



**NATIONAL
CONSERVATION
LANDS**

Basin and Range

National Monument Resource Management Plan



Public Scoping Report

2017



**NATIONAL
CONSERVATION
LANDS**

Cover Photo of the Basin and Range National Monument
by Bob Wick, BLM.

**Basin and Range National Monument
Resource Management Plan and
Environmental Impact Statement**

SCOPING REPORT

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Ely District Office
702 N. Industrial Way
Ely, Nevada 89301**

January 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	1
1.1	Background and Description of the Planning Area	1
1.2	Purpose and Need for the Resource Management Plan	3
1.3	Envisioning	3
2.0	Scoping Process	4
2.1	Public Notification of Scoping	4
2.2	Scoping Meetings	5
2.3	Collaboration and Consultation	6
2.3.1	Cooperating Agencies	6
2.3.2	Resource Advisory Council	7
2.3.3	Friends Groups	7
2.3.4	Collaboration and Consultation with Tribes	7
3.0	Issue Summary	10
3.1	Methods of Comment Collection and Analysis	10
3.2	Summary of Public Comments	10
3.2.1	Comment Documents by Affiliation	10
3.2.2	Comment Documents by Geographical Area	11
3.2.3	Comments by Planning Issue Category	12
3.3	Issues Identified During Scoping	13
3.3.1	Air Quality	14
3.3.2	Cave and Karst	14
3.3.3	Climate Change	14
3.3.4	Cultural Resources and Native American Concerns	14
3.3.5	Energy and Mineral Resources	15
3.3.6	Invasive Species	15
3.3.7	Lands and Realty	15
3.3.8	Livestock Grazing	16
3.3.9	Noise	16
3.3.10	Recreation	16
3.3.11	Social and Economic	17
3.3.12	Special Management Areas	17
3.3.13	Travel and Transportation Management	18
3.3.14	Vegetation	18
3.3.15	Visitor Services, Health and Safety	18
3.3.16	Visual Resources	19
3.3.17	Water	19
3.3.18	Wild Horses and Burros	19
3.3.19	Wildland Fire	19
3.3.20	Wildlife and Fish, including Special Status Species	20
3.4	Issues that Will Not Be Addressed	20
3.5	Anticipated Decisions to be Made	22
3.6	Valid Existing Management to be Carried Forward	23
3.7	Special Designations, Nominations, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	23
4.0	Draft Planning Criteria	25

5.0	Data Summary/Data Gaps	26
6.0	Summary of Future Steps in the Process	27
7.0	BLM Contact Information	28

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.	Scoping Meeting Locations.....	6
Table 2.	Tribal Coordination Meetings.....	9
Table 3.	Number of Comment Documents Received by Affiliation	11
Table 4.	Number of Comment Documents Submitted by Geographic Location	11
Table 5.	Number of Comments by Planning Issue Category.....	12

MAP

Map 1.	Basin and Range National Monument	2
--------	---	---

APPENDICES

Appendix A	Presidential Proclamation
Appendix B	Scoping Notifications
Appendix C	Envisioning Summary
Appendix D	Scoping Meeting Materials

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
BARNM	Basin and Range National Monument
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
GIS	Geographic Information System
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
RAC	Resource Advisory Council
RMP	Resource Management Plan

This page intentionally left blank.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This scoping report summarizes the public and agency input received during the scoping process for the Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District Office in Ely, Nevada, is preparing the RMP and EIS in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA), to serve as a roadmap to guide the management of public lands within the monument boundaries (Monument) for the next 20 to 30 years. The scoping report describes the Monument and purpose and need for the RMP; describes the scoping process; summarizes public and agency comments received during scoping; and provides a preliminary list of issues, concerns, and opportunities for analysis in the EIS.

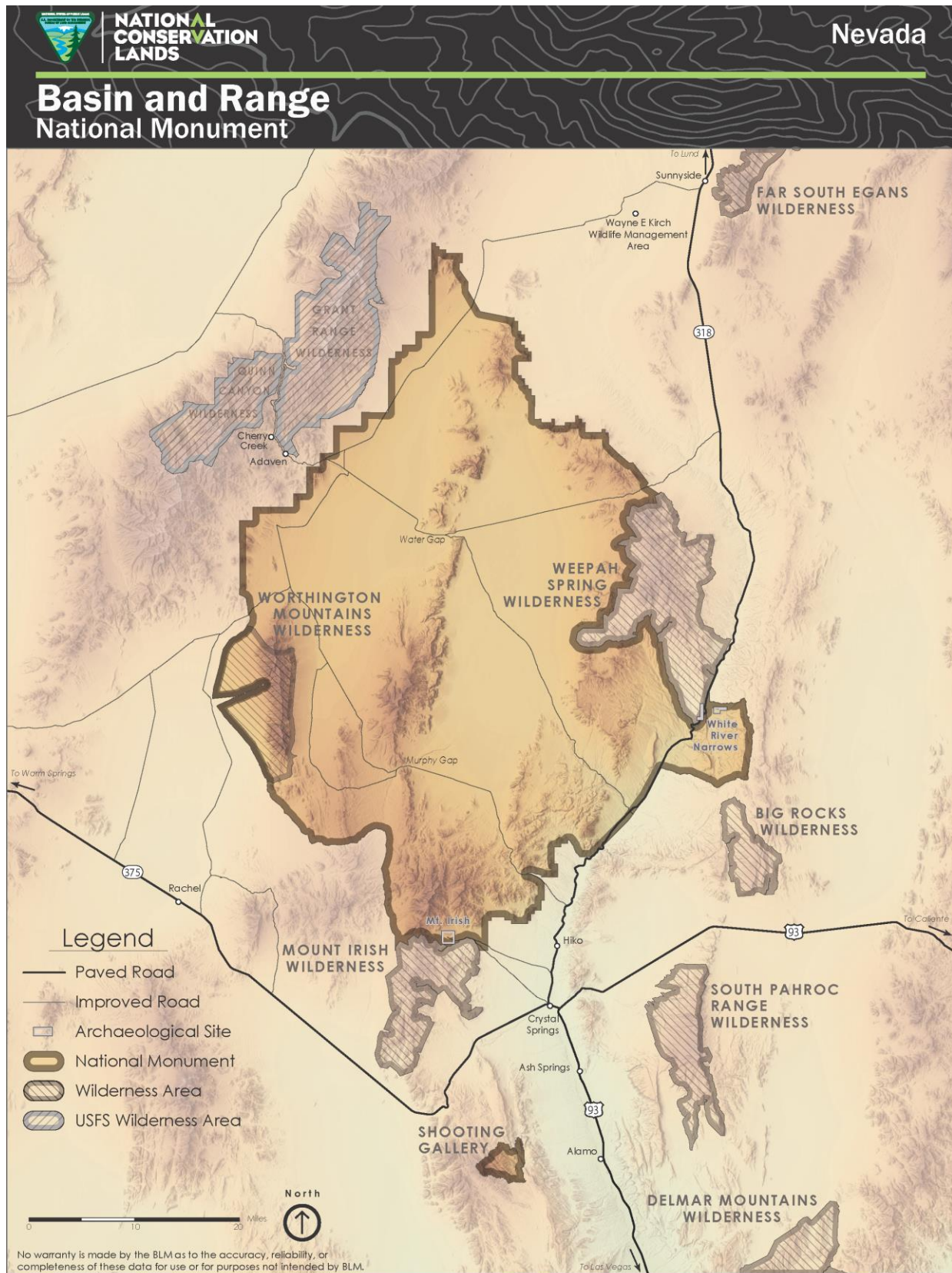
1.1 Background and Description of the Planning Area

On July 10, 2015, President Obama issued a presidential proclamation (Proclamation) establishing BARNM in southeastern Nevada under the authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906 (Appendix A). As the Proclamation indicates, the President established the Monument to “preserve its cultural, prehistoric, and historic legacy and maintain its diverse array of natural and scientific resources, ensuring that the prehistoric, historic and scientific values of this area remain for the benefit of all Americans.” The Proclamation further states: “For purposes of the care and management of the objects identified above, the Secretary, through BLM, shall, within 3 years of the date of this proclamation prepare and maintain a management plan for the monument and shall provide for maximum public involvement in the development of that plan including, but not limited to, consultation with state, tribal, and local governments.”

In accordance with the Proclamation and FLPMA, the BLM Ely District Office is establishing an RMP for the Monument to set the management direction for the public lands within the Monument. Public lands within the Monument are currently managed in accordance with the Ely RMP signed in 2008, as amended by the Greater Sage-Grouse Approved RMP Amendment signed in 2015. The new, stand-alone BARNM RMP will tier to and may incorporate by reference portions of these management plans. The BLM is preparing an EIS in conjunction with the RMP to disclose the potential impacts associated with the BLM’s proposed management alternatives for BARNM, as required under NEPA.

The Monument is located in Lincoln and Nye Counties, Nevada, and encompasses approximately 704,000 acres of BLM-administered land (Map 1). The Monument contains unique geological, cultural, and natural resources, including sites such as the White River narrows and Mount Irish Archaeological Districts, as well as the 30,594-acre Worthington Mountains Wilderness. As specified in the Proclamation, the BLM will manage these lands as a component of the National Landscape Conservation System (also known as National Conservation Lands) in a manner that protects and restores its objects and values. The designation does not affect grazing operations in the Monument, including use of motorized vehicles, construction and maintenance of water infrastructure, and construction of fences and other range improvements relating to grazing operations. Additionally, the designation does not affect U.S. military uses of the airspace and allows continued military access for emergency response and training activities. Approximately 4,400 acres (0.6% of the Monument) are private inholdings within the Monument; private lands other than those being considered for conservation easement will not be addressed in the RMP and EIS. All other land within the Monument is administered by the BLM.

Map 1. Basin and Range National Monument



1.2 Purpose and Need for the Resource Management Plan

The purpose and need for the RMP is still in draft form and likely will evolve prior to the publication of the Draft RMP and EIS.

The need for this action is established by FLPMA and the Proclamation (Appendix A). FLPMA requires the BLM to develop RMPs that provide for the concurrent multiple use and sustained yield of public lands. The Proclamation establishing BARNM specified that the BLM “shall within 3 years of the date of this proclamation prepare and maintain a management plan for the monument...”

The purpose of the RMP is to protect the objects of scientific and historic interest in the Monument. The Monument is composed of BLM-administered lands with cultural, natural, and scientific significance, which are to be protected for the benefit of all Americans. The RMP is to provide management direction that will preserve and protect the rich cultural tradition that is expressed in the archaeological, historic, and cultural sites and values that occur throughout the Monument. These resources include, but are not limited to, rock art, campsites, and artifacts. The RMP is to provide management direction that will preserve historic resources associated with early European and American settlement in the Basin and Range region, including miners, ranchers and a modern artist.

Furthermore, a purpose of the RMP is to provide management that will protect the wide array of natural resource objects, such as habitats encompassed by the Monument, which includes the transition between the Mojave Desert and the sagebrush steppe ecosystems of the Great Basin. The RMP will ensure protection of this large, ecologically intact landscape, which provides connectivity and migration corridors for a wide variety of animal species, including Greater Sage-Grouse at the northern portion of the Monument.

The RMP also will appropriately merge the land-use planning direction in the Proclamation with the management decisions already provided in the existing Ely District RMP. The RMP for BARNM will provide clarification on specific management needs not addressed in either guiding document.

1.3 Envisioning

Prior to scoping, the BLM engaged in a public envisioning process to establish a vision for the Monument and to identify priorities and broad goals and objectives for the RMP. The envisioning process was designed to provide the public an early opportunity to provide input on the direction of the planning process and share their vision for management of public lands in the Monument. The BLM developed an envisioning questionnaire which was shared with key stakeholders during in-person, small group meetings and was posted online for broader public participation. The questionnaire was divided into two parts: Introductory Questions and Preliminary Planning Topic Questions. The Introductory Questions were broad and high-level and sought to elicit information about how people felt about the Monument and why it was important to them. The Preliminary Planning Topic Questions asked for more focused input on which topics should be addressed in the RMP and how the BLM should manage specific resources and resource uses in the Monument. Appendix C includes a copy of the questionnaire and summary of responses.

2.0 SCOPING PROCESS

The purpose of the public scoping process is to identify issues and planning criteria that should be considered in the RMP and EIS and to initiate public participation in the planning process. The BLM follows the public involvement requirements according to the Council on Environmental Quality regulations set forth in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1501.7, which states, “there should be an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed during the planning process.” The scoping process is designed to encourage public participation and to solicit public input. During the scoping process, the BLM solicits comments from the public and relevant agencies, organizes and analyzes all of the comments received, and then distills the comments to identify the issues to be addressed during the planning process. The BLM, in collaboration with cooperating agencies (see Section 2.3.1), will consider the comments provided during scoping and refine the issues and planning criteria, formulate alternatives, and conduct impact analyses. Additional BLM guidance and direction for scoping and public involvement is provided in the BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (BLM Handbook H-1601-1) and the BLM NEPA Handbook (BLM Handbook H-1790-1). The BLM recently finalized a new planning rule (published in the Federal Register on December 12, 2016, pages 89580-89671), which updates the BLM’s land use planning process. Although the BARNM RMP and EIS is not required to be compliant with the new planning rule because it was initiated prior to the effective date of the rule (January 11, 2017), the BLM will strive to be as consistent as possible with the new planning regulations.

The formal scoping process began on June 1, 2016, with publication of the Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* (Appendix B) and ended on July 21, 2016, 15 days after the last scoping meeting. Although the formal comment period has ended, the BLM encourages public involvement and will continue to review all comments received during the RMP process to ensure no key issues or concerns have been missed. All scoping comments received by the BLM have been included in the BARNM RMP and EIS Administrative Record and are available on the RMP project website.

2.1 Public Notification of Scoping

Notice of Intent

The Notice of Intent is the legal document notifying the public of the BLM’s intent to initiate the planning process and to prepare an EIS for a major federal action. The Notice of Intent for the BARNM RMP and EIS was published in the *Federal Register* on June 1, 2016 (Vol. 81, No. 105, page 35043), initiating the formal scoping process. The Notice of Intent provided information on the Monument and RMP planning process, described the purpose of the scoping process, and identified methods to provide comments. Appendix B contains a copy of the Notice of Intent.

News Release

The BLM issued three news releases advertising the BARNM RMP scoping process. The first news release was issued on June 1, 2016, and announced the start of the scoping process, included a brief description of the RMP planning process, and provided information about how to comment. The second news release was issued on June 6, 2016, and included the dates, times, and locations of five public scoping meetings as well as providing information about how to submit comments. A third news release issued on June 14, 2016 included the date, time, and location of the sixth scoping meeting added in Tonopah, Nevada. Appendix B contains copies of the news releases.

Website

The BLM posted information about scoping and the RMP process on two webpages:

- National Conservation Lands BARNM website: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/nlcs_new/Basin_and_Range_National_Monument.htm
- RMP project website: <http://bit.ly/29nU5BT>

Both websites link to one another and provide information about how the public can get involved in the planning process. The primary focus of the National Conservation Lands BARNM website is to provide visitor information about the Monument, such as safety messages and recreational opportunities, with some limited information about the RMP planning process. The RMP project website is a repository for all documents and updates about the RMP. The website includes information about the RMP planning process, BLM contact information, the RMP and EIS timeline, and how to get involved. All documents issued as part of the BARNM RMP planning process will be posted to the RMP project website.

2.2 Scoping Meetings

The BLM hosted six scoping meetings between June 20 and July 6, 2016 (Table 1). These scoping meetings gave agencies, organizations, the public, and other interested parties an opportunity to learn and ask questions about the BARNM RMP and to share issues and concerns with the BLM. The BLM used an open house meeting format to encourage broader participation, allow attendees to learn about the BARNM RMP at their own pace, and enable attendees to ask BLM representatives questions in an informal one-on-one setting.

BLM staff from the Ely District Office were available at the meetings to answer questions and provide further information on the RMP process and scoping. The BLM provided a variety of informational materials describing the BARNM RMP and EIS and the scoping process, including maps of the Monument (Appendix D), the RMP schedule, and suggestions on how to make substantive comments. Meeting attendees voluntarily filled out sign-in sheets at the scoping meetings to document attendance and to be added to the mailing list if desired.

A total of 89 individuals signed the public scoping meeting sign-in sheets. Table 1 provides the locations, dates, times, and number of attendees at each scoping meeting. Attendees asked questions and requested information regarding a variety of topics including recreation, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use and motorized events, livestock grazing, vegetation, wildlife, water rights, valid existing rights, access to the artwork *City*, travel and transportation management, and airspace.



Public scoping meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 29, 2016

Table 1. Scoping Meeting Locations

Date and Time	Location	Number of Attendees¹
Monday, June 20, 2016 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	David E. Norman Elementary School 1001 E. 11th St. Ely, Nevada	6
Tuesday, June 21, 2016 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Alamo Annex courtroom 121 Joshua Tree Street Alamo, Nevada	13
Thursday, June 23, 2016 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Caliente Elementary School 289 Lincoln St. Caliente, Nevada	6
Saturday, June 25, 2016 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Lincoln County High School 1111 Edwards St. Panaca, Nevada	3
Wednesday, June 29, 2016 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Centennial Hills Library 6711 N. Buffalo Dr. Las Vegas, Nevada	60
Wednesday, July 6, 2016 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Tonopah Convention Center ² 301 W Brougner Ave Tonopah, Nevada	1

¹ Based on the number of people who signed the public scoping meeting sign-in sheets. Not all attendees signed in at the meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 29, 2016.

² The scoping meeting in Tonopah, Nevada on July 6, 2016 was not originally advertised in the BLM's June 6, 2016 news release announcing the scoping meetings. The meeting was later added at the request of the Nye County Commission and announced in a June 14, 2016 news release.

2.3 Collaboration and Consultation

2.3.1 Cooperating Agencies

Cooperating agency status provides a formal framework for local, state, and federal agencies, and tribal governments to engage in active collaboration with a lead federal agency to implement the requirements of NEPA and per the BLM Land Use Planning Handbook. Upon request of the lead agency (the BLM), any other federal agency that has "jurisdiction by law" shall be a cooperating agency. Jurisdiction by law means the other agency has authority to approve, veto, or finance all or part of the proposal (40 CFR 1508.15). In addition, other agencies that have "special expertise" with respect to an environmental issue that will be addressed through the NEPA analysis also may participate as a cooperating agency. Special expertise means "statutory responsibility, agency mission, or related program experience" (40 CFR 1508.26).

The BLM will invite all eligible federal agencies, state and local governments, and federally recognized tribes to participate as cooperating agencies in the development of the BARNM RMP and EIS. Agencies already expressing interest in participating as cooperating agencies include: Nevada Department of Wildlife, State of Nevada, Lincoln County, White Pine County, Lincoln County Water District, and N-4 Grazing Board. The BLM will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with each cooperating agency,

clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of each agency for participation throughout the planning process (NEPA Handbook 1790-1).

