



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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[www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html)

In Reply Refer To:  
5003.1B (NV024.09)

Dear Interested Party:

Recently, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Winnemucca District issued a Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA), DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2014-0038-DNA and a “Full Force and Effect” Decision Record (DR) for the Lucky Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) Project.

This decision authorizes the ground seeding of 459 acres and noxious weed inventory across the entirety of the fire and noxious weed treatments on up to 459 acres each year through 2017. The decision to implement the proposed action immediately relies on authority under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and associated BLM regulations under 43 CFR 5003.1 (b). This project meets the determination requirement as an authorized project covered by the Act, as the project stabilizes and rehabilitates lands damaged by wildfire.

The Lucky Fire was ignited by lightning on 7/11/2014 and contained on 7/12/2014. There are no records of the Lucky Fire area having burned previously; however, several large fires have occurred recently in the general vicinity and have recovered to an ecology dominated by non-native invasive annual plants, particularly to cheatgrass. Due to the proximity of the Lucky Fire to cheatgrass monocultures, the low precipitation zone within which the fire burned, and the known presence of cheatgrass within the burned area, there is a substantial threat of cheatgrass invasion into this burned area within the next few years.

The fire occurred on a west-facing, fan piedmont. Therefore, moderate wind erosion will contribute to accelerated soil loss due to the loss of foliar shrub and grass cover. Nevada Department of Wildlife classifies almost all of the fire area as year round range for pronghorn and the burned area is adjacent to crucial winter range for mule deer. The area is also heavily utilized by assorted small mammals, migratory birds, and is near raptor nesting sites. The loss of shrub cover and nesting and foraging habitat has occurred as a result of the fire. The fire area is adjacent to the Eden Valley Population Management Unit for Greater Sage-Grouse.

The Lucky Fire burned along the west edge of the Hot Springs Mountains. It is estimated that closure to livestock use of the lands affected by the fire would reduce annual use in the Scott Springs and Eden Valley Grazing allotments by 23 Animal Use Months (AUMs).

The final Lucky Fire ESR Project DNA, location maps, and DR can be viewed online at <http://on.doi.gov/1wm96pe>. Hardcopies of these documents are available upon request.

If you do not agree with and feel that you are adversely affected by this decision you may file a Notice of Appeal (see enclosed Form 1842-1, September 2006). If you have any questions or need more information please contact Eric Baxter, Project Lead at the BLM Winnemucca District Office at 775-623-1586.

Sincerely,

s/ James W. Schroeder

James W. Schroeder,  
Field Manager  
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure:

cc: