

Attachment C: Habitat Assessment Form

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status ¹	BLM District Office	Habitat	Potential to Occur (Y/N)	Rationale	Seasonal Occurrence
BIRDS							
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	SS	Statewide	Occurs in Nevada primarily during winter, summer presence is limited. Nests in tall trees such as pines, firs, spruces, and cottonwoods near large bodies of water. Roost sites are found in high elevation forests usually near lakes or reservoirs, or near agricultural areas where eagles feed on calving afterbirth. Eats mostly fish and carrion.	N	Habitat for winter roost sites does not occur in the Planning Area. Historical accounts exist of nesting eagles in several locations such as Pyramid Lake that are no longer used.	N/A
Brewer's sparrow	<i>Spizella breweri</i>	SS	Statewide	Strongly associated with sagebrush. Prefers high shrub density and tall shrubs. Nests in dense crown of tall shrubs. More likely to be present close to water (0.5 mi). Eats insects, also small seeds.	Y	Sagebrush habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Spring - summer
Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	SS	Statewide	Treeless areas with low vegetation; usually sagebrush or salt desert. Needs burrows dug by other animals and a sufficient prey base. Eats arthropods, small mammals, and reptiles.	Y	Sagebrush habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Spring - summer
Ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	SS	Statewide	Uses a variety of open habitats with widely spaced juniper or pine trees. Nests on isolated trees, ledges, poles. Hunts rabbits, ground squirrels, birds, and reptiles.	Y	Sagebrush and juniper habitats occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	SS	Statewide	Found in open country with a sufficient mammalian prey base (rabbits, large rodents). Generally uses shrublands for foraging near nesting cliffs. Nests most often on cliffs, sometimes on ground, in trees, or on steep hillsides.	Y	Foraging habitat occurs in the Project Area. Nesting habitat occurs in the Planning Area.	Year-round
Greater sage-grouse (Range-wide)	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Uses sagebrush and wet meadows. Leks are open areas near good nesting habitat. Nesting habitat is sagebrush with tall shrubs and abundant herbaceous understory. Wet meadows with sufficient succulent forbs provide brood-rearing/summer habitat. Winter habitat is dense sagebrush that reaches above the snow.	Y	Sage-grouse habitat management areas (PHMA, GHMA, OHMA) occur in the Planning Area. All treatment units occur in habitat. Sage-grouse are known to occur in the Planning Area; 5 active leks occur in the Planning Area.	Year-round
Greater sage-grouse (Bi-State DPS)	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	SS	BM, Carson	Same as greater sage-grouse above.	N	The Bi-State DPS occurs along the CA / NV border. For the Sierra Front Field Office, the DPS occurs in Carson City, Douglas, and Lyon Counties, NV and Alpine County, CA.	N/A
Green-tailed towhee	<i>Pipilo chlorurus</i>			Uses shrubland, aspen, and pinyon and juniper woodland. Likes high density shrub cover and generally nests under or close to the ground in sagebrush. Usually close to water or mesic habitats (0.5 mi). Eats insects, berries, and particularly seeds of grasses and forbs.	Y	Sagebrush openings in juniper woodland occur in the Project Area. Sagebrush openings in woodland and sagebrush / aspen / willow communities occur in the Planning Area.	Spring - summer
Lewis' woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Uses aspen and montane riparian habitats. Found in aspen, cottonwoods, and Jeffrey pines. Prefers deciduous trees and shrub layers in riparian / aspen zones. Cavity excavator or re-user; requires large trunk or branch on snag. Eats flying insects, ants, nuts, and fruits.	Y	Riparian aspen stands do not occur in the Project Area, but do occur in the Planning Area.	Spring - summer
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	SS	Statewide	Uses open country with scattered shrubs and trees, desert scrub, and occasionally open woodland. Occurs in sagebrush, scrub, juniper, and riparian areas. Nests in shrubs or trees. Feeds on insects, but also lizards, ground squirrels, and mice. Impales prey on thorns or barb wire.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Spring - summer