The State of Nevada expressed early interest in participating as a cooperating agency in the development of the BARNM RMP and EIS. On June 16, 2016, the BLM Ely District and Nevada State Office held a State Agency Briefing in the Guinn Room of the Nevada State Capitol building in Carson City, Nevada. The heads of state agencies and other agency representatives were invited to the briefing. State agencies present at the meeting included Nevada Department of Transportation, Nevada Division of Minerals, Nevada State Parks, State Historic Preservation Officer, Conservation Department, State Division of Lands, Legislative Council Bureau, and the National Association of Counties. Discussion topics at the briefing included but were not limited to county involvement, travel and transportation planning, valid existing rights, wild horses, and recreation.

2.3.2 Resource Advisory Council

A resource advisory council (RAC) is a committee established by the Secretary of the Interior to provide advice or recommendations to BLM management (BLM Land Use Planning Handbook H-1601-1). A RAC is generally composed of 15 members of the public, representing different areas of expertise. As provided for by FLPMA, the U.S. Department of the Interior established the RAC program in 1995 as a forum for local citizens to provide advice and recommendations to the Department of the Interior on management of public lands.

Within Nevada, three RACs provide advice and recommendations to the BLM regarding management of public lands. The Monument is located within the geographical area of the Mojave-Southern Great Basin (MOSO) RAC. In 2016, the MOSO RAC formed a subcommittee for the BARNM RMP.

The subcommittee chair is Susan Agee. The subcommittee met on May 11, June 22, July 20, and August 17, 2016 at the Alamo Annex in Alamo, Nevada. Monument Manager Alicia Styles and Rangeland Management Specialist Daniel Condie participated in the subcommittee meetings to provide information and answer questions posed by the group. Scoping comment recommendations from the subcommittee were presented to the MOSO RAC on September 22, 2016 and are considered in this scoping report. The Ely District will continue to coordinate with the MOSO RAC and subcommittee during regular meetings, typically held three or four times per year.

2.3.3 Friends Groups

One citizen-based Friends Group, not affiliated with the BLM or other federal agency, has been formed to advocate for the Monument and partner with the BLM on stewardship projects. Friends of Basin and Range National Monument was founded with a stated purpose of “protecting, restoring and enjoying the Monument through partnerships with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and community organizations, service projects, and outings to the pristine basins and mountain ranges that frame them.” The BLM has participated in meetings with Friends of Basin and Range National Monument and is committed to working with the group and other citizen-based Friends Groups that further the BLM’s goal of responsible management of public land resources.

2.3.4 Collaboration and Consultation with Tribes

The BLM consults with Native American Tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 13175, regulations at 36 CFR 800.2, and

other applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Consultation for the BARNM RMP will occur with tribes identified as having interests or traditional cultural properties within the Monument. The following tribes have been identified as having an interest in the Monument or have expressed a desire to consult with the BLM in the planning process:

- Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
- Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation
- Ely Shoshone Tribe of Nevada
- Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada
- Elko Band Council
- South Fork Band Council
- Battle Mountain Band Council
- Wells Indian Colony Band Council
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
- Cedar Band of Paiutes
- Indian Peaks Band of Paiutes
- Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Reservation, Arizona
- Shivwits Band of Paiutes
- Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation
- Las Vegas Paiutes Tribe of the Las Vegas Indian Colony
- Yomba Shoshone Tribe of the Yomba Indian Reservation
- Timbisha Shoshone Tribe

BLM managers, archaeologists, and Native American Coordinators arranged and attended several meetings to coordinate and consult with tribes with potential interest in the BARNM land use planning process (Table 2). At the meetings the BLM distributed copies of the map of the Monument, the Proclamation, the Envisioning Questionnaire, and contact information. Tribal representatives asked questions and provided input for the BLM to consider during the development of the RMP, including discussions on the location of the Monument in relation to tribal land and important tribal cultural sites, pinyon-pine nut harvesting, and requests for additional informational material, additional meetings, and a field trip of the Monument.

Table 2. Tribal Coordination Meetings

Date	Location	Tribes
Friday, April 1, 2016	Cedar City, Utah	Paiute Tribes of Utah including Cedar Band, Indian Peaks Band, Kanosh Band, Koosharem Band and Shivwits Band
Monday, April 25, 2016	Duckwater, Nevada	Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
Friday, May 6, 2016	Ibapah, Utah	Confederated Tribes of the Goshute
Wednesday, June 29, 2016	Moapa, Nevada	Moapa Band of Paiutes
Wednesday, June 29, 2016	Las Vegas, Nevada	Las Vegas Band of Paiutes
Wednesday, July 6, 2016	Bishop, California	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
Thursday, July 21, 2016	Cedar City, Utah	Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah

The BLM will continue to consult with tribes throughout the RMP and EIS development process. In addition to government-to-government consultation, the BLM will invite interested tribes to participate as cooperating agencies (see Section 2.3.1). As cooperating agencies, tribes will be provided opportunities to comment on the Preliminary Draft RMP and EIS and provide input throughout the land use planning process. Tribal concerns identified during consultation and collaboration activities, including impacts on Indian trust assets and potential impacts on cultural resources, will be considered in the RMP and EIS.

3.0 ISSUE SUMMARY

3.1 Methods of Comment Collection and Analysis

This scoping report includes comments submitted during the June 1 to July 21, 2016, scoping period. With the exception of RAC recommendations, submissions received after July 21, 2016, are not incorporated into this report; however, these and any other comments received during the RMP process will be considered in RMP alternatives formulation and project planning. All scoping comments received by the BLM have been included in the BARNM RMP and EIS Administrative Record and are available on the RMP project website.

The BLM received 144 comment documents (i.e., entire letter or email from an individual or organization) during the scoping period, which were submitted via letters, email, or at the public scoping meetings. Of those comment documents, 25 comment documents received during the scoping period were form letters. Form letters are comment documents that contain the same or very nearly the same text and are submitted by multiple commenters, often on behalf of an organization advocating a certain position. The form letters submitted on the BARNM RMP addressed OHV use and competitive racing in the Monument. The BLM accounted for comments in the form letters only once, unless a commenter included unique text in which case only the additional unique comment was identified for consideration.

The BLM used a multi-step process to catalogue, organize, sort, and summarize comments submitted during scoping. The following steps describe the process used for processing comment documents, identifying and bracketing individual comments, and grouping comments into comment categories:

1. Receive and log data for each comment document.
2. Assign each comment document a unique identifier (referred to as a document number) for tracking purposes.
3. Electronically scan the comment document.
4. Review the comment documents and identify (bracket) each individual comment in the comment documents. Many comment documents included multiple individual comments.
5. Code each comment with a comment category based on the content of the comment. Comment categories are broad topics used to group comments expressing similar concerns.
6. Enter all individual comments into a sortable database.
7. Sort comments by comment category.
8. Develop issue statements to identify questions, concerns, and opportunities to address during preparation of the BARNM RMP and EIS (Section 3.3).

3.2 Summary of Public Comments

3.2.1 Comment Documents by Affiliation

Comment documents were received from individuals, interest groups, businesses, state agencies, county or city governments, elected officials, and a BLM RAC (Table 3).

Table 3. Number of Comment Documents Received by Affiliation

Commenter Affiliation	Number of Comment Documents
Business	22
Interest Groups	30
State Agency	2
County or City Government	7
Elected Official	1
Resource Advisory Council	1
Individual	81
Total	144

3.2.2 Comment Documents by Geographical Area

Comment documents were received from a range of geographies including 12 states, although the majority of commenters who provided their location were from Nevada (Table 4).

Table 4. Number of Comment Documents Submitted by Geographic Location

Location	Number of Comment Documents
Arizona	2
California	8
Colorado	3
Georgia	1
Idaho	2
Indiana	1
Kansas	1
Montana	1
Nevada	49
Oregon	2
South Dakota	1
Utah	2
Not Indicated	71
Total	144

3.2.3 Comments by Planning Issue Category

The BLM identified 587 individual scoping comments covering a broad range of topics. Of the 587 total comments, 502 comments are related to RMP planning issues that will be addressed in the RMP. The remaining 85 comments relate to the planning process or raise issues that will not be addressed in the RMP. Comments related to the planning process include comments on the BLM's proposed Planning 2.0 process; planning criteria; scoping process; consistency with state, local, and tribal plans or policies; cooperating agency and stakeholder involvement; planning regulations; supplemental rules; general NEPA and FLPMA requirements; laws and regulations; monitoring; and literature references. While these topics will be considered during the development of the RMP, they do not relate to RMP planning issues which are resource driven. Comments submitted that will not be addressed in the RMP include comments that raise issues that would be handled through policy or administrative action or issues that are beyond the scope of the RMP. These comments are summarized in Section 3.4.

Table 5 summarizes the number of scoping comments by planning issue category. In many cases, comments the BLM received touched on multiple issue categories. In these cases, the comment was placed into the category where it seemed most appropriate. While these types of comments were not coded into multiple categories, the issue statements in Section 3.3 represent all of the comments relevant to that planning topic, regardless of the issue category where the comment was grouped. The BLM has developed the planning categories presented in Table 5 through review of all public scoping comments in addition to the planning issues identified in the BARNM RMP Preparation Plan as discussed in Section 3.3.

Table 5. Number of Comments by Planning Issue Category

Planning Issue Category	Number of Comments
Air Quality	3
Cave and Karst	7
Climate Change	20
Cultural Resources and Native American Concerns	28
Energy and Mineral Resources	8
Invasive Species	7
Lands and Realty	15
Livestock Grazing and Range Management	55
Noise	6
Recreation	122
Social and Economic	22
Special Management Areas	46
Travel and Transportation Management	40
Vegetation	27
Visitor Services, Health and Safety	29
Visual Resources	13
Water	8
Wild Horses	8

Table 5. Number of Comments by Planning Issue Category

Planning Issue Category	Number of Comments
Wildland Fire	6
Wildlife and Fish, including Special Status Species	32
Total Comments Identified	502

3.3 Issues Identified During Scoping

Planning issues are generally resource management problems, challenges, and opportunities that the BLM needs to address through the planning effort in order to ensure that the BLM is fulfilling its overarching management responsibilities. Issues may be identified by local, state, or national needs or may reflect conditions specific to the Monument. Issue identification is an ongoing process. Identified issues may change throughout the planning process as new concerns are identified and others are resolved.

The planning issues for the BARNM RMP are bounded by the Proclamation as well as other relevant federal laws and regulations. Several issues that commenters raised will not be addressed in the RMP because they are addressed by the Proclamation and are not within the BLM's authority. A copy of the Proclamation is provided in Appendix A, and a description of some of the key provisions of the Proclamation that define the BLM's legal responsibility with respect to the management of the Monument are described in Section 3.4.

Based on the Proclamation, preliminary issues were identified in the Preparation Plan for the RMP (January 2016). These early issues were identified by the BLM and other agencies at meetings, and/or were brought up by individuals and groups prior to scoping. These issues in addition to those identified through public scoping comments received by the BLM informed the development of the planning issues presented in this section. The BLM also developed two overarching planning approaches, which in concert with the planning issues, will drive the formulation of plan alternatives that the BLM will explore through the planning process. These planning approaches include:

1. *What decisions are necessary to protect the historical and cultural significance of these lands?* Collectively, this includes objects identified in the Proclamation, such as rock art, artifacts (worked bone, shell beads, projectile points), mining remains, and structures, caves, and art. The Proclamation also encapsulates the cultural traditions associated with the objects, including the Paleo-Indians from 13,000 years ago to the more recent miners, ranchers, and a modern artist, and their relationship to the land. The existing Ely District RMP identifies cultural resources, assesses their values, and initiates development of management strategies to meet the objectives for these resources. A Class I Inventory for the Monument is currently underway to augment this information.
2. *What decisions are necessary to protect and/or restore the unique and varied natural and scientific resources of these lands?* Collectively, this includes objects identified in the Proclamation, such as geologic resources (geology of the Basin and Range, caves, natural arches, cliffs/ridges), ecological resources (sagebrush communities, mixed desert scrublands), and the diverse wildlife occurring at BARNM, including numerous species of bats, Greater Sage-Grouse, and other sensitive species.

Based on scoping comments, the BLM developed the following planning issue statements, generally in the form of questions, which summarize the general issues and concerns identified during scoping. Issue statements are organized by planning issue category, and each category may have one or multiple issue statements based on the broad concerns raised by commenters. Beneath the main issue statements, additional questions provide detail about the types of issues raised in the scoping comments. Adjustments to the planning issues will continue to be made as needed during the planning process as the BLM receives additional input from the public and cooperating agencies.

3.3.1 Air Quality

- **How will the BLM manage activities occurring in the Monument to ensure they do not contribute to air quality-related impacts on human health or resource values?**
 - How will the BLM limit fugitive dust impacts associated with OHV racing?
 - What management activities should the BLM employ to ensure good air quality?

3.3.2 Cave and Karst

- **How will the BLM manage cave and karst resources that both protects the resources and provides recreational and scientific research opportunities?**
 - How will the BLM manage access to caves, and are there certain caves that warrant special management to protect them?
 - What recreational activities (e.g., climbing, hiking), interpretation, and research opportunities will be allowed in and around the caves in the Monument?

3.3.3 Climate Change

- **How will the BLM incorporate the effects of climate change into the management of the activities and land in the Monument?**
 - What management actions should the RMP include to address the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of climate change, to establish an adequate baseline to measure the effects, and to mitigate the effects?

3.3.4 Cultural Resources and Native American Concerns

- **How will the BLM manage and maintain the cultural and historic values of the Monument in a manner consistent with the Proclamation?**
 - How can traditional ranching and mining culture of the region be incorporated into the management of the Monument?
 - What areas need additional inventory and evaluation for archaeological, cultural, and historical resources and what type of management actions are needed to protect these resources associated with visitor use and other resource uses?
 - How should the RMP address the art installation *City*, which is located on a private inholding in the Monument, from a cultural heritage perspective? Is there a level of service and interpretation that should be provided on public land or developed using public resources that would facilitate visitation of *City*?

- How will the Monument's cultural and historical resources be presented to the public while not diminishing the integrity and experience of visiting the location, or have the setting be compromised by developed recreation, noise, and excess visitation?
- **What management actions are needed to ensure the continued use and access of sacred sites or locations of traditional cultural properties by present and future Native American generations?**

3.3.5 Energy and Mineral Resources

- **How will the BLM manage valid existing rights for energy and mineral resource development in the Monument?**
 - How will valid and existing rights for oil and gas and other mineral resources be addressed in the RMP? What types of decisions can the BLM make regarding valid existing mineral rights that are responsive to the conservation focus of the Monument while respecting legal rights of mineral lease and claim holders?
 - What management is needed for future development of valid existing mineral and energy rights to protect natural, biological, and cultural resources?

3.3.6 Invasive Species

- **What treatments and management actions are appropriate to control and prevent the spread of noxious weeds and invasive species?**
 - How will the BLM incorporate comprehensive weed and invasive species management planning into the RMP and what measures should be included to prevent, control, and remove weeds and invasive species?

3.3.7 Lands and Realty

- **What types of right-of-way authorizations may be allowed in the Monument and under what conditions?**
 - Should the RMP allow rights-of-way for water development projects, such as water pipelines, and renewable energy infrastructure, such as small-scale solar generation and associated power lines?
- **What criteria should be applied when considering acquisition of non-federal lands to be added to the Monument?**
- **How will the BLM manage access to private inholdings, including the art installation *City*, and ensure that private property rights are respected?**

3.3.8 Livestock Grazing

- **How will livestock grazing be managed and improvements maintained or constructed throughout the Monument in order to be sensitive to the needs of the livestock/agriculture industry, result in as little impact as possible to the Monument's resources, and be in compliance with grazing regulations and standards?**
 - Are there certain areas where livestock grazing is not compatible with resources in the Monument or areas where stocking levels or forage (animal unit months) should be reduced or authorized at only certain times of year? How will the BLM manage the renewal of grazing authorizations in the Monument after they expire?
 - How will the BLM manage lands toward meeting rangeland health standards using livestock grazing and range improvements as a tool?
 - How will the BLM address conflicts between livestock grazing and other resources and uses and associated impacts, including Monument objects, potential alteration of natural vegetation communities, weeds and invasive species management, conflicts with wildlife including Greater Sage-Grouse, recreation/grazing conflicts, riparian area management, climate change and desertification effects on rangeland, and socioeconomic impacts on permittees and nearby communities?

3.3.9 Noise

- **How should the BLM manage activities occurring on public land to protect areas for natural soundscape and quiet use?**
 - What criteria and standards should the BLM use to manage noise levels in consideration of wildlife resources and visitor experience?
 - Are there certain areas that should be prioritized to protect the natural soundscape and visitor experience?

3.3.10 Recreation

- **How will recreation opportunities be managed to allow for appropriate public use while maintaining resource values throughout the Monument?**
 - How will the BLM resolve conflict between increasing recreation demand, conflicts between recreation uses, and other resource values?
 - Are there certain areas in the Monument the BLM should manage with an emphasis on recreation through a recreation management area designation (Special Recreation Management Area or Extensive Recreation Management Area), and what type of management prescriptions should be applied to these areas?
 - How will the BLM manage the diversity of non-motorized and mechanized recreation uses that occur in the Monument, including hiking, camping, rock climbing, equestrian use, rock collecting, wildlife viewing, insect collection, hunting, fishing, and other activities? What types of developed recreational facilities and other services should be provided to support these uses?
 - How should the BLM administer existing Special Recreation Permits and under what conditions should new permits be authorized?

- **What type of management is needed to allow for sustainable use of OHV travel while maintaining the integrity of other resources in the Monument?**
 - How will the BLM identify and manage the appropriate use of roads and trails for motorized and mechanized travel?
 - What types of developed recreational facilities, signage, enforcement, and other services should be instituted to support OHV use in the Monument and encourage responsible stewardship of the land?
 - Under what conditions should the BLM authorize competitive racing events in the Monument?

3.3.11 Social and Economic

- **How will the BLM address the social and economic impacts of the decisions made regarding management of the Monument?**
 - How will the BLM incorporate socioeconomic considerations into the management of public land and resources in the Monument?
 - How will the RMP address the shift in the historical uses of public lands in the Monument from support of mining, oil and gas, grazing, and other resource uses to a more conservation and recreation-based emphasis and the impacts this will have on the social conditions and economy of the region?
 - How will the BLM evaluate and model the socioeconomic costs and benefits of resources and resource uses in the Monument, such as the nonmarket value of unimpaired wilderness and economic benefit of OHV racing, and incorporate these considerations into the management of the Monument?

3.3.12 Special Management Areas

- **What areas contain sensitive resources requiring special management and what, if any, special designations or other management prescriptions are appropriate to protect them?**
 - Lands with Wilderness Characteristics: Are there areas in the Monument that the BLM should manage to protect wilderness characteristics? What management should be applied to Lands with Wilderness Characteristics to protect these characteristics?
 - Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs): Should the BLM continue to manage the two existing ACECs, Shooting Gallery and Mount Irish, with special protections? Are there additional areas that contain sensitive resources that should be designated as ACECs?
 - Wilderness: How will the RMP address management of the Worthington Mountains Wilderness and are additional management prescriptions warranted?

