



NEVADA FIREARMS COALITION

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Bureau of Land Management
5665 Morgan Mill Road
Carson City, NV 89701

Attn: Carson City RMP

Please accept these comments as citizen input to the Carson City District Resource Management Plan and associated Environmental Impact Statement.

The Bureau of Land Management is a member of the Federal Lands Hunting and Shooting Sports Roundtable. This national group was created by a memorandum of understanding signed by three federal agencies (including the BLM) and 40- non-governmental organizations to address issues and opportunities associated with hunting and recreational shooting on public lands and national forests. Materials developed from this roundtable should be incorporated into your proposal.

Recreational shooting (target shooting) is one of many activities that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) may allow on public lands as part of its discretion to manage for multiple uses. In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the BLM typically manages a wide range of multiple use activities on most public lands provided that they that do not impair the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, and archaeological values, and that they do not endanger human health, safety, or property.

Executive Order 13443, "Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation", issued in 2006, directed the Department of the Interior and its component agencies, bureaus and offices "to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat." The Order called for a comprehensive 10-year Recreational Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Plan that would set forth an agenda for implementing the actions called for in the Order. The ten-year action plan was issued in December, 2008. Among its recommendations that address recreational shooting: "... incorporate hunting and recreational shooting into federal agency's planning processes; Revise BLM/USDA Forest Service management plans to designate shooting areas; Incorporate opportunities for hunting and recreational shooting into public land management, planning, and decision-making.

Specifically, consider integrating hunting and recreational shooting opportunities in all federal agency plans for travel management, land management, analyses under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and related road closures and other access limitations; ensuring that hunting and recreational shooting opportunities are a priority.” BLM Instruction Memorandum IM 2006-006, details the process of implementing E.O. 13443. and provides a link to the Order. The IM can be accessed on the web at: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/regulations/Instruction_Memos_and_Bulletins/national_instruction/20080/im_2008-006.html

Consequently, the BLM should include areas that are applicable for development of supervised and unsupervised shooting areas and ranges and ensure that all areas are open for hunting access.

Sincerely,

Don Turner, President
Nevada Firearms Coalition