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Mourning dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>			One of the most widely-distributed birds in NV. Generally not found in desert playas, thickly wooded spruce/fir areas, and alpine summits of Nevada's higher mountains.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Uses mature aspen stands surrounded by coniferous trees and/or shrubland for foraging. Nests in large trees (usually aspen). Generally close to water. Hunts small to medium sized mammals and birds.	Y	Foraging habitat occurs in the Project Area. Riparian aspen stands occur in the Planning Area.	Year-round
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	SS	Statewide	Uses Mohave lowland riparian and Mojave scrub. Nests on cliff ledges.	N	Occurs in southern NV; at present, birds are concentrated around the Lake Mead NRA.	N/A
Pinyon jay	<i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>	SS	Statewide	Uses pinyon-juniper and sagebrush. Uncommon in dense, closed-canopy settings. Nests in pinyon pine or juniper trees. Eats mostly pinyon pine seeds; the pinyon jay has a well-known dependence on pinyon pine nut production.	N	Pinyon-juniper woodland does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Sage sparrow	<i>Amphispiza belli</i>			Prefers sagebrush, will use salt desert scrub. Nests in dense crown of tall shrub or on the ground under shrub. Eats arthropods and seeds.	Y	Sagebrush and desert scrub habitats occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Spring - summer
Sage thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Inhabits primarily sagebrush, also uses montane shrubland and salt desert scrub. Nests on the ground or in dense shrub. Eats insects, berries, and seeds.	Y	Sagebrush and desert scrub habitats occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Spring - summer
Snowy plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	SS	Statewide	Uses ephemeral wetland and playas, also shorelines along open water. Generally occupies barren shorelines of alkaline playa lakes. Nests on bare ground near edge of water. Feeds on aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates such as brine flies and brine shrimp.	N	Alkaline playa lakes do not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	SS	Statewide	Uses Great Basin and Mojave lowland riparian, agriculture, and sagebrush. Open riparian woodlands with pasture, agricultural fields, wet meadow, or open shrublands. Sparse tree cover. Nests in large tree or on cliff ledge. Hunts ground squirrels and rabbits, also reptiles.	Y	Foraging habitat occurs in the Project Area. Riparian nesting trees occur in the Planning Area.	Spring - summer
Yellow-billed cuckoo (Western DPS)	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	T	Carson, Ely	Uses lowland riparian habitat. Large intact blocks of riparian gallery forest and tall riparian shrub thickets.	N	Habitat does not occur in the Planning Area. Western cuckoos predominantly occur in southern NV. For the Sierra Front Field Office, proposed critical habitat occurs along the Carson River near Lahontan Reservoir where birds occur during the breeding season.	N/A
MAMMALS							
Big brown bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV in a variety of habitats including pinyon-juniper and sagebrush. Roosts are in caves, trees, rock crevices, mines, and buildings; hibernates in caves, mines, rock crevices, and buildings. Feeds on insects, particularly beetles.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Bighorn sheep	<i>Ovis canadensis</i>	SS	Statewide	Occur in mesic to xeric, alpine to desert grasslands or shrub-steppe in mountains, foothills, or river canyons. Escape terrain is an important feature. Dense forests that restrict vision are avoided. Diet is diverse and variable. Primarily grazers of grass and forbs, but diet can include significant amounts of shrubs.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas; known to occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Brazilian free-tailed bat	<i>Tadarida brasiliensis</i>	SS	Statewide	Found through most of NV in a variety of habitats. Habitats include deserts, shrublands, woodlands, and forests. Roosts include mines, caves, buildings, and hollow trees. Eats insects, primarily moths.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Summer