3.3.13 Travel and Transportation Management

- **How will transportation and access be managed and maintained in the Monument?**
 - What areas will the public have access to within the Monument and which type of transportation options will be provided (paved road, gravel road, trails)?
 - How will the RMP address and manage the types of activities and vehicles allowed on trails and roads while maintaining the integrity of the landscape?
 - How will the RMP consider and address the impact of increased recreation, tourism, and traffic on roads and trails and what type of maintenance will be required?

3.3.14 Vegetation

- **How will the BLM conduct vegetation treatments and manage activities on public lands to protect, restore, and improve wildlife and sensitive plant habitat?**
 - How should the BLM go about identifying and managing for the appropriate mix of native vegetation types, structure, patch size, and composition across the Monument landscape? What type of data, such as BLM Rapid Ecoregional Assessments, and monitoring should the BLM rely on to accomplish this?
 - How will the BLM minimize impacts from resource uses on vegetation, including special status plant species?
 - What types of treatments are appropriate to improve habitat conditions and ecosystem health?
 - How will the BLM manage forest and woodland resources, including timber cutting?
 - How will the BLM protect and restore riparian and wetland areas?

3.3.15 Visitor Services, Health and Safety

- **What types of facilities and levels of service should be provided in the Monument to enhance visitor experience and maintain compatibility with Monument goals?**
 - How will the BLM manage conflicts between increased visitor use and resources and uses in the Monument?
 - What additional visitor facilities and services should the BLM develop and maintain in the Monument, such as trails, boundary markers, visitor service centers, restrooms, interpretive areas, signage, campgrounds, and public drinking water?
- **How will the BLM manage public land resources and visitor services to protect public health and safety in the Monument?**
 - Are there certain areas that pose elevated health and safety risk to the public that should be managed to mitigate the risk, such as abandoned mine lands?
 - How should the BLM incorporate emergency response planning in the RMP? What additional steps should the BLM, in concert with other stakeholders, take to improve safety, such as comprehensive cell phone coverage, more frequent BLM law enforcement patrols, and visitor registration?

3.3.16 Visual Resources

- **How will the BLM identify and manage visual resources in the Monument to protect existing viewsapes and aesthetic values?**
 - Should the BLM reclassify the existing Visual Resource Management classes to provide increased protections for visual resources based on a new inventory? Are there certain areas that should be prioritized to protect viewsapes and scenic vistas?
 - How will the BLM manage sources of light pollution and minimize impacts on dark night skies and nighttime vistas?

3.3.17 Water

- **How will the BLM manage public land and resources to ensure that surface and groundwater resources are of sufficient quality and quantity for public, wildlife, and other uses?**
 - What are the potential threats to water quality in the Monument and how should they be mitigated?
 - How will the RMP incorporate background water quality data, effective monitoring, and appropriate measures to limit water quality and quantity impacts?
 - How will the BLM balance competing demands for limited water resources between wildlife, livestock, human consumption, and other water uses?
- **Under what conditions should the BLM approve water resource development for beneficial use in the Monument, such as to enhance visitor experience and for livestock watering ponds?**

3.3.18 Wild Horses and Burros

- **Should the BLM continue to manage wild horses in the Monument and if so, what management actions should the RMP include to provide for the needs of wild horses, address conflicts with other resource uses, and ensure that wild horse herds are maintained at the appropriate management level?**
 - Should wild horses be managed in accordance with the BLM Ely RMP, or should separate management be identified for the Monument?
 - Are there other areas in the Monument, besides the Seaman Herd Management Area, that are appropriate for wild horses?
 - Should wild horses be removed entirely from the Monument or should the appropriate management level be lowered to set a management target for a reduced number of wild horses?

3.3.19 Wildland Fire

- **How will the BLM manage fire and fuels management in the Monument to protect public safety and property and for resource benefit?**

- How will the BLM incorporate prescribed and unplanned wildland fire in its overall approach of managing vegetation and wildlife habitat?
- How should the BLM manage post-fire rehabilitation? Are there certain resource uses that should be restricted or encouraged following a fire?

3.3.20 Wildlife and Fish, including Special Status Species

- **What management actions are needed to protect, improve, or restore terrestrial and aquatic habitats for fish, wildlife, and special status species?**
 - How should the BLM manage wildlife and fish habitat to reduce conflicts with resource uses including livestock grazing, recreation, and increased visitation in the Monument?
 - What type of proactive management should the BLM engage in to restore and improve wildlife habitat?
 - What areas, including wildlife corridors, should be prioritized for special management prescriptions?
 - How should habitat for Greater Sage-Grouse, migratory birds, and other special status species be managed in the Monument?

3.4 Issues that Will Not Be Addressed

The BLM received a number of comments that will not be addressed in the RMP because they address issues that are beyond the scope of the BARNM RMP or that would be handled through policy or administrative action. Provided below is a summary of some of the major issue themes that fall into these categories along with an explanation of why they will not be addressed.

Private Property Rights

- *The BLM received comments expressing concern over the potential infringement of private property rights in the Monument.* Decisions in the BARNM RMP apply only to public land and will be consistent with current law, regulations, and policy. The BLM will work with private landholders who voluntarily wish to pursue a conservation easement to identify an appropriate management strategy that is consistent with the surrounding public land.

Valid Existing Rights

- *Some commenters asked how valid existing rights would be maintained under the new RMP.* The Proclamation states the following in regards to valid existing rights: “The establishment of the monument is subject to valid existing rights.” All authorizations approved by the BLM prior to the designation of the Monument are valid and cannot be revoked or limited, provided they are in compliance with federal law.

Water Rights

- *Several commenters requested the RMP manage water in the BARNM RMP in accordance with valid existing rights.* The Proclamation states the following in regards to water rights: “This proclamation does not alter or affect the valid existing water rights of any party, including the United States. This proclamation does not reserve water as a matter of Federal law.” The

RMP will not address existing water rights as the BLM has no jurisdiction to alter or affect water rights.

Rights-of-Way

- *The BLM received comments inquiring about the types of rights-of-way authorizations that would be permitted in the Monument.* The Proclamation states the following in regards to right-of-way authorizations: “Except as necessary for the care and management of the objects identified above or for the purpose of permitted livestock grazing, no new rights-of-way for electric transmission or transportation shall be authorized within the monument. Other rights-of-way may be authorized only if consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above.” The RMP will not address electric transmission or transportation rights-of-way but will address the authorization and management of other rights-of-way.

Land Disposal and Mineral and Energy Resources

- *The BLM received comments regarding disposal of certain parcels of land in the Monument.* The Proclamation states the following in regards to disposal: “All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument.” Therefore, the BLM is prohibited under the Proclamation from disposing of public land in the Monument.
- *The BLM received comments suggesting that land within the Monument remain open to hardrock mineral and oil and gas exploration and development.* While the RMP will address mineral development activity authorized under valid existing mining claims and fluid mineral leases, the Proclamation has withdrawn public lands in the Monument from further locatable mineral entry and mineral leasing.

Livestock Grazing

- *Commenters suggested the BLM develop additional standards for managing livestock grazing in the Monument.* The Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management apply to all BLM-administered lands in Nevada, including lands within the Monument. The Proclamation affirms that “Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to affect authorizations for livestock grazing, or administration thereof, on Federal lands within the monument. Livestock grazing within the monument shall continue to be governed by laws and regulations other than this proclamation.” Therefore standards for managing livestock grazing in the Monument will be governed by existing regulations.
- *Commenters suggested that certain restoration plans and remedial action be required if livestock grazing is found to be a contributing factor in not meeting a rangeland health standard.* Circumstances of not meeting Standards for Rangeland Health, such as not meeting Standard 5 associated with wildlife habitat, would be addressed through existing regulations and practices. The BLM would prepare implementation-level plans specifically directed at achieving the standards which would normally include monitoring as well as necessary adjustments to address the issue.

Travel and Transportation Management

- *The BLM received comments requesting travel management planning be conducted as part of this RMP.* Travel management planning is considered an implementation-level decision and will be conducted after the RMP planning process has concluded.
- *The BLM received comments requesting new roads be developed and off-road travel be authorized in the Monument.* The Proclamation states: “Except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, motorized vehicle use in the monument shall be permitted only on roads existing as of the date of this proclamation. Non-motorized mechanized vehicle use shall be permitted only on roads and trails designated for their use consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above. The Secretary shall prepare a transportation plan that designates the roads and trails where motorized or non-motorized mechanized vehicle use will be permitted.” Therefore, no new roads may be developed in the Monument and off-road travel is prohibited.

Plan Level vs Implementation Level Decisions

- *The BLM received comments requesting that it undertake site-specific projects or decisions that are appropriately made during the implementation of the plan rather than in the plan itself.* Decisions in RMPs are foundational, providing overarching guidance for future site-specific and resource-specific implementation decisions. Implementation decisions, which take place after the completion of the RMP, generally constitute the BLM’s final approval allowing on-the-ground actions to proceed. These types of decisions will require additional appropriate site-specific planning, which will provide additional opportunities for public input. Examples of this include authorizations for specific livestock grazing range improvements and development of interpretive signage.

3.5 Anticipated Decisions to be Made

This scoping report does not make any decisions, nor does it change the current management direction set forth in the existing RMP. It merely summarizes those issues identified during the scoping period for the RMP. Issues identified in the scoping report, as well as subsequently identified issues, will be used by the BLM to help formulate a reasonable range of alternatives during the next phase (i.e., alternative formulation) of the RMP process. Each identified alternative will represent a complete and reasonable plan for managing BLM-administered lands in the Monument, which will be developed using a landscape-level approach. The BLM’s evaluation of identified alternatives will be documented in an EIS prepared as part of the RMP process. The BLM will document its decision selecting an RMP for the Monument in a Record of Decision.

The BARNM RMP will be comprehensive in nature and will set forth how the BLM will manage public lands in the Monument in accordance with the Proclamation, FLPMA, and other applicable laws and regulations. The RMP will also tier to or incorporate by reference the land-use decisions in the existing 2008 Ely RMP, as amended by the 2015 Greater Sage-Grouse Approved RMP Amendment. The RMP for BARNM will provide clarification on specific management needs not addressed in either guiding document.

Future decisions regarding management of the Monument will occur at two levels: the RMP (or land use planning) level and the implementation level. In general, only RMP-level decisions will be made as part of this RMP process. RMP-level decisions are made on a broad scale and identify management direction

and guide future actions within the Monument. An example of an RMP-level decision is the designation of an ACEC. Implementation-level decisions, often characterized as project level or activity level decisions, represent the BLM's final approval of on-the-ground actions. These decisions require a more detailed, site-specific analysis than what will be provided in the EIS prepared for the RMP. An example of an implementation-level decision is the development and management of visitor center. The RMP-level decisions that will be made in the BARNM RMP will establish desired outcomes for the management of public land resources along with the management prescriptions needed to achieve these outcomes. These management prescriptions are expressed as management actions and allowable uses (i.e., lands that are open or available for certain uses [including any applicable restrictions] and lands that are closed to certain uses).

3.6 Valid Existing Management to be Carried Forward

The BARNM RMP will address and integrate, to the degree possible, all BLM management plans related to management of the lands in the Monument including, but not limited to, the 2008 Ely RMP, as amended by the 2015 Greater Sage-Grouse Approved RMP Amendment, the 2011 Worthington Mountains Wilderness and Weepah Spring Wilderness Management Plan, fire management plans, livestock grazing allotment management plans and watershed plans, wildlife habitat management plans, cultural resource management plans, and recreation management plans.

The BLM will review existing resources and resource use conditions and the existing management situation to identify which existing decisions should be carried forward and where there is an opportunity to modify existing direction or develop new management guidance. This review is documented in the BLM's Analysis of Management Situation for the BARNM RMP.

3.7 Special Designations, Nominations, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

The BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (H-1601-1; BLM 2005b) requires that application of the following administrative decisions be considered when developing an RMP: ACECs, National Historic Trails, scenic or back country byways, Special Recreation Management Areas, wild and scenic rivers, and Wilderness Study Areas.

Special Designations

The special designations section of the RMP will include a discussion of currently designated areas within the Monument including the Worthington Mountains Wilderness, the Shooting Gallery ACEC, and the Mount Irish ACEC. Through this RMP process the BLM will determine if special management is still warranted for the two ACECs and whether special management considerations are needed for the Worthington Mountains Wilderness.

Nominations

The RMP will also determine if new special management areas should be designated within the Monument. Based on scoping comments, the BLM will consider the suggestions to designate ACECs for the protection of specific wildlife habitat values and connectivity corridors. No new ACEC nominations were received during the scoping period.

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

Although Lands with Wilderness Characteristics are not an administrative designation, the BLM will also review the Citizen Inventory for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (Citizen Inventory) compiled by

The Wilderness Society in their scoping comments. The Wilderness Society's Citizen Inventory provided summaries of seven units which met the "Minimum Standards for Review of New Information" in accordance with BLM Manual 6310, Conducting Wilderness Characteristics Inventory on BLM Lands. During the RMP process, the BLM will determine if the seven units identified as qualifying units warrant special management to preserve their wilderness characteristics. The units include:

- Gate Peak
- Mist Peak
- Garden Island
- Cherry Peak
- Golden Island
- Fossil Peak
- Seaman Range

The Wilderness Society Citizen Inventory also identified an additional eight units with potential wilderness characteristics that are located within or adjacent to the Monument. Preliminary maps of these units were included in the Wilderness Society's scoping comment letter. The Wilderness Society also indicated in its scoping comment letter that the Citizen Inventory of these units is ongoing and supporting information in the form of detailed narratives describing the wilderness characters present in the unit and photographic documentation will be compiled and submitted to the BLM at a future date. The eight additional units identified as having potential wilderness characteristics include:

- Oreana Spring
- Mount Irish Range East
- Golden Gate Range
- The Seeps
- Pahrnagat Range
- Mount Irish Massif/Sanderson Mountain
- North Pahroc Hills
- McCutcheon Spring

The BLM will accept and review additional supporting information regarding these eight units and any others identified during the RMP process by citizen inventory efforts. The BLM recommends that additional inventory information should be submitted as public input prior to the development of the RMP draft preliminary alternatives in order to receive timely consideration.

4.0 DRAFT PLANNING CRITERIA

The BLM land use planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-1) require that the BLM “shall prepare criteria to guide development of the resource management plan or revision, to ensure that it is tailored to the issues previously identified and to ensure that unnecessary data collection and analysis are avoided.” BLM Handbook 1601-1 indicates that planning criteria guide development of the plan by helping to define the planning effort decision space (sometimes called “sideboards”). Planning criteria are generally based upon applicable laws, guidance from the BLM Director or pertinent State Director, and the results of public and governmental participation. The BLM has identified the following preliminary planning criteria for this RMP:

- The BLM will manage BLM-administered lands in the Monument to protect objects and values in accordance with the designating Proclamation, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, FLPMA, and other applicable laws and regulations.
- The RMP will recognize valid existing rights within the Monument.
- Lands covered under the RMP will be public lands administered by the BLM within the BARNM boundary. Decisions made in the RMP will apply exclusively to BLM-administered public lands.
- The BLM will apply a collaborative approach and a multi-jurisdictional approach, when applicable and practical, to determine the desired future conditions for BARNM.
- As practicable, the BLM will strive to make land use plan decisions compatible with existing plans and policies of adjacent local, state, federal, and tribal agencies.
- The BLM will defer preparation of a detailed, implementation-level Transportation and Travel Plan to a future date after the RMP completion.
- The BLM will conduct Native American Tribal consultations in accordance with policy, and tribal concerns will be given due consideration.
- Monitoring of Cultural and Ecological Values (Monument objects) and Adaptive Management will be incorporated into the RMP. Adaptive Management will be applied for implementation of the RMP, with thresholds and triggers indicated where applicable.
- The BLM will review the existing ACECs to determine if they continue to contain relevant and important values and if special management still may be needed to maintain these values under the status as a National Monument. The public will be invited and engaged to provide input on the evaluation of ACECs.
- The BLM will follow procedures for ePlanning and integrate as best possible the emerging process under Planning 2.0.
- The BLM will incorporate a landscape-level approach in this planning effort.
- The BLM will conduct a Class I Cultural Resource Inventory of the Monument.
- The BLM will prepare a historic context for the evaluation of cultural resources identified in the Monument.

5.0 DATA SUMMARY/DATA GAPS

The BLM Ely District staff identified a preliminary list of data and Geographic Information System (GIS) needs required to address resource and use issues and develop and analyze impacts of plan alternatives. This list is included in Appendix B of the BARNM RMP and EIS Preparation Plan and is available on request.

In many cases, existing resource information is available and will be used in preparation of the RMP. However, some data need to be updated, compiled, and converted into digital format for use in the planning process. Data manipulation and GIS work will be required to address issues, formulate alternatives, and conduct impact analysis for this RMP. Other data adequacy needs will be driven as particular issues may arise (e.g., wildlife, wild horses and burros, lands and realty).

Based on the information collected during scoping and the preparation of the Analysis of Management Situation, the BLM will update the preliminary data list to capture any additional data needs. The BLM will continue to collect and update data as needed throughout the RMP and EIS process.

6.0 SUMMARY OF FUTURE STEPS IN THE PROCESS

The next step in the BLM's planning process is to develop draft management alternatives, goals, and objectives. The BLM will consider the comments submitted during scoping and the issues identified in this scoping report to develop a range of RMP alternatives in partnership with cooperating agencies. Alternatives will be responsive to the planning issues identified in this report and will achieve the planning process goals and objectives. Draft alternatives will be made available to cooperating agencies and the public for comment. Based on input received, the alternatives may be changed or a new alternative developed.

Following the development of the alternatives, the BLM will perform an analysis of all the alternatives and will select its preferred alternative. The preferred alternative is often made up of a combination of management option components from the various alternatives to provide the best mix and balance of multiple land and resource uses to resolve the planning issues. After the alternatives are analyzed and the EIS is assembled, the Draft RMP and EIS will be released.

The Draft RMP and EIS will be made available via the RMP project website (see Section 2.1). The availability of the Draft RMP and EIS will be announced in a Federal Register Notice of Availability and a 90-day public comment period will follow. Public meetings will be held during the 90-day comment period on the Draft RMP and EIS. Publication of the Draft RMP and EIS is anticipated in the summer of 2017.

At the conclusion of the Draft RMP and EIS public comment period, the Draft RMP and EIS will be revised based on comments. After changes are made, a Proposed RMP and Final EIS will be published. The availability of the proposed document will be announced in the Federal Register, and a 30-day public protest period will follow regarding the proposed planning-level decisions (43 CFR Part 1610.5.2). If necessary, a notice will be published in the Federal Register requesting comments on significant changes made as a result of protest. Concurrently, the Governor of Nevada will review the document for consistency with approved state and local plans, policies, and programs.

