment may include removal of most conifers up to 24” diameter at breast height (dbh) from within and approximately 100 feet (1 ½ times the tallest aspen tree) from the edge of the existing stand. Activity slash would not be piled or burned within aspen stands. If successful aspen regeneration, approximately 2,000 to 4,000 stems per acre, does not occur with conifer removal alone, prescribed fire may be utilized.

**Shrub Areas:** The shrub area located at the bottom of James Canyon, adjacent to the Eagle Ridge subdivision will be thinned using mastication and/or hand cutting, and slash will be piled and burned, lopped and scattered, or chipped. Dense stands of brush that occur within 100 feet of a road or within 200 feet of a National Forest System land boundary adjacent to private lands will be thinned in a mosaic pattern. Approximately 50 to 80 percent of the shrubs will be removed to create fuel breaks.

**Prescribed Fire:** Prescribed fire will be utilized to treat slash created from implementation activities (activity fuels), and to reduce tree and brush densities within all treatment areas. Prescribed fire will include: pile burning, broadcast burning, and/or understory burning. Understory burning is defined as fire that consumes surface fuels but not the overstory vegetation. Understory burns help maintain the desired fuel loading conditions. Broadcast burning is defined as a fire burning in areas with little or no forest stand present. Broadcast burning is used in grasslands and shrublands. Where prescribed burning treatments take place, hand line will be constructed as needed to keep the fire within the burn unit. Natural barriers and roads will be used as much as possible to limit handline construction. Handlines are defined as areas where vegetation is removed to bare mineral soil. Following burning activities, the handline will be rehabilitated.

**Maintenance:** Maintenance is defined as repeated treatments to remove ladder and surface fuels within units that have been initially treated. Maintenance will include the use of prescribed fire, hand cutting and piling, mastication, and chipping. Maintenance activities will begin one year after
initial treatments and will continue for up to 10 years to maintain reduced fuel loadings in the treatment areas.

For a project map including the proposed treatment areas, please see Figure 2 on Page 9.

**DESIGN FEATURES**
Design features are included as part of the proposed action and will be implemented along with treatments to avoid potential impacts to the resources identified below.

**AIR QUALITY**
- All federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to prescribed burning will be followed. All activities affecting air quality will meet the standards set forth by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.
- Prior to burning, a news release will be distributed to media contacts and public notification will occur to advise the local community of the prescribed burning activities.

**Prescribed Burning**
- A Forest Service approved Burn Plan will be used for all burning activities.
- Prescribed fire will only occur in fall, winter, and spring months when the fuel moisture and winds are within a predetermined window.

**RECREATION AND SCENERY**
- No motorized vehicles will be used on system trails in the project area, with the exception of designated crossing points. Any damage to the trail will be repaired.
- Avoid constructing landings within 100 feet of system trails and trailheads.
- All stumps will be flush cut within 100’ of recreation trails and trailheads.
- Leave trees marked within 50’ of a trail or a road will only be marked on the backside of the tree.

**HERITAGE**
- Eligible and unevaluated archeological sites will be flagged and avoided during project implementation. Trees will be directionally felled away from identified archaeological sites, temporary roads and skid trails will avoid eligible and unevaluated archaeological sites, and no slash piles will occur in identified archaeological sites.

**WILDLIFE**
- Where available, three of the largest snags per acre will be retained throughout the project area.
- Large woody debris will be retained, at least 3 pieces per acre, greater than 12” dbh or the largest available.
- Project activities will not occur from April 15th through August 1st in riparian and aspen areas to minimize the disturbance to migratory birds during the breeding season. Prescribed burning will be permitted during this period. To avoid impacting nesting birds,
surveys will be conducted within one to three days of a scheduled burn to identify active bird nests. Nesting areas will be flagged and no burning will occur within 50 feet of the nest.

- No treatments would occur within the goshawk Protected Activity Center (PAC).

**NOXIOUS AND INVASIVE WEEDS**

- Clean all contract equipment prior to entering National Forest System Lands to remove potential noxious and invasive weed seed source. Equipment will be inspected by Forest Service employees.
- Contract equipment will be inspected by Forest Service employees prior to entering National Forest System lands.
- Minimize ground disturbing activities on south- and east-facing slopes where cheatgrass is more prone to occur.
- All seed used for restoration activities must be certified weed free and will include plant species native to the project area.
- Project area will be surveyed for a minimum of five years post-implementation to initiate early and rapid response to any new noxious or invasive weed infestations that occur following project activities.