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California myotis	<i>Myotis californicus</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV in a variety of habitats including desert scrub and forests. Roosts include mines, caves, buildings, rock crevices, and trees. Feeds on insects including moths, flies, and beetles.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Dark kangaroo mouse	<i>Microdipodops megacephalus</i>	SS	Statewide	Inhabits sandy soils in valley bottoms dominated by big sagebrush and rabbitbrush. Eats primarily seeds, but will eat some insects.	Y	Sagebrush habitat with sandy soils occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Fringed myotis	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout central and southern NV; probably occurs in northern NV as well. Found in a wide range of habitats from low desert scrub to coniferous forests. Roosts in mines, caves, trees, and buildings. Known hibernacula are generally caves and mines. Eats primarily beetles.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Hoary bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV. A tree-associated species found in forested habitats including cottonwoods and juniper. Roosts in coniferous and deciduous trees. Eats insects including moths and beetles.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Summer
Little brown myotis	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Found primarily throughout the northern part of NV. Often associated with coniferous forest. Roosts in trees, rock outcrops, buildings, mines, and caves. Feeds heavily on aquatic insects such as caddis flies, midges, and mayflies; a variety of other terrestrial insects are also eaten.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Long-eared myotis	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV, more widespread and common in the northern half of the state. Primarily a forest-associated species. Found in pinyon-juniper and above, but also in sagebrush and desert scrub. Roosts in trees, rock outcrops, mines, caves, and buildings. Feeds on moths, beetles, and flies.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Long-legged myotis	<i>Myotis volans</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV, but more widespread and common in the northern half of the state. Found in pinyon-juniper and montane coniferous forest. Roosts in trees (large snags), rock crevices, caves, mines, and buildings. Feeds primarily on moths.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Mule deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>		Statewide	Found in a variety of habitat types throughout NV, but occur in highest densities in montane shrub-dominated communities. Browse on a variety of woody plants including sagebrush and bitterbrush, and graze on grasses and forbs.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas; known to occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Pale kangaroo mouse	<i>Microdipodops pallidus</i>	SS	BM, Carson Winnemucca	Typically restricted to fine sandy soils in valley bottoms dominated by saltbush and greasewood. May also be found in sagebrush at its higher elevation range. Eats primarily seeds, also Indian rice grass and a variety of forbs.	Y	Desert scrub and sagebrush habitats with sandy soils occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Pallid bat	<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV in a variety of habitats from desert to coniferous forest. Uses pinyon-juniper, sagebrush, and salt desert scrub. Roosts in rock outcrops, mines, caves, trees, and buildings. Feeds mainly on large ground-dwelling arthropods such as scorpions, centipedes, millipedes, grasshoppers, and crickets.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Pronghorn	<i>Antilocapra Americana</i>		Statewide	Pronghorn are found primarily in the valleys between mountain ranges in northern and central NV. They prefer gentle rolling to flat, wide-open topography. Low sagebrush and northern desert shrubs are the preferred vegetation types. Many species of grasses, forbs, and browse plants are eaten, which allows them to occupy a variety of habitat types. Succulent plants and sprouts are preferred. Common plants eaten include sagebrush, bitterbrush, saltbrush, rabbitbrush, Indian rice grass, and shadscale.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas; known to occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round