The BLM will address any public protests or inconsistencies identified by the Governor and will publish a Record of Decision and Approved RMP. A Federal Register notice will be published to announce the Record of Decision and Approved RMP. Publication of the Record of Decision and Approved RMP is anticipated in the winter of 2018.

7.0 BLM CONTACT INFORMATION

The public is invited and encouraged to participate throughout the planning process for the BARNM RMP and EIS. The public can review the progress of the RMP and EIS at the project website (see Section 2.1), which will be updated with information, documents, and announcements throughout the duration of the RMP and EIS preparation.

For additional information on the planning process, to be added or removed from the mailing list, or to submit a comment on the RMP, please use the following contact information:

Mail:

Basin and Range National Monument
PO Box 237
Caliente, NV 89008
Attn: Alicia Styles, Monument Manager

Phone:

(775) 726-8100

Fax:

(775) 726-8111

Email:

blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov

***Basin and Range National Monument RMP and EIS
Scoping Report***

Appendix A

Presidential Proclamation

APPENDIX A

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION

This page intentionally left blank.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 10, 2015

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BASIN AND RANGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

The Basin and Range area of southeastern Nevada is an iconic American landscape. The area is one of the most undisturbed corners of the broader Great Basin region, which extends from the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the west to the Colorado Plateau in the east. The pattern of basin, fault, and range that characterizes this region creates a dramatic topography that has inspired inhabitants for thousands of years. The vast, rugged landscape redefines our notions of distance and space and brings into sharp focus the will and resolve of the people who have lived here. The unbroken expanse is an invaluable treasure for our Nation and will continue to serve as an irreplaceable resource for archaeologists, historians, and ecologists for generations to come.

Over both geologic and historical time, the Basin and Range area has been a landscape in motion. The area exemplifies the unique topography and geologic history of the Great Basin region and has long been the subject of studies of the tectonic and volcanic mechanisms responsible for this landscape, including crustal extension, deformation, and rifting. The thrust and fault block formations found here, along with the area's stratigraphy, have been instrumental in understanding the nearly 500 million-year history of the region. Among the geologic features found in the Basin and Range area are natural arches, caves, and sheer cliffs that offer stunning vistas. Evidence of the Alamo bolide impact, a high-velocity impact from space about 367 million years ago, can also be found here.

Volcanism and magmatism in this area during the Tertiary period contributed to the formation of numerous mountain ranges that interrupt the area's basins. The Golden Gate Range runs north-south through the center of the Basin and Range area, separating Garden Valley in the west from Coal Valley in the east. The range's block-faulted mountains are split by alluvial gaps carved by water from the valleys' now-dry lake beds. The Mount Irish Range in the southern portion of the area is topped by the steep and rugged 8,743-foot Mount Irish. The Worthington Mountains in the southwest corner of the Basin and Range area are composed of sheer limestone ridges reaching an elevation of 8,850 feet. These mountains were formed by thrust faults and contain at least three known caves, including the Leviathan Cave, which features stalactites, stalagmites, flow stones, soda straws, a cave shield, and rim pools. Data collected from these cave formations has contributed to research of the area's prehistoric climate.

The Basin and Range area spans the transition between the Mojave Desert and the sagebrush steppe of the Great Basin region. The area is one of the largest ecologically intact landscapes in the Great Basin region, providing habitat connectivity and migration corridors for a wide variety of animal species and affording researchers the ability to conduct studies over broad scales. At lower elevations, alluvial fans provide a home for sagebrush communities and mixed desert scrublands, where visitors can see big sagebrush, black sagebrush, little sagebrush, yellow rabbitbrush, saltbush, and mormon tea. Among the herbaceous species here are Indian ricegrass, Sandberg bluegrass, needlegrass, and needle and thread. Pockets of native grasslands can be found in Coal Valley, and the Basin and Range area is home to the endemic White River catseye. A more arid ecosystem can also be found in some of the lowest elevations, where cholla, spiny star, Engelmann's hedgehog cactus, Mojave kingcup cactus, tulip pricklypear, grizzlybear pricklypear, Blaine fishhook cactus, and other cactus species dominate. At middle elevations, sagebrush gives way to singleleaf pinyon, Utah juniper, curl-leaf mountain mahogany, quaking aspen, and other conifers, along with Idaho fescue and bluebunch wheatgrass. At higher elevations, ponderosa and limber pines become more common. Bristlecone pines over 2,000 years old stand sentinel in the high peaks of the Worthington Mountains.

The area provides important habitat for game species including desert bighorn sheep, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, and pronghorn. Other mammal species, including mountain lion, bobcat, kit fox, cottontail rabbit, pygmy rabbit, black-tailed jackrabbit, pale kangaroo mouse, and dark kangaroo mouse, also make their homes here. Many bat species reside in the Basin and Range area's caves and use its lowlands for foraging. The area provides habitat for lizards such as the greater short-horned lizard, desert spiny lizard, yellow-backed spiny lizard, Great Basin collared lizard, common zebra-tailed lizard, long-nosed leopard lizard, Great Basin fence lizard, northern sagebrush lizard, common side-blotched lizard, desert horned lizard, Great Basin skink, and Great Basin whiptail, and likely habitat for gila monsters. Snakes including the desert nightsnake, Great Basin rattlesnake, long-nosed snake, Sonoran mountain kingsnake, striped whipsnake, ringneck snake, gopher snake, and western terrestrial garter snake also make their home in this area. Great Basin spadefoot toads, western toads, and Baja California treefrogs can also be found in the area.

A number of bird species grace the landscape. These include game species such as the chukar, Gambel's quail, and a variety of dove and pigeon species. The dry basins provide habitat for sage thrasher, Brewer's sparrow, and western burrowing owl. Numerous bird species inhabit the Worthington Mountains, including pinyon jay, Clark's nutcracker, mountain bluebird, loggerhead shrike, and green-tailed towhee, along with raptors including golden eagles, Cooper's hawks, and ferruginous hawks.

The land tells the story of a rich cultural tradition. From the earliest human inhabitants 13,000 years ago, to miners and ranchers in the past century and a half, to a modern artist in recent decades, the area's residents have created and maintain notable legacies. The earliest Paleo-Indian

inhabitants of the Basin and Range area exploited food sources along the shores of now-dry lakes. These nomadic people left important traces of their presence, including a rare obsidian Clovis point in the Coal Valley Water Gap and a succession of significant campsites and artifacts around the prehistoric Coal Valley Lake.

Starting about 8,000 years ago, a drier, warmer climate forced inhabitants to move beyond the lake beds to take advantage of the rock shelters, caves, and springs that dot the landscape. These people, from the Desert Archaic to the Fremont people about 1,500 years ago, to ancestors of the Western Shoshone and Southern Paiute Tribes about 1,000 years ago, used the land in accordance with seasonal changes in foraging and hunting resources. Similar to their Paleo-Indian predecessors, these cultural groups lacked intensive settlements in this area but left a rich archaeological record, including the excavated Civa Shelter II in the Golden Gate Range. Occupied first by the Fremont people about 1,400 years ago, the cave was later intermittently used by the Shoshone, who left a diverse set of artifacts, including worked bone, shell beads, seed processing equipment, animal remains, clay stockpiles, and over 100 projectile points, suggesting pronounced and extended use for hunting, gathering, and pottery making.

In the south and southeastern reaches of the Basin and Range area, early humans' stories are told at numerous petroglyph sites, including rock art in the White River Narrows Historic District, Mount Irish Archaeological Area, and the Shooting Gallery rock art site. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the White River Narrows Archaeological District represents one of the largest concentrations of prehistoric rock art in eastern Nevada and includes panels dating back 4,000 years and contains the northernmost known examples of the Pahrnagat style of rock art. Both the Mount Irish Archaeological Site and the Shooting Gallery area are well known for bighorn sheep motifs, among other styles of rock art. Additionally, the rock features of the Shooting Gallery area may have been used by early inhabitants as hunting blinds. Much of the Basin and Range area has not been comprehensively studied for archaeological resources, though recent surveys suggest that additional resources may be found across the area. Protection of the area will therefore provide important opportunities for archaeologists and historians to further study and understand the evolving relationship between this unique landscape and its human inhabitants.

The Basin and Range area was mostly unknown to European-Americans until the 1820s, when explorers and fur trappers first visited, including Jedediah Smith, part-owner of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company and arguably the most famous of the "Mountain Men." Mormon settlers came to the area in the mid-19th century. About the same time, the explorer, politician, and military officer John C. Frémont traversed this area while surveying for a transcontinental railroad. Mining began in the area in the 1860s when, reportedly, Native Americans escorted prospectors out to ore veins in outcroppings in the north end of the Worthington Mountains. Here the miners established what was originally called the Worthington Mining District, and subsequently renamed the Freiberg Mining District. The silver, lead, zinc, copper, and tungsten deposits found

there supported modest historical production. Head frames, mining cabins, and other structures associated with the region's mining history can be found in the Mount Irish area. Explorer and conservationist John Muir reported that he holed up in a canyon in the Golden Gate Range for a week in 1878. During the late 19th century, Basque and other ranchers brought sheep and cattle ranching into Garden Valley, and ranching remains to this day.

The location of a recent work of land art in the Basin and Range area reflects the rugged landscape and confirms its importance as a unique geologic area. The artist Michael Heizer chose the area for his work *City*, begun in 1972 and now nearing completion. Sitting on privately-held land in Garden Valley, *City* is one of the most ambitious examples of the distinctively American land art movement. Built into and out of the vast undeveloped expanse of Garden Valley, the work combines modern abstract architecture and engineering with ancient American aesthetic influences on a monumental scale, roughly the size of the National Mall, and evokes the architectural forms of ancient Mesoamerican ceremonial cities like Teotihuacán and Chichén Itzá. The presence of *City* in this stark and silent landscape provides the visitor a distinctive lens through which to experience and interact with Garden Valley.

The protection of the Basin and Range area will preserve its cultural, prehistoric, and historic legacy and maintain its diverse array of natural and scientific resources, ensuring that the prehistoric, historic, and scientific values of this area remain for the benefit of all Americans.

WHEREAS, section 320301 of title 54, United States Code (known as the "Antiquities Act"), authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be national monuments, and to reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected;

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to preserve the objects of scientific and historic interest on the Basin and Range lands;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 320301 of title 54, United States Code, hereby proclaim the objects identified above that are situated upon lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be the Basin and Range National Monument (monument) and, for the purpose of protecting those objects, reserve as part thereof all lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the Federal Government within the boundaries described on the accompanying map, which is attached to and forms a part of this proclamation. These reserved Federal lands and interests in lands encompass approximately 704,000 acres. The boundaries described on the accompanying map are confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of the monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, or other disposition under the public land laws, from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing, other than by exchange that furthers the protective purposes of the monument.

The establishment of the monument is subject to valid existing rights. If the Federal Government acquires any lands or interests in lands not owned or controlled by the Federal Government within the boundaries described on the accompanying map, such lands and interests in lands shall be reserved as a part of the monument, and objects identified above that are situated upon those lands and interests in lands shall be part of the monument, upon acquisition of ownership or control by the Federal Government.

The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) shall manage the monument through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as a unit of the National Landscape Conservation System, pursuant to applicable legal authorities to protect the objects identified above.

For purposes of the care and management of the objects identified above, the Secretary, through BLM, shall within 3 years of the date of this proclamation prepare and maintain a management plan for the monument and shall provide for maximum public involvement in the development of that plan including, but not limited to, consultation with State, tribal, and local governments.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to limit the authority of the Secretary, under applicable law other than this proclamation, to undertake or authorize activities on public land in the vicinity of the sculpture City for the purpose of preventing harm to the artwork, including activities to improve drainage and to prevent erosion, consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above. The management plan for the monument shall provide for reasonable use of existing roads within the monument to facilitate public access to City.

Except for emergency or authorized administrative purposes, motorized vehicle use in the monument shall be permitted only on roads existing as of the date of this proclamation. Non-motorized mechanized vehicle use shall be permitted only on roads and trails designated for their use consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above. The Secretary shall prepare a transportation plan that designates the roads and trails where motorized or non-motorized mechanized vehicle use will be permitted.

Except as necessary for the care and management of the objects identified above or for the purpose of permitted livestock grazing, no new rights-of-way for electric transmission or transportation shall be authorized within the monument. Other rights-of-way may be authorized only if consistent with the care and management of the objects identified above.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the rights of any Indian tribe. The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent permitted by law and in consultation with Indian tribes, ensure the protection of Indian sacred sites and cultural sites in the monument and provide access to the sites by members of Indian tribes for traditional cultural and customary uses, consistent with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C. 1996) and Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 (Indian Sacred Sites).

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to affect authorizations for livestock grazing, or administration thereof, on Federal lands within the monument. Livestock grazing within the monument shall continue to be governed by laws and regulations other than this proclamation.

This proclamation does not alter or affect the valid existing water rights of any party, including the United States. This proclamation does not reserve water as a matter of Federal law.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to enlarge or diminish the jurisdiction of the State of Nevada, including its jurisdiction and authority with respect to fish and wildlife management.

Nothing in this proclamation shall preclude low-level overflights of military aircraft, the designation of new units of special use airspace, or the use or establishment of military flight training routes over the lands reserved by this proclamation. Nothing in this proclamation shall preclude air or ground access for: (i) emergency response; (ii) existing or new electronic tracking and communications; (iii) landing and drop zones; and (iv) readiness training by Air Force, Joint, and Coalition forces, including training using motorized vehicles both on- and off-road, in accordance with applicable interagency agreements. Nothing in this proclamation shall preclude the Secretary of Defense from entering into new or renewed agreements with the Secretary of the Interior concerning these uses, consistent with the care and management of the objects to be protected.

Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation; however, the monument shall be the dominant reservation.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of the monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fortieth.

BARACK OBAMA

#

Basin and Range National Monument RMP and EIS
Scoping Report

Appendix B

Scoping Notifications

APPENDIX B

SCOPING NOTIFICATIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Notice of Intent.....	B-1
News Releases.....	B-3

This page intentionally left blank.

NOTICE OF INTENT



Federal Register / Vol. 81, No. 105 / Wednesday, June 1, 2016 / Notices

35043

to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM RAC Coordinator listed above.

Dated: May 24, 2016.

Bud C. Cribley,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 2016-12865 Filed 5-31-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVL05000.L17110000.D00000.
LXSSF2300000 MO# 4500090967]

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Resource Management Plan for Basin and Range National Monument, Nevada, and an Associated Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District Office, Ely, Nevada intends to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) with an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues. The new, stand-alone RMP will tier to and may incorporate by reference portions of the existing Ely District Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (2008), as amended by the Greater Sage-Grouse Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment signed in 2015.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process for the RMP with associated EIS. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until July 1, 2016. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/nlcs_new/Basin_and_Range_National_Monument.htm.

In order to be included in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received

prior to the close of the 30-day scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. Additional opportunities for public participation will be provided for upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to Basin and Range National Monument Resource Management Plan and associated Environmental Impact Statement by any of the following methods:

- **Email:** blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov
- **Fax:** 775-726-8111
- **Mail:** BLM Basin and Range National Monument, PO Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Basin and Range National Monument Office, located at BLM Caliente Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alicia Styles, Monument Manager; telephone: 775-726-8100; address: P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008; email: blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov. Contact Ms. Styles to add your name to our mailing list. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document provides notice that the BLM District Office, Ely, Nevada, intends to prepare an RMP with an associated EIS for the Basin and Range National Monument, announces the beginning of the scoping process, and seeks public input on issues and planning criteria. The planning area is located in Lincoln and Nye Counties, Nevada and encompasses approximately 704,000 acres of public land.

As the Proclamation indicates, the President established the Monument to "preserve its cultural, prehistoric, and historic legacy and maintain its diverse array of natural and scientific resources, ensuring that the prehistoric, historic and scientific values of this area remain for the benefit of all Americans." The Proclamation further states: "For purposes of the care and management of the objects identified above, the Secretary, through BLM, shall, within 3 years of the date of this proclamation prepare and maintain a management plan for the monument and shall provide for maximum public involvement in the development of that plan including, but not limited to,

consultation with State, tribal, and local governments."

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the planning process. A number of preliminary issues for the planning area have been identified by BLM personnel; Federal, State, and local agencies; and other stakeholders. The issues include: Cultural and historic resources; tribal use; vegetation resources; wild horse and burros; social and economic values; climate change; special areas (Worthington Mountains Wilderness, Shooting Gallery Area of Environmental Concern (ACEC), and Mt. Irish ACEC); visual resources; lands and reality; outdoor recreation; livestock grazing; minerals; paleontological resources; research; wildland fire; and military uses. Preliminary planning criteria will conform to 43 CFR 1610.4-2.

You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria in writing to the BLM at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them to the BLM using one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above. To be most helpful, you should submit comments by the close of the 30-day scoping period or within 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. The BLM will evaluate identified issues to be addressed in the plan, and will place them into one of three categories:

1. Issues to be resolved in the plan;
2. Issues to be resolved through policy or administrative action; or
3. Issues beyond the scope of this plan.

The BLM will provide an explanation in the Draft RMP/Draft EIS as to why an issue was placed in category two or three. The public is also encouraged to help identify any management questions and concerns that should be addressed in the plan. The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns.

The BLM will utilize and coordinate NEPA scoping process to help fulfil the

35044

Federal Register / Vol. 81, No. 105 / Wednesday, June 1, 2016 / Notices

public involvement process under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. 470(f)) pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). The information about historic and cultural resources within the area potentially affected by the proposed action will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources.

The BLM will consult with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175 and other policies. Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets and potential impacts to cultural resources, will be given due consideration. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with tribes and other stakeholders that may be interested in or affected by the proposed action that the BLM is evaluating, are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request or be requested by the BLM to participate in the development of the environmental analysis as a cooperating agency.

The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the plan in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Specialists with expertise in the following disciplines will be involved in the planning process: archaeology, paleontology, outdoor recreation, wildlife and fisheries, rangeland management, lands and realty, hydrology, soils, minerals and geology, sociology and economics, wildland fire, and public affairs.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7, 43 CFR 1610.2.

John F. Ruhs,
State Director, Nevada.

[FR Doc. 2016–12938 Filed 5–31–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–HC–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–WASO–NAGPRA–21131;
PPWOCRADNO–PCU00RP14.R50000]

Notice of Inventory Completion: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Chinle, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Canyon de Chelly National Monument has completed an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects, in consultation with the appropriate Indian tribes or Native Hawaiian

organizations, and has determined that there is a cultural affiliation between the human remains and associated funerary objects and present-day Indian tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations. Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to request transfer of control of these human remains and associated funerary objects should submit a written request to Canyon de Chelly National Monument. If no additional requestors come forward, transfer of control of the human remains and associated funerary objects to the lineal descendants, Indian tribes, or Native Hawaiian organizations stated in this notice may proceed.