**SOILS AND WATER**

- Ground based equipment will operate on slopes less than 30%, except for pitches of 150 feet or less.
- Skid trails would be designated and rehabilitated after use. Rehabilitation may include constructing rolling dips. Multiple pass skid trails will be located a minimum of 75 feet apart except where they converge at landings.
- Newly constructed landings where cut and fill of slopes is required would be re-contoured. When landings are constructed the soil that is removed to level the landing would be stockpiled. This soil would be used to re-contour the landing to the original slope, so evidence of the landing is reduced.
- Temporary roads will be obliterated after use, which may require re-contouring, ripping, and seeding.
- No trees will be removed where they provide stream bank stability and ground based equipment will stay on established stream crossings.
- Pile burning will be minimized in riparian areas.

**PLANTS**

- To protect Shevock's bristle-moss (Humboldt – Toiyabe sensitive plant), granitic rocks five feet and taller will be avoided during treatments all project activities utilizing fire. To prevent scorching and/or overheating of the rare moss and associated habitat, pile burning activities will not occur within 30ft. of large granitic rock. With implementation of prescribed fire, shrubs which are adjacent to granitic rock outcrops may be removed by hand and burned away from the outcrop feature. Within any given unit where the protective measures for the moss prevent implementation of the fuels reduction activity, a qualified botanist (experience with identification of mosses) will survey the site to
determine presence or absence of the rare species.

- Based on potential habitat present within the project area, if Galena Creek rockcress (*Boechera rigidissima var demota*) and/or Washoe tall rockcress (*Boechera rectissima var simulans*) are detected, individual plants will be flagged and excluded from project activities. For a large group of plants, the perimeter of the population will be determined and flagged to exclude project activities. For both individual and groups of plants a 50ft. buffer will be applied to maintain rare plant habitat by excluding project activities. The buffer width may be adjusted to fit the configuration of rare plant habitat with respect to topography and the vegetation present at the specific site as determined by the district botanist.

- The northern, lower elevation, portion of the project area provides potential habitat for the Carson Valley monkey flower (*Erythranthe carsonensis*). With verification of occupied habitat, those areas will be flagged and avoided with equipment and/or treated by hand and the slash removed from the occupied habitat. Early spring surveys to determine presence versus absence of the Carson Valley monkey flower will be completed prior to treatment.

The Forest Service expects to complete the environmental analysis for this project by March 2014 and to make a final decision by April 2014. Implementation could begin 45 days following the signed decision.