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Pygmy rabbit	<i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Found primarily on big sagebrush-dominated plains and alluvial fans where there are tall, dense stands of sagebrush. Occupy sites with prominent clusters of higher than surrounding sagebrush, or sagebrush islands. These islands have higher sagebrush and greater sagebrush cover. Digs burrows in deep, loose, soil loamy-type soils are required for burrowing. Soils with high sand content are negatively associated with pygmy rabbits; they often use their burrows for multiple years and soils with less sand and higher clay content would provide greater integrity for burrow persistence. Negatively associated with cheatgrass. Big sagebrush is the primary food plant.	N	In Washoe County, known to occur on the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge (FWS 2010). A large-scale survey of the species in NV showed 3 main regions with pygmy rabbits; none of these regions occur in or near the Planning Area (Larrucea and Brussard 2008). There are no BLM, NDOW, or Nevada Natural Heritage Program records of occurrence within the Planning Area.	N/A
Silver-haired bat	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	SS	Statewide	Widely distributed in NV, but a forest-associated species. Found in woodland and riparian habitats in the central and northern portions of NV. Uses pinyon-juniper, aspen, cottonwood, and willow. Roosts in trees, rock crevices, mines, and caves. Diet consists of a variety of insects but largely moths.	Y	Juniper and riparian habitats occur in the Project and Planning Areas.	Unknown
Spotted bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca	Scattered distribution in NV. Closely associated with rocky cliffs. Found in a wide variety of habitats from desert scrub to coniferous forest habitats, including pinyon-juniper, sagebrush, and riparian. Roosts primarily in crevices in cliff faces. Diet includes a variety of insects but predominantly moths. This species is capable of flying long distances to suitable foraging grounds.	Y	Foraging habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas. Roosting habitat occurs in the Planning Area.	Year-round
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV from deserts to mixed coniferous-deciduous forest. Uses pinyon-juniper, sagebrush, salt desert scrub, agricultural, and occasionally in urban areas. Highly associated with caves and mines. This bat is a moth specialist and forages in open forest habitats of pinyon, juniper, mahogany, aspen, and cottonwood.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Western pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus Hesperus</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV, primarily in the western and southern portions. Uses salt desert shrub and sagebrush, occasional occurrence in pinyon-juniper. Roosts in rock crevices. Food items include moths, mosquitoes, and flying ants.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Western red bat	<i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>	SS	BM, Carson, Elko, Ely, Southern	Found primarily in wooded habitats, including mesquite bosque and cottonwood/willow riparian areas. Roosts in tree foliage. Prey consists of a wide variety of insects. Foraging is generally over the tree canopy.	Y	Cottonwood and willow riparian areas occur in the Planning Area.	Unknown
Western small-footed myotis	<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	SS	Statewide	Found throughout NV in a variety of habitats including desert scrub, sagebrush, greasewood, and pinyon-juniper woodland. Roosts in caves, mines, and trees. Eats moths, flies, ants, and beetles.	Y	Habitat occurs in the Project and Planning Areas.	Year-round
Yuma myotis	<i>Myotis yumanensis</i>	SS	Carson, Elko, Ely	Found at least in the western and southern portions of NV in a variety of habitats including sagebrush, salt desert scrub, playa, and riparian areas. Roosts in buildings, trees, mines, caves, bridges, and rock crevices. Feeds primarily on emergent aquatic insects such as midges and caddis flies.	Y	Sagebrush and salt desert scrub habitats occur in the Project and Planning Areas. Riparian habitats occur in the Planning Area.	Year-round
AMPHIBIANS							
Northern leopard frog	<i>Rana [Lithobates] pipiens</i>	SS	Elko, Ely, Winnemucca, Carson	Uses a mosaic of habitat including aquatic zones for breeding and overwintering, upland for post-breeding, and areas in between for migration. Found in permanent slow moving streams, ponds, canals, reservoirs, and lakes with rooted aquatic vegetation.	N	Habitat does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A

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FISH							
Cui-ui	<i>Chasmistes cujus</i>	E	Carson	Endemic to Pyramid Lake with spawning occurring in the Truckee River. Diet includes mainly bottom-oriented zooplankton and macroinvertebrates.	N	This species does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Hiko White River springfish	<i>Crenichthys baileyi grandis</i>	E	Carson	Occurs in Mineral County, NV. Introduced into Blue Link spring reservoir by NDOW in 1984 to serve as a refuge population.	N	This species does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Lahontan cutthroat trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi</i>	T	BM, Carson, Elko, Winnemucca	Found in the Truckee, Carson, and Walker River watersheds, as well as several streams in the Desatoya Mountains in Churchill County. Require relatively clear, cold waters.	N	Habitat does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Railroad Valley springfish	<i>Crenichthys nevadae</i>	T	BM, Carson, Ely	This species was introduced outside of its historical range in private ponds as Sodaville and are thought to no longer exist. Endemic to thermal springs in Railroad Valley, Nye County, NV.	N	This species does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Wall Canyon sucker	<i>Catostomus</i> sp 1	SS	Carson	Known only from Wall Canyon, Washoe County, NV. Known only from one stream flowing through sagebrush scrub.	N	This species does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
MOLLUSCS							
Ovate Cain Spring pyrg	<i>Pyrgulopsis pictilis</i>	SS	Carson	Found in springs and springbrooks. According to Nevada Natural Heritage Program, it occurs in Lander County, NV.	N	This species does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A
Wong's pyrg	<i>Pyrgulopsis wongi</i>	SS	BM, Carson Winnemucca	Found in springs and springbrooks. Records exist for Douglas and Mineral Counties, NV.	N	This species does not occur in the Planning Area.	N/A

¹ E = Endangered, T = Threatened, SS = BLM Nevada Sensitive Species
BM = Battle Mountain