DATES: Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to request transfer of control of these human remains and associated funerary objects should submit a written request with information in support of the request to Canyon de Chelly National Monument at the address in this notice by July 1, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Lyn Carranza, Superintendent, Canyon de Chelly National Monument, P.O. Box 588, Chinle, AZ 86503, telephone (928) 674–5500 ext. 224, email lyn_carranza@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is here given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects under the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Chinle, AZ. The human remains and associated funerary objects were removed from sites in Apache County, AZ.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the Superintendent, Canyon de Chelly National Monument.

Consultation

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by Canyon de Chelly National Monument professional staff in consultation with representatives of the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma; Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Arizona; Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma; Hopi Tribe of Arizona; Jicarilla Apache Nation, New Mexico; Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation, Arizona; Mescalero Apache

Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation, New Mexico; Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah; Pueblo of Acoma, New Mexico; Pueblo of Jemez, New Mexico; Pueblo of Laguna, New Mexico; Pueblo of Nambe, New Mexico; Pueblo of Pojoaque, New Mexico; Pueblo of San Ildefonso, New Mexico; Pueblo of Santa Ana, New Mexico; Pueblo of Santa Clara, New Mexico; Pueblo of Taos, New Mexico; Pueblo of Tesuque, New Mexico; San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation, Arizona; Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation, Colorado; Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (previously listed as the Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation, Colorado, New Mexico & Utah); White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona; Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation, Arizona; and Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation, New Mexico (hereafter referred to as “The Consulted Tribes”).

The following tribes were invited to consult but did not participate in the face-to-face consultation meeting: Kewa Pueblo, New Mexico (previously listed as the Pueblo of Santo Domingo); Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico (previously listed as the Pueblo of San Juan); Pueblo of Cochiti, New Mexico; Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico; Pueblo of Picuris, New Mexico; Pueblo of San Felipe, New Mexico; Pueblo of Sandia, New Mexico; Pueblo of Zia, New Mexico (hereafter referred to as “The Invited Tribes”).

History and Description of the Remains

Canyon de Chelly National Monument was established in 1931 on lands that were then, and continue to be, held in trust by the United States for the Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah. Removal of human remains and associated funerary objects from lands within the monument boundary after October 31, 1979, was done with the prior consent of the Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah, as required by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

At an unknown date, human remains representing, at minimum, one individual were removed from Big Cave in Apache County, AZ, by David DeHarport working on behalf of the Museum of Northern Arizona. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

Between 1924 and 1970, human remains representing, at minimum, three individuals were removed from Big Cave in Apache County, AZ, by unknown persons. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects are present.

NEWS RELEASES

ELY: BLM Seeks Public Input on Management Plan

Page 1 of 1



Release Date: 06/01/16

Contacts: Chris Hanefeld, 775-289-1842, chanefel@blm.gov

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS RELEASE
Ely District Office

News Release No. 2016-27

BLM Seeks Public Input on Management Plan for Basin and Range National Monument

Ely, Nev. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District today announced the start of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) process for the Basin and Range National Monument and is inviting the public to participate in this important planning effort. The RMP and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under development will serve as a roadmap to guide the management of lands within the monument. The published Federal Register Notice of Intent is available at <http://1.usa.gov/105EiqF>.

A resource management plan is a blueprint explaining how the BLM will manage areas of public lands over a period of time—in this case 20 to 30 years. RMPs are developed using a collaborative approach and robust public participation is a key component in the planning process.

The RMP will focus on about 704,000 acres in Lincoln and Nye Counties, designated by Presidential Proclamation in July 2015 as the Basin and Range National Monument. The monument contains extraordinary geological, cultural and natural resources, including unique areas like the White River narrows and the Shooting Gallery rock art site. The proclamation also directed the BLM to complete a RMP and associated EIS within three years of designation.

Public participation in the Basin and Range RMP effort will start with a 30-day public scoping period, which begins tomorrow and runs through July 1, 2016. The purpose of the public scoping period is to give anyone interested an opportunity to help the BLM identify issues and concerns that should be analyzed in the plan and EIS.

The BLM is seeking public input on a wide range of potential issues, including but not limited to traditional uses, cultural and visual resources management, and outdoor recreation. Commenters may also bring forward additional issues and concerns not already identified by the BLM.

Written comments will be accepted at public scoping meetings that will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers, and the Basin and Range National Monument website at <http://on.doi.gov/1LT79wP> and the BLM-Nevada Ely District website at <http://on.doi.gov/1GnDYC>. Comments may also be submitted via mail, email and fax using the following:

Mail
BLM Basin and Range National Monument
P.O. Box 237
Caliente, NV 89008

Email
blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov

Fax
(775) 726-8111

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Commenters are asked to reference the Basin and Range National Monument RMP when providing input.

For additional information or to be placed on the mailing list for this planning effort, contact Alicia Styles, Monument Manager, at (775) 726-8100 or blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.

—BLM—

Ely District Office 702 North Industrial Way Ely, NV 89301

Last updated: 06-01-2016

[USA GOV](#) | [No Fear Act](#) | [DOI](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [About BLM](#) | [Notices](#) | [Social Media Policy](#)
[Privacy Policy](#) | [FOIA](#) | [Kids Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Home](#)

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/info/newsroom/2016/june/ely_blm_seeks_public.html

11/3/2016

ELY: BLM Announces Public Scoping Meetings on Management Plan for Basin and Ran... Page 1 of 1



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS RELEASE
Ely District Office

Release Date: 06/06/16

Contacts: Chris Hanefeld, 775-289-1842, chanefeld@blm.gov

News Release No. ELY 2016-028

BLM Announces Public Scoping Meetings on Management Plan for Basin and Range National Monument

Ely, Nev. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District has begun the Resource Management Plan (RMP) process for the Basin and Range National Monument and is inviting the public to participate in this important planning effort. The RMP and associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under development will serve as a roadmap to guide the management of lands within the monument for the next 20-30 years.

The BLM has scheduled five public scoping meetings in Nevada. Meeting times and locations are:

- 5pm-7pm, Monday, June 20, David E. Norman Elementary School, 1001 E. 11th St., Ely
- 5pm-7pm, Tuesday, June 21, Alamo Annex courtroom, 121 Joshua Tree Street, Alamo
- 5pm-7pm, Thursday, June 23, Caliente Elementary School, 289 Lincoln St., Caliente
- 2pm-4pm, Saturday, June 25, Lincoln County High School, 1111 Edwards St., Panaca
- 4:30pm-6:30pm, Wednesday, June 29, Centennial Hills Library, 6711 N. Buffalo Dr., Las Vegas

The purpose of the public scoping period is to give anyone interested an opportunity to help the BLM identify issues and concerns that should be analyzed in the RMP and EIS. The BLM is seeking public input on a wide range of potential issues, including but not limited to traditional uses, cultural and visual resources management, and outdoor recreation. Commenters may also bring forward additional issues and concerns not already identified by the BLM.

The 30-day public scoping period concludes July 1, 2016 or 15 days following the last public meeting, whichever is later. Written comments may be submitted at any of the public meetings or mailed to the BLM Basin and Range National Monument, P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008. Fax comments to (775) 726-8111. Submit comments electronically at blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov. Please reference the Basin and Range National Monument RMP when providing input.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

For additional information or to be placed on the mailing list for this planning effort, contact Alida Styles, Monument Manager, at (775) 726-8100 or blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.

–BLM–

Ely District Office 702 North Industrial Way Ely, NV 89301

Last updated: 06-08-2016

[USA.GOV](#) | [No Fear Act](#) | [DOI](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [About BLM](#) | [Notices](#) | [Social Media Policy](#)
[Privacy Policy](#) | [FOIA](#) | [Kids Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Home](#)

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/info/newsroom/2016/june/ely_blm_announces.html

11/3/2016

ELY: BLM adds additional public scoping meeting for Basin and Range National Monum... Page 1 of 1



Release Date: 06/14/16
Contacts: 775-861-6480

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS RELEASE
Ely District Office**BLM adds additional public scoping meeting for Basin and Range National Monument**

Ely, Nev.— The BLM has added an additional public scoping meeting in Tonopah. This public meeting will be held from 5 pm–7pm, Wednesday, July 6, in the Tonopah Convention Center Blue Room, 301 Brougher Ave., Tonopah.

The meeting times, dates and locations of the other public scoping meetings remain the same. They are:

- 5pm–7pm, Monday, June 20, David E. Norman Elementary School, 1001 E. 11th St., Ely
- 5pm–7pm, Tuesday, June 21, Alamo Annex courtroom, 121 Joshua Tree Street, Alamo
- 5pm–7pm, Thursday, June 23, Caliente Elementary School, 289 Lincoln St., Caliente
- 2pm–4pm, Saturday, June 25, Lincoln County High School, 1111 Edwards St., Panaca
- 4:30pm–6:30pm, Wednesday, June 29, Centennial Hills Library, 6711 N. Buffalo Dr., Las Vegas

The purpose of the public scoping period is to give anyone interested an opportunity to help the BLM identify issues and concerns that should be analyzed in the RMP and EIS. The BLM is seeking public input on a wide range of potential issues, including but not limited to traditional uses, cultural and visual resources management, and outdoor recreation. Commenters may also bring forward additional issues and concerns not already identified by the BLM.

The 30-day public scoping period concludes July 1, 2016 or 15 days following the last public meeting, whichever is later. Written comments may be submitted at any of the public meetings or mailed to the BLM Basin and Range National Monument, P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008. Fax comments to (775) 726-8111. Submit comments electronically at blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov. Please reference the Basin and Range National Monument RMP when providing input.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

For additional information or to be placed on the mailing list for this planning effort, contact Alida Styles, Monument Manager, at (775) 726-8100 or blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.

–BLM–

Ely District Office 702 North Industrial Way Ely, NV 89301

Last updated: 06-14-2016

[USA.GOV](#) | [No Fear Act](#) | [DOI](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [About BLM](#) | [Notices](#) | [Social Media Policy](#)
[Privacy Policy](#) | [FOIA](#) | [Kids Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Home](#)

https://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/info/newsroom/2016/june/ely__blm_adds_additional.html

12/14/2016

This page intentionally left blank.

***Basin and Range National Monument RMP and EIS
Scoping Report***

Appendix C

Envisioning Summary

APPENDIX C

ENVISIONING SUMMARY

This page intentionally left blank.



Basin and Range National Monument

*Resource Management Plan
and Environmental Impact Statement*

Summary of Submitted Envisioning Questionnaires

June 2016

Envisioning Questionnaire
Basin and Range National Monument
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District

Answer only the questions you want. It is not necessary to respond to each one.

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

- 1) What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

- 2) Are there places in the Monument that are special to you? What are they and what makes them special?

PRELIMINARY PLANNING TOPIC QUESTIONS

These questions apply to all resources listed below.

- 1) What would you like to see addressed in the plan and/or maintained as status quo (please be specific)?
- 2) What actions do you consider necessary to protect and/or restore the historical and cultural significance of these lands?
- 3) What actions do you consider necessary to protect and/or restore the unique and varied natural and scientific resources of these lands?

Vegetation Resources: The Ely Resource Management Plan provides for treatments to maintain or improve vegetative resources and/or reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire. Do you think the BLM should or should not continue to implement such treatments on public lands within the monument? Should the BLM manage weeds through chemical and/or biological means? Also, should BLM aggressively treat Russian thistle (tumbleweed) and/or halogeton?

Wildlife and Special Status Species:

Wild Horses: A portion of the Silver King Herd Management Area is located within the Monument. Do you think BLM should gather wild horses from public lands located within the Monument?

Additional information regarding the Basin and Range National Monument, including this questionnaire, may be found: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/nlcs_new/Basin_and_Range_National_Monument.html

Envisioning Questionnaire
Basin and Range National Monument
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District

Cultural Resources: To what extent should BLM seek to enhance the condition of historical properties (as opposed to maintaining them in their current condition)? Are there any specific traditional cultural properties in the Monument you would like to see addressed?

Paleontological Resources:

Visual Resources: Are there visual resources that the BLM should protect, for example a night sky observation area? If so, how should the BLM provide for their protection?

Lands and Realty: The Proclamation states “no new rights-of-way for electric transmission or transportation... Other rights-of-way may be authorized only if consistent with the care and management” of monument objects. What other rights-of-way would you consider appropriate in keeping with the Monument designation?

Recreation: Are there recreational activities that you would like expanded or minimized? Are facilities needed to provide for current recreational use? Where would you suggest BLM install signage to provide visitors direction?

Forest/Woodland Products: Commercial firewood cutting would not be authorized on public lands within the Monument. Do you think collecting firewood for personal use, e.g. campfires, should be allowed?

Geology and Mineral Extraction: Gravel is used within the Monument to provide for a number of valid existing uses, as well as road maintenance. There are currently about nine gravel pits within the Monument. Should that number be increased, decreased, or allowed to remain the same?

Additional information regarding the Basin and Range National Monument, including this questionnaire, may be found: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/nlcs_new/Basin_and_Range_National_Monument.html

Envisioning Questionnaire
Basin and Range National Monument
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District

Fire: Should the BLM conduct controlled burns within the Monument to reduce hazardous fuels and lessen the risk of catastrophic wildland fire?

Special Designations Management: Should the BLM de-designate the Mt. Irish Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and/or portions of the Shooting Gallery ACEC due to overlapping designations caused by creation of the Monument? Are there other areas that you feel need additional protection beyond that offered by Monument status?

Travel Management: Motorized vehicles are permitted only on existing roads. When the Basin and Range National Monument Resource Management Plan is completed, the BLM will develop a Transportation and Travel Management Plan. Are there roads within the Monument that suffer existing or recurring resource damage? Should the BLM provide new or improved routes to any locations? Are there areas that should be specifically identified for motorized or non-motorized use (hiking, biking)?

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Social and Economic Values: What would be the potential economic benefits and/or impacts caused by the Monument?

Land Art Work *City*: *City* is currently not open to the public. If given the opportunity, would you visit the *City*?

No changes in management are anticipated for the following: livestock grazing, military training exercises, valid existing rights.

Additional information regarding the Basin and Range National Monument, including this questionnaire, may be found: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/nlcs_new/Basin_and_Range_National_Monument.html

Envisioning Questionnaire
Basin and Range National Monument
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District

CONCLUSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Do you know of or have information (inventory data, historic uses, photographs, maps, past practices, etc.) specific to the Monument that BLM should consider in the planning process?

- 2) Is there anyone you would suggest BLM send this questionnaire?

- 3) Are there additional issues that you would like addressed in the planning process?

Would you be interested in joining a Friends Group of the Basin and Range National Monument? Please contact Jocelyn Torres, Basin Rangers Friends Group at jocelyn@conservationlands.org for more information.

☐ Yes ☐ No

THANK YOU! The BLM appreciates your time and feedback.

Please return this questionnaire to:

BLM Basin and Range National Monument
PO Box 237
Caliente, NV 89008
Attn: Alicia Styles
Fax: 775-726-8111
blm_nv_basin_range@blm.gov



Additional information regarding the Basin and Range National Monument, including this questionnaire, may be found: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/nlcs_new/Basin_and_Range_National_Monument.html

Summary of Responses to the Envisioning Questionnaire

Basin and Range National Monument
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District

Please refer to the Envisioning Questionnaire for full questions.

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS	# of Responses
1) What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?	41
2) Are there places in the Monument that are special to you? What are they and what makes them special?	36

PRELIMINARY PLANNING TOPIC QUESTIONS	# of Responses
Vegetation Resources	37
Wildlife and Special Status Species	23
Wild Horses	38
Cultural Resources	32
Paleontological Resources	14
Visual Resources	31
Lands and Realty	33
Recreation	42
Forest/Woodland Products	37
Geology and Mineral Extraction	38
Fire	33
Special Designations Management	35
Travel Management	36

Additional Topics	# of Responses
Social and Economic Values	36
Land Art Work City	35

Conclusion Questions	# of Responses
1) Do you know of or have information (inventory data, historic uses, photographs, maps, past practices, etc.) specific to the Monument that BLM should consider in the planning process?	15
2) Is there anyone you would suggest BLM send this questionnaire?	15
3) Are there additional issues that you would like addressed in the planning process?	32

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

41 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	The Basin and Range National Monument is something that means a lot to me. The Monument is a reflection of the power that an administration has over the people. This Monument was only wanted by a few powerful people to accomplish their goal of stopping nuclear waste from coming to Nevada. The local community had absolutely no say or therefore any opportunity to speak for or against this Monument. To me it is nothing more than one Senators legacy and a weak administration and the lack of concern for the local community.
2	I hope to experience the same thing that I had experience for the last 36 years of my life visiting this area. I hope to see people farming the land, running cattle and developing the natural resource.
3	It is a showpiece of Nevada's rugged beauty, history and wildlife.
4	The Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) provides an opportunity to benefit the public and heighten awareness of an unappreciated portion of the history of the west and the implications of our worlds actions which are modifying and adding to the volubility our natural resources.
5	Basin and Range National Monument (BRNM) is a vast expanse of the Great Basin Desert preserved into the future for the enjoyment of people and the preservation of plants, animals, and rural ranching. I experience vast solitude and grand scenery when in the monument, and I hope things stay the same into the future.
6	The withdrawn land cuts off a proposed railroad corridor for transporting nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain, a project that would significantly benefit all Nevadans and provide a much safer location to store high level nuclear waste than where the waste currently resides around the country. Furthermore this project was promised to the people and companies who paid into the Nuclear Waste Trust Fund and it's in the strategic and national security interests of all citizens in the U.S. to store nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain.
7	Besides Yucca Mountain transportation, this land may provide opportunity for current and future mineral exploration. Due to limited water resources, the only other viable use for this land (with economic benefit) is livestock grazing and that should never be taken away.
8	The Monument represents a breathtakingly beautiful part of Nevada that encompasses awe inspiring views, pristine places to climb and hike, and one of the most important sculptures in the United States by artist Michael Heizer. I am looking forward to further exploring the many areas to camp and hike as well as spending time at Michael Heizer's City when it eventually opens up to the public.