**Summary of Proposed Action Effects**

The following table summarizes the potential impacts of the proposed action by the affected resources. In the Environmental Assessment these impacts will be compared to those resulting from the Alternatives to the proposed action. These alternatives include the No Action Alternative and the Current System Alternative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effected Resource</th>
<th>Summary of Effect</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Air Quality</strong></td>
<td>All federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to prescribed burning would be followed. Impacts from prescribed burning and mechanical treatments are expected to be of short duration and locally isolated. Prescribed burning, new road construction, and use of temporary skid trails and temporary roads which may affect air quality will meet the standards set forth by Nevada Division Environmental Protection Air Quality (NDEP).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Soil and Water</strong></td>
<td>Ground disturbing project activities, such as the use of mechanized equipment and the construction of skid trails and landings will be conducted following project design features to reduce the potential of erosion and sediment delivery to stream channels. Prescribed burning would result in temporary loss of vegetation and ground cover with the potential to increase erosion and impact water quality over the short-term.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Noxious and Invasive Weeds</strong></td>
<td>Noxious weeds are not known to occur on National Forest System lands within the project area. The proposed action would avoid the establishment or spread of noxious or invasive weeds and plants.</td>
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<td><strong>Wildlife</strong></td>
<td>Design features associated with the proposed action would minimize disturbance and potential long term impacts to wildlife species. Disturbance from equipment as well as a temporary reduction in canopy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effected Resource</td>
<td>Summary of Effect</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Special Status Plant Species</strong></td>
<td>Shevock’s bristle moss potential habitat occurs within the project area. To prevent scorching and/or overheating of Shevock's bristle-moss and potential impacts to plants and habitat, pile burning activities will not occur within 30 ft. of large granitic rock (greater than 5 ft. in diameter). Documentation of occupied habitat for Washoe tall rockcress, Galena Creek rockcress or Carson Valley monkeyflower will require implementation of protective measures to avoid project impacts.</td>
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<td><strong>Heritage Resources</strong></td>
<td>It is expected that there will be no adverse impacts to any cultural resource site. Cultural resource surveys have been completed within the project area. Implementation of the proposed action would avoid historic properties within the project area boundaries.</td>
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<td><strong>Native American Religious Concerns</strong></td>
<td>This project was developed in cooperation with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and it is expected that there will be no adverse impacts to Native American Religious Concerns. Consultation with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California has and will continue to occur.</td>
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<td><strong>Recreation</strong></td>
<td>Potential effects include temporary closure of popular recreation areas during project implementation activities. These would likely be fairly short one –two weeks in duration. Temporary road or trail closures during prescribed fire operations or contracts may also limit recreation access at times. Visitors on trails may notice treatment areas or implementation of treatments. This may temporarily affect the experience of trail users seeking semi primitive recreation experiences. The sights, sounds and evidence of the proposed treatments may have short to medium term effects to the recreation experience of forest visitors. In the long term, treatments associated with this project are designed to bring the area closer to its natural state and reduce the risk of catastrophic fire. Long term effects are generally beneficial.</td>
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<td><strong>Visual Resources</strong></td>
<td>Potential short-term impacts to scenery could occur during project implementation. The visual impact of the treatments will be uniform with the natural landscape character and in the long term, promote a visually appealing landscape. Treatments would be visible for one, possibly two year following project completion and may not be aesthetically appealing to some individuals during this recovery period. Long-term benefits would maintain a more open forest canopy supporting a large tree/mature forest character, and a greater diversity of species.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inventoried Roadless Areas</strong></td>
<td>There are no inventoried roadless areas within the project area. No impacts are expected.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental Justice</strong></td>
<td>There is no known potential for anticipated disproportional effects on minority or economically disadvantaged populations within the Project Area from the Proposed Action.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>In conifer treatment areas, tree densities would be reduced, along with the risk of bark beetle and density related mortality. Stand vigor would be</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effected Resource</td>
<td>Summary of Effect</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>improved within most treated areas. Thinning of stands and planting of rust resistant western white pine would also help retain this species in the treated areas. In areas where residual trees greater than 24” dbh with high western dwarf mistletoe ratings occur, the disease would continue to infect susceptible understory trees. Planting of alternate species in the understory, not susceptible to western dwarf mistletoe would provide for uninfected conifer regeneration. In aspen enhancement areas, removal of encroaching conifers would allow a growing medium for successful aspen regeneration. In areas where large numbers of conifers 24” dbh or greater are retained, aspen regeneration may not be as successful.</td>
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**COMMENT PROCESS**

The Forest Service encourages your comments on this proposed action, along with supporting rationale that the responsible official should consider in reaching a decision.

Your comments will help us prepare an environmental assessment on the proposed action. The assessment will be used to determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) or a finding of no significant impact. If there is no potential for significant impacts, that finding, along with the environmental assessment and a decision notice, will be sent to those who commented. If the environmental assessment concludes that there is the potential for significant impacts, then an EIS will be prepared.

**How to Submit Comments and Timeframe**

Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements of a 36 CFR 218 Subpart A and B. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection under §218.

Written, facsimile, hand delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of the legal notice for this project in the Reno Gazette Journal. 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.

Submit written comments to: Anna Belle Monti, Forester and Project Manager or Steve Howell, Fuels Specialist; 1536 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada, 89701 or to the facsimile number (775) 884-8199. The office hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to amonti@fs.fed.us or
srhowell@fs.fed.us. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for objection eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request.

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

For further information, contact Anna Belle Monti at 775-884-8103 or Steve Howell at 775-884-8114.
Figure 2: Genoa Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Map
The U.S. department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital and familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Thank you for your existing interest and involvement in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. The Forest Service is transitioning to a web based electronic mailing system that allows all interested parties to receive project material (scoping documents, updates, draft and final NEPA documents, and decisions) by email. This new system gives you direct control over which mailing lists you are subscribed to and immediate electronic access to project documents as they are posted online.

To subscribe to this new system you may go online now to migrate to electronic notifications, by following this link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=42781. Once at the project site you will see a box titled “Get Connected” on the right hand side of the page. In the box is a “Subscribe to Email Updates” menu item. When you click on that item you will be prompted to provide your email address and select a pass word. When you have logged in you will be able to manage your account by subscribing to projects by Forest, District, project type, or project purpose. You will also be able to change your email address and password, or delete subscriptions for projects you no longer wish to follow or which have been completed. Once you are subscribed your name will be removed from the existing postal mailing lists.