6/7/2016

2 of 64

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

9	<p>As a lifelong resident of Eastern Nevada and avid outdoorsman who is well traveled within the Great Basin as well as all over the West and the world, the Monument, to me, means a preservation of a whole piece of Nevada's very unique and wild yet unrestricted character. Often, our areas set aside for conservation in Nevada and elsewhere are the tops of the ranges, the forests and the rocky mountaintops with lakes and streams. These areas are great, for sure, but the Monument is unique in that it preserves a whole system, the basins and the ranges. To me, this means our conservation ethic is maturing and we have seen the value of conserving a whole. At this Monument, I hope to experience what can be experienced all throughout the Great Basin but almost nowhere else in the United States, which is lonely and open high desert viewscapes and rugged mountains, free for the exploring (however you may choose) and unfettered by private interests, man-made infrastructure, and National Park-style curation. I realize that in becoming a monument, a certain level of management and development might need to occur, but I really hope that the true essence of the wide-open and freedom-rich nature of the Great Basin is preserved to the highest degree possible. It will benefit visitors as well as help maintain a positive connection between the Monument's existence and the rural Nevada folk, who, despite often being ornery and resistant, are generally seeking what the Monument hopes to achieve, which is keeping things the same as they are, for future generations to not only look at, but to experience and enjoy in a way</p>
10	<p>The Monument represents an unwanted, unsolicited government land grab forced on an already stressed citizen population. A population in which could experience free exploration, hunting, camping and family freedom under the current BLM and National Forest Designations within the land now deemed a "National Monument". But it was too good to be true, as the State with the most BLM and other federal land area the Feds couldn't leave well enough alone. I hope to experience nothing by means of any more government involvement than is currently experienced in the aforementioned land grab. Currently my family and I can explore, hunt, fish, and camp free of tour guides, dedicated roadways and cute government kiosks telling us what mountain range or valley we are looking at. Currently we do not experience a lot of government officials while exploring the last free state of Nevada. We do not see miles of plastic trash in the form of land markers telling us where we are. So in summary, leave it alone, call it what you want for the purposes of a political leverage tool to stop oil and mining exploration. The rural population of Nevada doesn't need survey markers, 'outlook' scenic view areas and millions of wasted tax dollars on crap in the middle of the desert. Draw your line on a map somewhere and leave us with the small amount of personal freedom we still have left.</p>
11	<p>It means wide open, endless open space. Wild, rugged unpredictable weather and stunning terrain. Solitude and relaxation. It's the true spirit of the west. We would love to continue experiencing this feeling in future visits.</p>

6/7/2016

3 of 64

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

12	I was opposed to the monument. I don't agree with Monuments under the Antiquities Act. This was a water grab for SWNA and will allow new Oil Well development. BLM could have just revised the Resource Management Plan like they will have to do anyway. This didn't need a monument designation. I'm sure there will be pipelines and other goodies. Probably Department of Defense will have a flight path too. There will be road closures and ranchers will lose their grazing.
13	Preservation of wilderness and habitats that will be available for generations to come.
14	The Monument represents a breathtakingly beautiful part of Nevada that encompasses awe inspiring views, pristine places to climb and hike, and one of the most important sculptures in the United States by artist Michael Heizer. I am looking forward to further exploring the many areas to camp and hike as well as spending time at Michael Heizer's City when it eventually opens up to the public. Protecting this part of Nevada is crucial to preventing unnecessary destruction of a beautiful historical part of the Nevada and the West.
15	Experience central Nevada in its current, natural state through exploring, camping, hiking, and just plain 'wandering'.
16	The establishment of the monument is a major step forward in preserving the majestic scenery and wildlife, plant, geologic and archaeological elements of Basin and Range's unique characteristics in the world. The Monument give everyone an opportunity to experience first hand this unspoiled physiographic region.
17	Awesome camping and riding opportunities to experience natural places away from the world dominated by the works of mankind. As population grows metropolitan areas grow covering natural places under urban sprawl. A consequence is less land for recreation for more people. The remaining public land should be managed with the emphasize on recreation. I hope to be able to continue to recreate in the monument as an off-highway motorcycle rider as I always had.
18	The monument means nothing to me. It's a political joke and a tool for shutting down beneficial resource utilization and economic production. As with many similar "short-sighted" designations, it's disguised as "management and protection." However, the area in which this designation occurred means a lot. This area is full of existing and beneficial resources. The uses that occur in the area should remain without further restriction or so-called "management." It is unnecessary. Nothing should change in this area. All uses remain. All access remain. I want to continue to experience the same thing in this area as has been experienced for many generations.
19	This monument means one more usurpation of public lands by a Senator that has his own self aggrandizement in a puouty position above the rest of us!!
20	Little or nothing.

6/7/2016

4 of 64

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

21	<p>It's hard to put into words what this area means to me. To start with I wish it had not been made a monument at all. I have seen what has happened within the Grand Staircase Nat. Monument in southern Utah and the impact from thousands of year round tourist over the last twenty years. To pretend that you the BLM can deal with such inevitable impact is evidence of how under prepared and short sighted your quest is. Also, this Little " Questionnaire " will prove to be a waste of others time and effort if history repetes itself. You the BLM will do what you want and most likly have already made up your minds what your plans will be. Pretend no longer, and neither will I, I attended meeting after meeting regarding the GSNM only to be dissapointed how little thought the BLM gave to the local vloices and feed back given. Let me end my thoughts with these facts, We live on an in-holding property within the GSNM bounderies. We bought a remote parcel property in Nevada as our get away place to escape from the rat race the GSNM has become. Bad Politics and fate has cursed us again I fear, for you see, we now have another in-holding property within another new national monument. Lucky us huh?...and good luck to you.</p>
22	<p>The monument means that someone who has a lot of political power and money was able to please his friends and supporters by protecting one portion of private land at tax payer's expense. This monument has nothing to do with the Great Basin Desert as stated in the proclamation, and only has the wants of Mr. Heizer and his fellow supporter, Michael Goven at the forefront. The monument, before it's designation provided a good example of how public land should be managed. There was livestock grazing, ATV use, hunting, oil and gas leasing, vegetation or habitat improvement treatments, wood gathering, mining, Desert Land Entries, and protection of valuable cultural resources all occurring in two large valleys of the Great Basin. Now that the monument is designated, I can see BLM implementing more restrictions on what I and many of the public enjoy doing or experiencing on public lands. The restrictions will most likely be more than those identified in the proclamation. BLM seems to slowly and consistently restrict any uses (e.g., grazing, ATV use, mining, wood cutting), claiming they are protecting monument values.</p>

6/7/2016

5 of 64

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

23	The Monument represents a recognition that the Great Basin is a place worth preserving and experiencing. This is a novel idea given most American's have not heard of the Great Basin and merely associate Nevada with Las Vegas, UFOs and Cactus from other ecosystems. The Great Basin is uniquely expansive, peaceful, thought provoking, and inviting. It is always easy to gain a view of twenty miles or more which is surprisingly difficult in many other landscapes. As one of the lower 48s most unpopulated areas, the Great Basin offers exceptional solitude. With over 10,000 years of human history and some of the oldest living species on earth, one cannot help but reflect on what it means to exist in space and time. Finally, I know of no other feeling like that of chancing upon a wet spring in an otherwise dry canyon or the elation of being visited by a rogue thunder storm on a hot August day. Water in the desert is a truly magical experience. This exceptional contrast of conditions helps explain why Nevada was listed as the 11th most biologically diverse, 3rd most at risk for extinctions, and 6th in number of endemic species for the whole country in the early 2000s (http://www.natureserve.org/library/stateofunions.pdf). All of this is what I hope visitors will take away from the Monument.
24	It means a complete loss of faith in the public process. I have spent decades participating in "the process". Driven hours to meetings, workshops, range tours, served on committees, boards, inputting, talking. The blindsiding without local input showed disdain and made a mockery of "the process", embarrassed local staff and was a pure power grab. The creation of an unnecessary designation.
25	The monument occurred by presidential decree with no input from the local community. It should be rescinded and decisions for the use of public lands should be made through local dialogue.
26	The monument sets aside a large, undeveloped piece of the Great Basin to be a showcase of the geology, flora, and fauna and fauna of this special ecosystem in the US. The experience that the monument offers is isolation from the developed West, in a quiet region with almost no pollution sources. It offers some of Nevada's most scenic vistas.
27	Nothing

6/7/2016

6 of 64

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

28	The Monument is a remote desert land area, representative of much of the Mojave Desert area within Lincoln County. It presents the typical desert fauna and flora. Aside of the designation, and possibly some unique features, the area potentially would not draw the attention of an interested passerby as being much different from the surrounding non-designated area. I would experience everything pretty much as it is, as that's what makes natural rangeland areas special. I hope to experience the same uses and accessibility to the area as Nevadans have always enjoyed. The landscape is special because the people on the land, sheep and cattle ranchers, have cared for this land for many generations and nurtured it along to maintain its sustainable health. Their way of life and livelihoods depended upon sound resource management. Certainly BLM Monument management should capitalize on this past management and realize the contribution of the users to date as they contemplate management options.
29	Federal over-reach. I hope to experience the land within the monument boundaries in the same way I experienced it before the monument was illegally created
30	History, Peace & Quiet, The mormon name carved on a petroglyph tells it all
31	This area is my lively hood and has been for 5 generations and we have taken damb good care of it. I hope to keep experienceing what we have injoyed in the past.
32	More government control pure and simple
33	We wish that it would just go away.
34	The Basin and Range National Monument means more control over the state of Nevada by the federal government. The Monument means that natural resources will not be able to be developed in this area, ranchers will eventually be runoff the land, and Lincoln and Nye Counties will lose potential economic resources. I would hope to experience the same thing that has been happening in the Monument for the last 151 years. I hope to experience an area where nature and humans coexist in harmony, where rancher run their cattle, where shepherds herded their sheep, and where natural resources can be developed for economic growth of the counties and the state of Nevada.
35	We live with the monument 24/7/265 every aspect of our lives is affected by this monument. We hope to stay alive
36	It means absolutly nothing to me. It just means a lot of trouble in the future
37	Another Federal land grab
38	a large piece of virtually managed BLM land Thousands will be spent on a worthless managemetn plan because it isn't based on data and observations. The monument is another reason for BLM to spend for time in the office and less time monitoring and managing
39	I think it's a wast of tax payers money. It should stay with the B.L.M. Orren Nash

6/7/2016

7 of 64

What does the Monument mean to you? What do you hope to experience in the Monument?

40	I have been going to this area for 40 yrs. It is one of my favorite places on earth. I would like to see improvemetns to the area with vistitir centers and camping and RV areas
41	Unfortunately, the monument means an overreach of presidential authority. I had already experience & enjoyed the isolation

6/7/2016

8 of 64

Are there places in the Monument that are special to you? What are they and what makes them special?

36 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	There are few places that are special to me in the monument. The Monument is much like the rest of Nevada, Pinyon and juniper covered mountains with dry valleys and very little water. People working hard to make what living they can off the land. I hope this will continue despite the title.
2	White River petroglyphs
3	Yes there are numerous places I have visited and are special to me. I am not sure I trust this document is the best to express this concerns; places I have found square nails, petroglyphs, historical towns not where the United States Geological Survey says they are, 150 years of history and thousands of years of pre-history Native-American including deer blinds and such I really don't want the public to know about unless there can be a BLM presence and I suspect like lots of unfunded or underfunded legislative good intentions.
4	All of BRNM is special, but the more special places are the main Native American sites (White River Narrows, Mt. Irish, and Shooting Gallery), sites associated with white settlement (e.g., Rosie's Log Cabin, Crescent Mill, Logan Townsite [excluding the newer structures], and natural features such as Leviathan Cave, Natural Arch, and the grand expanses of Coal and Garden valleys. City is a special area too, but in a different way. I haven't visited them yet, but the mining sites on Mt. Irish associated with the first white entry into the region probably should be considered special sites because of the history surrounding mining and the forceful displacement of native peoples.
5	The proposed 320 mile Yucca Mountain Railroad, known as the Caliente Corridor, which would traverse this area. The proposed project would provide the safest route to transport the Nation's nuclear waste to the safest location for storage in the world; Yucca Mountain.
6	The drive through the Coal and Garden Valleys that begins on Seaman Wash Road reveals spectacular terrain. Michael Heizer's City is a special site as it is a contemporary artwork on the scale of ancient ceremonial cities that is framed by Garden Valley and enhanced by the kind of quiet that can only be found in remote and undeveloped places.
7	The Monument is special as a whole. The development of special interest areas within the monuments and parks does help direct the attention of visitors who might be unfamiliar with how to take in the vast beauty of all parts of this particular Monument, but it also devalues the rest of the Monument as 'filler' between the 'point of interest'. I would hope to see interpretational developments reflect the things that truly set this Monument aside from others, which I have detailed above. The whole place is what makes this Monument special.

6/7/2016

9 of 64

Are there places in the Monument that are special to you? What are they and what makes them special?

8	Yes, all of it, all the more reason for you to leave it alone, let it remain unmolested by government signs, vehicles, collection posts and tour guides. What makes them special? they are free of the general populous, free of regulated camp sites, free of 'park' boundaries. Free of the scars left by 'think tanks' and 'land engineers' attempting to think for a rural population 2000 miles away.
9	All of it is special. We only saw a tiny bit while visiting in our RV last Fall but what we saw made us want to experience more.
10	I like to visit the historic sites. Look at fossils, rock art, springs, wildlife, harvest native plants and medicines. Look at old mining camps, etc. Camp out and viewing the stars.
11	Having grown up in the area, I've hiked and camped in most of the area and now work within the Monument area. The entire area as a whole has many memories and experiences that are special.
12	The drive through the Coal and Garden Valleys that begins on Seaman Wash Road reveals spectacular terrain. Michael Heizer's City is a special site as it is a contemporary artwork on the scale of ancient ceremonial cities that is framed by Garden Valley and enhanced by the kind of quiet that can only be found in remote and undeveloped places. The "hard narrows" on the Seaman Wash road has been defaced by spray paintings and should be cleaned up and continue to be cleaned to remove those things.
13	A large swath of mid-Nevada preserved for public use makes the entire place special, as long as it remains accessible.
14	Mt. Irish and Garden and Coal Valleys are still unspoiled and provide a special "remote," back country immersion for those seeking solitude.
15	What I appreciate most in the monument area is an annual off-highway motorcycle race I've ridden for decades.
16	It's all special in some fashion. For those who own vested rights, it's special. For those who graze livestock in the area, it's special. For those who go hunting in the area it's special. For those who ride ATVs or motorcycles in the area it's special. For those who go hiking in the area it's special. You don't need a sign or map that designates something to know it's special.
17	Yes there are, I used to trap furbearing animals in that country in the 1970's and 1980's. I'd like to remember the country when it didn't have the blight in the valley bottom that Harry Reid considers art
18	NO

6/7/2016

10 of 64

Are there places in the Monument that are special to you? What are they and what makes them special?

19	The Freiberg area is extremely important and would be much better if it were being mined again. The ranching in the area INCLUDING livestock grazing is very special. This should continue, and BLM should strive to make it more prevalent than it is today. The proclamation states ranching has helped shape the area to be what it is today, _so it must remain or continue more than the current rate. If this area exhibits one of the most ecologically intact landscapes in the Great Basin as stated in the proclamation, then BLM should allow livestock grazing to increase and support management for this activity since it has largely influenced and made the area so ecologically intact as it is today. However, BLM and their NCLS managers and supporters seem to think a monument is similar to a national park and everything should be restricted to "protect" everything (including their jobs). Please look to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) for a prime example of slow, yet consistent restrictions being implemented over time. BLM claims they have not implemented reductions or restrictions on the GSENM, but reality is they do it slowly and behind the scenes.
20	No
21	Nearby public lands are special because they house the resources needed to sustain a local community. Land rights and land use decisions should be made through local channels.
22	I visited there Thanksgiving weekend of 2015. The southern Mt. Irish area is beautiful, with the petroglyphs. This area of cultural resources needs special attention to preserve it for future generations.
23	No
24	The entire Monument landscape, both in and outside the designated boundary, is special and important to the N-4 State Grazing Board. The native vegetation, its management, the different soils and their productivity, indigenous wildlife, and very limited and carefully developed water supplies provided through springs and wells are all of significant importance to us who derive our livelihoods from rangelands. The ranchers running livestock on this area are a very important source of knowledge, both historical and present. Their knowledge will help to avoid making costly and unnecessary mistakes while planning the monument area.
25	Garden Valley and Coal Valley, the Worthington Mountains, Cherry Creek
26	Many Remoteness
27	It is all special to me, there is not an area in the monument that doesn't hold memories for me.
28	Our grazing allotment. The fact that it took over 20 years to pay for yet will lose value and productivity makes it pretty darned special
29	The area has been our home/lively hood for over 50 years (Badger Valley)
30	The Monument as a whole is special in itself. It is special because it represents the state of Nevada by having its natural resources developed and allowing grazing and farming. It is a great place that shows how humans have been able to make a living in the harsh desert environment.

6/7/2016

11 of 64

Are there places in the Monument that are special to you? What are they and what makes them special?

31	Garden and Coal Valleys entirely - see above answer "We live with the monument 24/7/365 every aspect of our lives is affected by this monument. We hope to stay alive."
32	No there is nothing in the monument that is special to me
33	yes, the entire area for the freedom to enjoy the outdoors without federal heavy handed-ness
34	White River Narrows to North Pahrocs. The "studpile" geology of S Seaman Range, North Pahrocs, South Pahrocs, and Hiko Range are more unique and outstanding features than 90% of the national monument. Obama designated the wrong land in the monument.
35	Water Gap, being able to look across both valleys simultaneously
36	The Great Basin is special to me. In all its uses.

6/7/2016

12 of 64

Vegetation Resources

37 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	BLM should continue to allow grazing on these lands which is the best and most effective way to reduce the risk of wildfire and improve native vegetation. BLM should continue to allow grazing and should increase the number of AMU's on each allotment to allow for continuous reduction of grasses that cause wildfires. The BLM should not manage weeds through Chemical means. It has been documented through numerous scientific studies that chemical treatment is ineffective and is a waste of money. BLM should not aggressively treat Russian thistle for the same reason above mentioned about chemical treatment.
2	BLM should seek natural solutions to natural problems.
3	I am primarily concerned about habitat and migration paths. I support aggressively dealing with invasive plants. The land has not supported the potential of either large range fire or large forest fires since the end of Pleistocene where much of the lush lacustrine environment dried up because of change climate factors; this when the White stop flowing to the ocean and became part of the Great Basin. A prairie fire on a prairie is part of the natural process and yields a lush green pasture for buffalo or beast. The Intermountain Buffalo of Nevada are now extinct (1140 years ago) and that prairie environment hasn't existed except perhaps a 500 year period (I don't remember the dates) but with the range of 5 to 7 thousand years ago when a wet period occurred; that wet period was more extensive than the historic 1850s to 1920s wet period where rivers flowed down from the mountains for 100s of miles. A large scale fire could change the nature of the land to those tire puncturing invasive weeds so prevalent in the southeast corner of Oregon. Russian thistle and halogeton are an indicator of the real threat of cheat grass fires that supplant the native vegetation. I support these efforts in light of future drought conditions.
4	Vegetative treatments should continue. Fire and weeds threaten the integrity of the ecosystem and should be managed aggressively. It might be too late to control Russian thistle and halogeton in BRNM, but efforts to control these and the other weeds should continue. Sahara mustard should not be allowed to get established.
5	To the extent that these activities support livestock grazing they should continue.
6	I think the BLM should continue to implement treatments to maintain and improve vegetative resources to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire on public lands within the monument.

6/7/2016

13 of 64

Vegetation Resources

7	As a vegetation ecologist with two degrees in plant ecology and years of experience working with invasive species in Nevada, I would recommend that the Monument continue applying treatments that have been proven successful in the area for reduction of wildland fire and invasive species spread. Also, it is necessary to continue to work with researchers and other agencies' managers to develop and apply new and creative solutions to dealing with weeds. It is a tough battle, and bringing the same tools over and over is not likely to make progress. Regarding russian thistle and halogeton, aggressive treatment could be warranted in specific areas, especially around new disturbances, but wholesale treatment is impractical. Utilize restoration and native species establishment to help butt out dominance by these weeds. Finally, great care and attention should be taken whenever new disturbances such as roads, pipelines, buildings, trails, (etc...) are. although I am not generally a supporter of livestock grazing practices, continuing grazing in certain areas dominated by weeds like cheatgrass could be useful in reducing fire hazard. Other targeted grazing could be useful in certain situations if done properly, and this would also serve to foster collaboration and mutual appreciation between the Monument and local ranchers.
8	As a former BLM biologist and botanist, the number one action the 'BLM could do to ensure the ecological integrity of the new Basin and Range monument is to end livestock grazing. Nothing has a greater impact on water, soils, vegetation, and wildlife than domestic grazing. Given the widespread occurrence of livestock grazing throughout the West, eliminating grazing here would provide a large landscape control whereby the effects of termination of livestock grazing could be visible to the public.
9	The current level of fire prevention within the Nevada BLM areas is beyond sufficient. Dont use this new designation as an excuse to pollute the area with environmental overkill. What actions ? Really ? The BLM is doing just fine right now with the level of involvement in Nevada. This cannot be used as an excuse to over regulate and over enforce an area that until last year 99% of the country never knew existed. LEAVE IT ALONE, say it with me, slowly LEAVE....IT.....ALONE. I know those are difficult words for regulators. What is it that you think you are protecting or restoring ? Get real, leave it alone, no touchy. The weeds, oh yeah they need heavy regulating.... They will be fine, they have been for millions of years. Its just more money thrown and some pointless cause.
10	The less tampering with nature the better but we agree there are things that need to be done to protect the area's natural beauty. Treating invasive species as naturally and chemically-free as possible is important to us.
11	Noxious non-native invasive management via chemical and possibly biocontrol depending on the method. Fuels reduction of Pinyon and Juniper via hand thinning only.
12	If it can be accomplished without endangering existing native plants and animals, yes I believe they should.

6/7/2016

14 of 64

Vegetation Resources

13	I think the BLM should continue to implement treatments to maintain and improve vegetative resources to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire on public lands within the monument. BLM should aggressively treat the Russian thistle (tumbleweed) to reoccurrence and prevent spreading.
14	Yes, BLM should continue to manage vegetation particularly invasives
15	As a field botanist, I recommend that the use of plant management techniques be updated annually as our knowledge of the use of various techniques improves and as we learn more about the various plant species and effects of treatments on not only individual species, but on ecosystems. In other words, do not continue as in the past just because it is easy to continue as before, but keep collecting data on the results of past treatments and learning from the ever-changing literature. Each treatment has its advantage, but must be used intelligently and carefully according to current knowledge. Russian thistle and halogeton along with other noxious weeds need to be contained.
16	So ours and future generations can breathe vegetation has to be considered as a resource. The risk of catastrophic wildfires should and can be reduced by public minor road networks to provide access for firefighting, fuel abatement, and conservation management. Tumbleweed is an extremely aggressive intruder that should be aggressively mitigated
17	All treatment options and methods should continue to be available and implemented when appropriate.
18	You ought to use well managed cattle grazing to deal with fuel loads. Aggressively treat any feral horses or burros with a trip to the slaughterhouse
19	Should not. It's off limits isn't it. That means the Gov't too.
20	All available tools should be used to manage vegetation, including livestock grazing. Mechanical, chemical, fire, and biological methods SHALL be used. Vegetation treatments have occurred over the last ten years in some areas of Garden Valley and they were very successful. Vegetation treatments should be a major consideration and activity used in the monument.
21	In my opinion, resources should be focused most on preserving intact or relatively native assemblages of vegetation where possible. This could be completed through well composed fire and grazing management plans. The restoration of dramatically degraded locations is also an important undertaking. However fire management and grazing decisions affect far more acres per year than restoration efforts and therefore has the potential to impact a much great area in the long run.
22	Noxious weeds should be manage. BY ANY MEANS THAT WORKS AND IS PRACTICAL. Quick response to stop spreading. Committees to study for years accomplishes but firm established stands of detrimental vegetation.
23	Work with locals on the best way to prevent wildfires.

6/7/2016

15 of 64

Vegetation Resources

24	I am against massive vegetative treatments on public lands. I would support some pilot projects with small tracts to see if restoration is possible. A consensus must be reached on what the "natural" state of the flora exactly is before proceeding on restoration. I favor the restriction of grazing on certain test tracts to allow vegetation to take its natural course. This could be done by authorizing payments to ranchers who would not be allowed to graze cattle or by authorizing outright retirement of grazing permits.
25	It is imperative that the BLM identify threats from invasive species and identify the reason that these species are invading, such as ground disturbing activities from road construction, power line corridors, alternative energy activity and other. Wildfire is a serious threat, particularly wherever flammable, invasive species such as cheatgrass occur. Land treatments, carefully developed in close coordination with the scientific community (USDA ARS, USDA NRCS, UNR CABNR) are an imperative, as this land is arid, and the science to carry out seeding treatments are extremely lacking for this dry region. Targeted livestock grazing is by far the most effective, and likely most cost effective means of reducing risk of catastrophic wildfire. Chemicals should be carefully planned for and tested on plots prior to any widespread treatments.
26	As long as the BLM intrudes on the land of the State of Nevada and the County of Lincoln - the Bureau should do useful things, like killing weeds
27	Invasive Rpecies should be eliminated
28	All of the above can be achived by grazing, but the halogeton as it is poison to sheep and cattle at it's lush point.
29	Russian Thistle and halogeton are both non-native invasive species. They should be controlled. Come to think of it, so are wild horses.
30	1.) I would like to see the Monument maintained and managed as it currently is. I would like to see grazing continue and I would like to see BLM honor its right-of-ways and allow for future right-of-ways to be granted. I would like to see a visitor center somewhere close to the "city" powered by renewable energy. I would like to see an RV park in this area along with camp grounds. I would like to see the Seamen Wash road paved to the visitor center. 2.) I believe educating the public about the cultural and historical significance of these lands is necessary in order to protect them. If a visitor center was present in the Monument this would offer the perfect place to educate the public.
31	Yes, treat as elsewhere
32	All weeds should be managed aggressively
33	Yes they should
34	The BLM needs to allow grazing to lessen the probability of range fire. Biological means is always best.
35	work with permittees to expand water distribution systems for livestock. Current water system concentrates livestock use on 30% of grazable lands resulting in negative impacts on vegetation. Control pinyon pine and juniper in S Coal Valley S Garden Valley and wild horse valley

6/7/2016

16 of 64

Vegetation Resources

36	Yes the BLM should treat for evasive weeds
37	Yes if you spend the money to replace it with desireable plants. In other words to all I have written Manage manage manage don't let it turn into PJ & cheatgrass

6/7/2016

17 of 64

Wildlife and Special Status Species

23 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	I'm a tax payer and I love our Wildlife, Coyotes, Ravens, Wild Mustangs. Please do the right thing and protect them! Don't move them, don't sell to a third party, give them the land that they deserve.
2	Deer, antelope, sheep, wapiti, eagles and other raptor, great horned and burying owls, buzzards, cougar, bob-tailed cats, fox, coyotes, rabbits, hares, migratory hummingbirds all form a current community; you need the snakes, ground squirrels and reptiles to make that community whole. I've seen all the above species but non-indigenous ravens threaten our reptile population and horned toads and lizards are in serious decline; the snakes are less prevalent and the migratory ducks and geese have a harder time finding food when the rest at Kirch. I'll support any effort to keep this basin and range wildlife community intact for future generations. You should have wolves and skunk bear in your forested areas; you won't. You do have ring-tailed cat. I've seen them but they are shy and won't respond well to visitors
3	The National Monument should be a place of refuge for wildlife, consistent with state hunting laws. Offroad driving should not be permitted to collect animal carcasses. Trapping should not be allowed because non-target species often are captured and injured or killed. Habitat should be managed to enhance the likelihood that sensitive species don't descend onto T&E status.
4	Wildlife and special status species should be monitored and protected.
5	I have worked with sensitive plant species in White River Valley, and do not feel that many actions are needed to ensure their survival, aside from keeping the landscape and the biological community connected and intact. I do not have detailed recommendations regarding wildlife. I will simply add an observation that any species of plant or animal existing in the Monument are there because they have survived and tolerated the management and activities of the past, so any dramatic change in management should be well thought out. Swift changes in things such as grazing intensity, water management, etc can lead to unexpected shifts in fauna and flora dynamics.
6	Continue to let NDOW regulate all wildlife within the State. Drawing a new line around an area does not change the reality of the situation. Leave it alone.
7	If it can be accomplished without endangering existing native plants and animals, yes I believe they should.
8	Wildlife and special status species should be monitored. There should be no further restriction on any wildlife and special status species. The area has always maintained itself, and nature should be allowed to continue that.
9	No changes from current uses
10	More Special Status plants are yet to be recorded, and for that reason we need to protect habitats conservatively to reduce negative impact on plants that we have not even mapped yet. It will require at least a decade of surveys to get a handle on botanical resources in such a large land area.

6/7/2016

18 of 64

Wildlife and Special Status Species

11	Use sound management not based on myths.
12	Current practice should remain. Options for Wildlife Guzzlers (water developments) should be placed in the plan
13	Leave all hunting and trapping of wildlife to the state to manage. Get rid of any feral horses and donkeys
14	Leave it isolated and unmanaged and unused. Isn't that your intent.
15	Manage the habitat as described above, and maintain or increase grazing and the wildlife will follow. Do not restrict anything other than identified in the proclamation or for the sake of a "special" plant or animal. The only thing that should be restricted is the ability of the BLM to impose future restrictions in the name of "protecting" something or any restricting other items not identified in the proclamation.
16	The surveying and conservation of wildlife and special status species is paramount to the sustainability of all ecosystems throughout the globe. How can any conservation or preservation management policy be deemed worth while if there is a net loss to native species? The monitoring and successful conservation of native wildlife is the sole index to overall ecosystem health and sustainability.
17	I am not convinced the endanger species regulation are being use as was intended. It appears it is being used to eliminate sound and satisfactory industries and on the public lands.
18	I am not familiar with wildlife in this area. Of course, sensitive and special-status species must gain additional protection under monument management practices. Hunting of predator species must be eliminated (coyotes, mountain lion, bobcats, etc.).
19	Wildlife are critically important to the region and should not be unduly disturbed by sightseers. They have enjoyed a passive, relatively noise and people free environment to date. If publicity brings large numbers of sightseers to the area, it is possible that some species will become displaced due to disruption in their presently quiet and undisturbed environment. Nothing in the planning document should curtail or limit the State's management authority of wildlife resources. Nor should anything in the planning document curtail or limit the rancher's ability to utilize private contractors and USDA APIS to control predatory wildlife that depredate on private stock.
20	are an excuse to curtail land use. Loo around your life and see if you can find anything that was not either grown or mined

6/7/2016

19 of 64

Wildlife and Special Status Species

21	3.) I believe educating the public about the unique and varied natural and scientific resources of these lands is necessary in order to protect them. If a visitor center was present in the Monument this would offer the perfect place to educate the public. Vegetation Resources: The BLM should manage vegetative resources in the Monument through grazing. Grazing has been proven to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire. It also provides an economic benefit to the county. I do not believe that BLM should manage weeds through chemical means. Applying chemicals create a point source pollutant that can damage the native vegetation and pollute the environment.
22	Anything that is considered or planned do in consultation and agreement of affected private property owners
23	The more natural the method, the better.

6/7/2016

20 of 64

Wild Horses

38 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	BLM should gather as many wild horse as possible from public lands located in the Monument.
2	Absolutely not. Wild horses and burros are a Nevada and National heritage that should be give their lawful protection under the Wild Horse & Burro Act.
3	Please protect the wild horses in All of Nevada.
4	They are not indigenous so they have few natural predators and the few they do have are inadequate and only prey on the very young or very old. The fecund population of the wild horse herds is not at risk so they procreate to point where they will eat themselves out of home; it is far better to gather than watch them starve at the peril of the habitat for all. The other solution is to get the proper predators but the last desert wolf of the Mojave was killed almost a hundred years ago and I don't believe coy-wolves are organized enough to be equine predators; the only indigenous species capable of being a predator is man; the same man that hasten the decline and extinction of the mega-fauna of the Pleistocene era. I like horse meat but the mores of our society don't so you could import several thousand French immigrants and allow hunting to feed the new immigrants but since hunting is prohibited; use must gather. I would hope you could establish and maintain proper wild horse herds with age management; herds or mares and a single breeding stallion and bachelor herds the way they should exist; just follow the existing standards and guidelines
5	The BLM should remove all non-native species from BRNM to the extent practical and as allowed by law. Feral equids are a scourge upon the landscape and are not consistent with the goals of the National Monument.
6	Wild horses are not native and they represent the biggest threat to the habitat in which they now occupy. They compete with native species for food and water resources throughout the Great Basin. These destructive and non-native animals need to be completely removed from the Great Basin forever as they provide no benefit. The BLM should adhere to the Wild Horse and Burrow Act as required and with no regard for any person or NGO who attempts to protect these non-native animals.
7	No, I do not think that BLM should gather wild horses from public lands located within the Monument.

6/7/2016

21 of 64

Wild Horses

8	This issue is very political but in my opinion, the Monument should either remove the portion of the herd that is within its boundaries or it should allow the BLM to do whatever it does with the rest of the herd in the Monuments portion of the herd. BLM's managemtn of horse is certainly going to change soon, and denying it access to the whole herd area would be very counter productive. I believe that doing anything other than these two options would not be appropriate for the Monument, because it would either be ignoring the biological and ecological need for horse numbers to be reduced or eliminated or ignoring the need for the management of this unique area to remain adaptive, collaborative, and modern.
9	Protecting a destructive animal like a horse is and has been ludicrous. They have no natural predators in Nevada and should be opened up to hunting and slaughter. But that may be too much truth for you to swallow. So just continue to let them destroy and plunder the few water resources we have left. They are not being managed by any stretch of the imagination, the novelty 'round ups' are a joke and you know it.
10	No.
11	Leave the Wild Horses alone.
12	If the herd population poses a threat to habitat for wildlife species or the herd itself, yes.
13	No, I do not think that BLM should gather wild horses from public lands located within the Monument. And the band that was removed should be returned. There were not many, only about 5 or 6, and they should be returned. They have been there longer than most of us.
14	Only if there are not enough natural resources to support the herd
15	Wild horses, along with any domestic animals, are not appropriate mammals for a National Monument due to the alternation of habitats caused by grazing. For those who want to preserve wild horse herds, less sensitive lands in other parts of Nevada may be more appropriate for hosting horse herds.
16	BLM management of wild horses is the prime example of dysfunctional policy based on imagination. People that live in cities far from wild horse habitats actively advocate, "Leave the wild horses alone. They have a right to be there." Wild horses are not indigenous and have few natural predators. To protect the range, (vegetation and other wildlife) requires management of wild horse populations. It's unfortunate because of laws passed with good intentions based on imagination, herd management is unnecessarily cruel and expensive.
17	Of course horses should be gathered. Horses, because they are mis-managed and have been for many years, are a detriment to all the other existing rights and resources present. It's too bad politics trump science. This is a ridiculous question. Triple Aught Foundation ought to spend some of their money and acquire some ranch property east of the Mississippi to house the horses.
18	Wipe them out totally!!

6/7/2016

22 of 64

Wild Horses

19	Get rid of those ferel horses before you designate the area then leave it alone to deteriorate naturally untouched by human hands. That's what you want isn't it !
20	BLM should gather wild horses in the Monument since they are not a value listed in the proclamation, or listed as a resource that shaped the monument what it is today. BLM should remove wild horses on the Monument and anywhere in the area that is above their stated management level. BLM has mis-managed wild horses in all HMAs, so there should be no reason to attempt managing horses in a monument where wild horses will then be considered "special status" and get as much or more protection than Mr. Heizer's 45+ year career of pouring concrete and landscaping his property with gravel and curb/gutter.
21	Feral horses are an ecological oddity within the Great Basin and can negatively impact native flora and fauna. The same deleterious effects of feral foxes, rats, pigs, goats, etc... has been documented and remedied with focused and humane eradication the within many conservation areas the world over. Ecologically speaking, the feral horse population should be eliminated through gathers or other means. However, given the political and emotional baggage that feral horses have been saddled with, a sustainability study could determine how many horses could be left on the range to promote visitation and educational opportunities for people who may ignorantly connect with the idea of 'wild horses'.
22	Managing horse numbers is essential. Every practical solution is forbidden. The public is emotionally manipulated into management practices that actually hurt the horse habitat and the herds.
23	BLM should work with local ranchers on the gather and adoption of excess wild horses, while allowing the appropriate number of horses remain. The monument designation should not interfere with that.
24	I do believe that horses are not an appropriate part of the Great Basin ecosystem. These large mammals, like cattle, take an enormous toll on the fragile and arid natural system. I favor elimination of horses and burros from the monument.
25	Yes to keep them under control

6/7/2016

23 of 64

Wild Horses

26	Yes. The BLM must continue to follow the Wild Horse and Burrow Act. Nothing in the designation of the monument precluded the BLMs responsibility to follow existing and important federal laws. Wild horses are permitted within designated Herd Management Areas (HMA). These time honored HMAs should continue, but only if BLM is committed to timely removal of excess wild horses when they exceed the appropriate numbers. If allowed to expand beyond Appropriate Management Level (AML), the native vegetation suffers overuse and serious setbacks, wildlife are heavily impacted, and invasive species establish and expand bringing with them the high risk of wildfire. Also, ranchers are sometimes required by BLM to reduce livestock numbers due to BLM not removing the excess horses. Any livestock reductions place undue strain on the economic viability of the ranches dependent upon this area. If addressed as part of the monument plan, BLM could use the monument to educate visitors to the purpose and importance of managing horse numbers to protect the natural resources present in the area. If done properly, this feature could serve an all important purpose.
27	Gather horses as directed in the horse and burro act to maintain legal level and kill the excess animals is directed
28	I believe that wild horses use the same resources as wild game does, therefore hunting tags and permits should be issued for horses too.
29	Yes
30	Absolutely. Horses cause more damage than cows. If the cows are going to get pushed out, so should the horses.
31	I believe that BLM should gather all the wild horses from public lands located in the Monument.
32	No, let people see BLM Mismanagement, poor range, poor animal conditions
33	Yes all of them.
34	Yes they should
35	Wild horses are now a part of the environ. Natural approaches are best. Let the big cats help with regulation
36	BLM should use every legal means, not just gathers to keep horse populations below AML
37	Yes
38	Yes and all the areas around it so they don't move back in. I hunt in the Silver King Herd Mgt Area - the horses don't leave much for anything else - like deer I was after & never saw even sign left by them. Follow the RMP

6/7/2016

24 of 64

Cultural Resources

32 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	All historical property located in the Monument is located on private land. BLM should not look to acquire any private property for any reason in the Monument. Other than a few old mines there is little that needs to be maintained.
2	Take measures to avoid further loss or decay but limit improvements
3	Cultural resources in the field need to be protected, not enhanced. A good anthropologist could make a prehistorical and historical paper that could be sold at the Las Vegas, Caliente, Tonopah and Ely offices to cover some of the cost. I'm sure some of the public would help collaborate.
4	In the short term, maintaining the status quo would be good. It might be interesting to restore places like Rosie's Cabin, but enhancing the condition of historical properties should not be a priority because there are too many sites, and they would be too expensive to enhance.
5	Efforts should be made to thoroughly photo-document historic structures, including historic mines, fencelines, and corrals, but the sites do not need to be maintained. When I visit historic sites, it is enough to see structures such as stone walls and concrete foundations when interpretive signs with historic photos provide context about the site.
6	I am not familiar enough with the cultural resources of the area to make detailed suggestions. Following suggestions of the local people (both anglo and native american) would be in the best interest of the Monument.
7	Enhance? The beauty of Nevada is discovering the land and its past the way it is and imaging it the way it was. Leave it alone. Cultural properties? Sure, leave it alone. Anything you do will only take away from the vast, free cultural experience you can take in without signs, officials and camp sites.
8	It would be nice to see easier access to these properties but would hate to see them over-run by too many visitors.
9	Improve signage, fencing and hiking trails.
10	Don't change anything. Maintaining in current condition will leave the area as it is.
11	None in particular, but in general development and improvement of moderate hiking trails to experience the monument would be helpful. Not sure how to best protect the rock art
12	Each property needs to be considered individually for its uniqueness and historical value. A first step should be maintaining appropriate properties in current condition. A later stage might be to begin restoration on high value properties.
13	By and large, leave it natural.
14	Maintain them in their current condition. Spend money gathering the excess horses that are there.
15	Maintain them in their current condition. Spend money gathering the excess horses that are there.

6/7/2016

25 of 64

Cultural Resources

16	Just leave the country alone. Keep the Los Angeles art people out.
17	Leave it all untouched.
18	The current designations of the White River Narrows and Mt. Irish provide protection for the cultural resources, and should remain as is. Interpretation at the major sites could help provide for their protection and should be considered. Traditional cultural properties include ranching and livestock grazing, and this tradition should be a priority for management of the monument. Too often, this seems to be the target for restriction, but for this monument, this should be a priority for continuation and improvement as it is mentioned as an important activity that shaped what the monument is today.
19	If there are properties that could attract tourism the BLM should work with local tourism officials to decide how to maintain them. This could be done without a monument designation. But I think there are projects near population centers that deserve priority over this.
20	I am only familiar with the petroglyphs in the Mt. Irish area. I think that there should be a small visitor center, perhaps unstaffed, to acquaint the visitor with the array of petroglyphs in this area and to educate the visitor on their protection. Scheduled tours, perhaps weekly or such, should be offered. Trails to some of the petroglyphs off the roads should be created and maintained and equipped with appropriate signage.
21	Maintain
22	Cultural resources are unfortunately heavily sought after by some members of the public, who are only looking for items (cans, bottles, equipment pieces, aged wood, etc) to sell, or for personal collections. Once a site has been pilfered, its historical value can diminish significantly. It is probable when cultural sites contain petroglyph, pictographs, or are ancient native American dwelling sites, these areas likely warrant special protection such as specialized fencing, etc. After careful inventory of existing cultural features, perhaps a tour and public meeting to solicit inputs based on the findings would be of value. There is also a mindset with some publics that it is best not to expose the public to highly valued cultural sites, as this might only invite incidents of vandalism, etc.
23	Do nothing. Pack up your signs. Don't draw attention to the area.
24	Pre-historical sites should be protected by educational signs
25	Yes Mike Heizers gravel pit needs to be reclaimed and put back the way it was. It is an eye sore.
26	Just maintain what is there. "Enhance" usually means building something, which would appear to contradict the stated purpose of protection.
27	I do not think BLM needs to do anything more than maintain historical properties in their current condition.
28	Leave it as it is
29	Preservation of the custom & culture of the ranch in the middle of this
30	I don't know
31	Leave it alone

6/7/2016

26 of 64

Cultural Resources

32	I would like to see improvements done. Visitor center, facilities, paved roads
----	--

6/7/2016

27 of 64

Paleontological Resources

14 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	You can't tell the story of the basin and range without addressing all factors; the past isn't always a link to the future but where we first started, pre-man is essential to man's sapient sentence. Good work should be done in the Las Vegas valley and much of that is applicable to the basin and range.
2	Paleontological resources probably can take care of themselves with management oversight based on existing laws and regulations.
3	Sure Put signs up so the resources can be vandalized.
4	Ditto, see above. 'It would be nice to see easier access to these properties but would hate to see them over-run by too many visitors.'
5	Signage to the paleo resource areas are helpful
6	None in particular, but in heneral development and improvement of moderate hiking trails to experience the monument would be helpful.
7	Rock art is of international significance and needs to be protected from vandalism. As usual, the conflict will be in granting access to the public for appreciation and photography versus attracting those who would damage the resource.
8	Leave it untouched.
9	Paleontological Resources if present should be considered for further scientific research to gain an understanding of how the area has evolved. Please do not use this resource to "justify" additional restrictions. The research should only be considered if it will not further restrict use of resources in the monument.
10	No opinion.
11	If discovered in the area, these forms of prehistoric life, typically represented by animal or plant fossils, should become an important educational tool for visitors to the Monument. Many areas in the country, where significant findings of fossils occur, have established educational walking tours to share these resources with interested groups, while also promoting ongoing research into the history of the area. If discovered on site, any such area should not impact the existing grazing uses of the monument area, but rather, visitors should be educated that this area is an herbivory with vegetation that is renewable and which evolved under grazing historically. Careful grazing is what has preserved the area and its vegetation over decades of time.
12	ETC.
13	They are few at best. I have lived and ran livestock in the Basin Range for 55 years. I am also the 5th Generation to have ran livestock there and areas with resources are all around or near the limited natural water.
14	Chart where and what they are.

6/7/2016

28 of 64

Visual Resources

31 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	The BLM should create a visitor center where sky observation areas could be created. This would maintain all disturbances are localized and allow for grazing, water development and other land uses to go on undisturbed.
2	Central Nevada is perfect for your example of the night sky; A quote from a latter book in of John McPhee's works in his series on geology and geologists; I believe it is rising from the plains describes how and easterner came west and at night saw the milky way and commented you even have pollution out here. I've read so much McPhee it could have been in Encounters with the Archdruid. You should consider more than viewscape, be judicious and careful in location, trails and roads; regulate but don't dissuade off road users. Consider dust and traffic pollution and keep the essence of wild Nevada basin and range.
3	The night sky in BRNM is vast and grand, and to the extent practical, the BLM should encourage a dark sky philosophy in the surrounding areas, including Lund, Hiko, Alamo, and Rachael.
4	The main visual resources are the vast and uninterrupted views in Coal and Garden valleys, and the BLM should do everything possible to maintain these vast and uninterrupted vistas, including working to reduce regional dust and air pollution. If the water tanks in northern Garden Valley fall into disuse, they should be removed.
5	Protection of dark skies should be completely removed from NEPA as this is a complete waste of time and resources.
6	The unique visual resources that currently define the Great Basin are dark night skies, dark night landscapes, long and uninterrupted line of sight, clear air, and few-to-no man-made structures dotting or criss-crossing the landscape. To maintain these resources, the Monument should: install minimal lights of low wattage that do not pollute upward or outward, install minimal facilities and try to only install facilities in locations where man-made structures already exist rather than in undisturbed locations, install as few roads and powerlines as possible while taking every effort to disguise or blend such installations so as to not be visible from a distance, and avoid or mitigate any actions that increase air pollution including dust.
7	Central Nevada is a Visual Resource and has been before you got here and will be after we all leave. So leave it alone. The land does not need your help.
8	No flood lights, no antennas, no oil wells. No Military overflights
9	No
10	Garden Valley is already a VRM area that was addressed in the Ely RMP several years ago. The VRM should remain
11	Maintain the current character as is, including visual and soundscape.

6/7/2016

29 of 64

Visual Resources

12	The Monument provides a "dark sky" resource for astronomy hobbyists. This means the BLM will have to limit the number and speed of vehicles traveling on unpaved roads. The Monument also provides vast vistas that would be negatively impacted by dust from unpaved road travel.
13	All of Nevada's backcountry is a night sky observation area. Greatest challenge to dark night skies is urban sprawl. That can be mitigated by outdoor lighting restrictions such as those in place in communities surrounding Death Valley. Landscape management should be a balance between appropriate use and conservation.
14	Maintain this resource in its current state. There is no need to waste money on trying to "manage" this resource. Here's a thought, gather more horses.
15	Just stay away from the place, no more signs, night observation areas etc etc Don't draw any more attention to the area with BLM designation
16	Not needed for those who already enjoy the outdoors.
17	Leave as is or improve by providing a more diverse vegetative community. It is more visually pleasing to see a diversity of vegetation than a monoculture of pinyon/juniper and sagebrush with no understory.
18	Yes. The BLM should protect the existing unique viewsheds present within the Monument. This could include managing the development of surface structures and reducing existing and future light pollution. Truly dark night skies are a real asset to the Great Basin and facilitating permits or venues that promote dark skies will encourage others to experience and champion the idea of dark night skies. The same can go for hazy days as has been publicized at Grand Canyon National Park.
19	Really? There are so many isolated uninhabited valleys and peaks to serve .
20	What is to be done about the growing night-sky visual pollution and the growing air pollution due to a large metropolitan community (Las Vegas and surroundings) only 100 miles away? I think the monument should track these factors carefully over time with scientifically valid measurements.
21	People on the land have valued and enjoyed the visual resources of the area since man first occupied the area. Night sky observation, sunrises, sunsets, and the colored hues of the landscape and its vegetation are all desirable for those publics that appreciate such scenic features. An unobstructed night sky observation area might work well to help visitors gain a greater appreciation of the values this landscape delivers. Presently such a feature on the landscape might work well; however, this_ designation should not limit or eliminate the current level of daytime or nighttime access to the Area.
22	No. We do not need the BLM to "provide" anything
23	Education
24	The whole area qualifies and it don't need to be protected
25	Let cows graze - they don't light up the night sky
26	A sky observation area close to the "City" and the visitor center would be a great idea. It would be wonderful to have an amphitheater there to facilitate sky observation and astronomy lectures.
27	Build high solid wall around Hiser's art - Improve the view!

6/7/2016

30 of 64

Visual Resources

28	The reflection of the Vegas lights pretty much take care of this
29	Less regulation by the Government will allow for public regulation by the users
30	Military Flights should be restricted to high elevations Monument visitors should be buzzed or used for target practice.
31	No protection is needed. With its vastness and openness. Spend a moonless night out there that is clear. You will understand.

6/7/2016

31 of 64

Lands and Realty

33 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	I think BLM should release private land to allow for more farming in the Valley. Lincoln County has asked BLM to release land for over 15 years in the Monument. BLM has done nothing to accommodate the County. Water development right-of-ways, pipeline right-of-ways, oil and gas right-of-ways, mineral exploration and extraction right-of-ways, any type of right-of-ways that lead to economic growth in the counties should be granted.
2	No new mineral/gas/oil exploration. No water extraction to sources outside the monument
3	A limited amount of trails and natural relocation and improvement of existing right-of-ways as future use makes necessary. That might include even some minimum electric transmission no greater than 12,000 volt which should only be authorized if a compelling need such as visitor center; camp grounds and other amenities. Underground electric transmission in coordination with existing infrastructure like alongside of existing roads and perhaps even disguised cell towers may at some time be necessary. Plan ahead and be pro=active not reactive,.
4	New dirt roads might be acceptable, but only when necessary and if existing roads are insufficient.
5	If utility rights-of-way need to be authorized for local residents, they can be placed under existing roadways. Telephone poles disrupt the views and encourage problematic species such as Common Raven, and to the extent possible, existing poles should be removed and utilities placed underground.
6	Nothing taller than sagebrush should be allowed along rights-of-way except for directional signs at major road intersections (as is the current situation).
7	A PROTECTED RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE FUTURE CONSTRUCTION OF THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN RAIL CORRIDOR.
8	This plan should also provide provisions for future mineral exploration and mining projects along with opportunities for livestock grazing.
9	I do not feel that establishing any new rights-of-way would generally be appropriate, as there are already more roads and routes than needed in the area. Monumental objects are not likely to need any increase in amenities or services if the Monument wishes to preserve the lonely and rugged nature of the area (aside from things like road maintenance), and so I would not see a need for many or any new rights-of-ways. If absolutely needed, new rights of ways should avoid damaging visual resources as detailed in my comments above.
10	Well this is part of the political leverage i spoke of above. Sure if you want to keep foreign intrusion out of the 'wonder' that is Nevada, then you should keep your footprint off of it as well. No structures, no restriction of current dirt roads, no markers, no collection booths, no new employees, no new vehicles. No new rights- of- way for you either. Keep it pure, keep it accessible and keep it for the generations to come, free of your footprint.

6/7/2016

32 of 64

Lands and Realty

11	None.
12	No Pipelines. No Water Wells or Oil Wells
13	No new roads with rights of way should be approved or implemented.
14	Hiking Trails
15	We do not have enough resource knowledge at this point in time to allow new rights-of-way, and for that reason we cannot currently allow new disturbance to the land.
16	On one hand population keep growing, most people now living in big and metropolitan areas. Despite efficiency improvements power consumption keeps growing. There would be no need for new transmission lines if people voted by their actions using less and going off the grid with roof top solar and battery backup. Until then we need right-of-ways.
17	All existing roads should be granted right of way per previous laws, All range improvements have existing right of way per previous laws, All mineral entries have rights of way per previous laws, All gravel pits should be granted right of way for maintenance etc. Nothing should change that currently exists.
18	If there is a need for a right of way it should be considered under the NEPA process and not just ruled out
19	That's why I oppose this designation. It's anti-progress. The areas use should be decided by the state of Nevada. The area should provide recreational trails for hikers, horse people, and motorized use.
20	Range improvements such as fences, pipelines, roads and other structures to manage livestock grazing are appropriate with the monument designation. Read the proclamation to understand the only restrictions are no new rights-of-way for electric transmission or transportation, but these still can be authorized "as necessary for the care and management of the objects identified above [basically the City] or for the purpose of permitted livestock grazing". If rights-of-way are authorized for transportation to the City, the private landowner of the City shall pay for any improved roads or other access. How can one (or multiple) landowners get such "protection" of their investment at tax payer's expense? Please inform me how I can gain "protection" of the property I have worked on during my career/lifetime to establish a viable ranching and horse training facility. I would love to impose Federal restrictions that prohibit anyone from ruining my viewshed, lifestyle and hard work.
21	Recognition of existing roads and trails. No closure. The lands can not be enjoyed by the public if they can't get there and then around.
22	All should remain the same, and I support new development as appropriate.
23	I can think of no ROW's whose need is more important than the preservation of the monument's resources. We should not sacrifice the monument to mere human needs of the current time.

6/7/2016

33 of 64

Lands and Realty

24	Ranchers running permitted livestock on the Monument should not be subjected to undue restraints on their ability to travel existing roadways, including two track access to improvements, in the care of their livestock. They are especially familiar with the landscape, roads, vegetation, water developments, fences, etc. and will require full access to the monument when livestock are present, and as needed to maintain improvements and manage their livestock. In addition, their livestock are very familiar with the land area, vegetation, and established water developments and will travel throughout the allotment(s) to areas offorage and water because of this familiarity. Authorizing rights-of-way for any land disturbance activities will invite issues with invasive species and eroding soils. It is imperative that any disturbed areas are immediately revegetated with proper conservation species (native and non native) adapted to the existing environment. Such activity should be bonded to assure establishment and survival of the seeded species. The N-4 Board would appreciate the opportunity to review any such proposal and also the proposed reclamation plan.
25	Harry Reid and his artist buddy do not want a railroad to Yucca Mountain. That's why this monument would not make it through congress and executive action was taken.
26	Roads to Heizer Sculpture also outhouse
27	Underground pipelines for water and natural gas - there are people who live in the monument that will need to be able to access energy
28	Seriously?
29	The monument needs to allow for right-of-ways that will allow for things like water development, paving roads and building a visitor center. It would be great if SLM would release some lands for private development in the Monument which could help facilitate the visitor center and the "City".
30	Roads - All Range Improvements
31	There should be right of way for anyone needing it. I don't want to limit any of them
32	Seriously look at the highway running through it. Concentrate efforts out of view of the existing highway.
33	Water rights-of-way being able to develop and Pump water and transport if needed

6/7/2016

34 of 64

Recreation

42 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	A visitor center would be needed to inform visitor of hiking/biking trails, equestrian trail, rock climbing areas, and historical areas. Trail heads will need to be mark with signs. Additional signage should be placed along the roads directing the public to recreation destinations. An area should be created for OHV recreation. It should be marked with signage.
2	OHV restrictions
3	Limited signage for safety and education. Keep area rustic, primitive.
4	If you build it they will come could also be stated if you designate it they will come. At this time neither expansion nor reduction is warranted; hunting and exploring are for the present time the primary and limited use of non-area residents; again anticipate increased public uses and be prepared; the tragedy of the commons should be avoided. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tragedy_of_the_commons .
5	The fact is the BLM must manage this Monument as a commons, available to all the public only limited by good management avoid William Forster Lloyd's insightful essay. That is role of the BLM and will envisioned in our Declaration of Indolence; Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It was legitimized in the ninth amendment in the Bill of Rights and mandated with our westward expansion when that was out of the tidewaters and before Ohio territory Daniel Boone and Lewis and Clark; homestead acts and westward expansion all developed with our sense of public lands. The Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service oversee the use our public for today and plan for future generations. We no longer encourage homesteading and release public lands only under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) or by an act of congress.
6	Current recreational activities are diverse and distributed, and they seem to be compatible with the landscape given the low levels of use.
7	In the higher use rock arts areas, it would be helpful to develop trails that encourage people to stay on disturbed or durable surfaces. While current use is low and sporadic, this isn't currently a problem, but erosion and trampling is becoming apparent, and it would be good to get ahead of the problem before it is too late.
8	Perhaps the most important recreational development that would both enhance use of the area and reduce habitat damage would be to establish two small developed campgrounds (a few sites each with picnic tables, fire pits, and vault toilets; contract the ranchers to do maintenance), one in the north end of Coal Valley and one in the south end of Garden Valley. Developed campgrounds would encourage tourism (helping to grow the local economies) while reducing environmental damage -- a win-win for everyone -- while still allowing traditional dispersed camping.

6/7/2016

35 of 64

Recreation

9	Wheeled vehicles (including bicycles) should be strictly required to stay on existing roadways. In many cases, bicycle riders are worse than ATV riders when it comes to off-trail damage
10	I have performed extensive water rights surveys in this area and I have first-hand knowledge that the only viable uses for this land are: 1) railroad corridor, 2) mining and 3) grazing.
11	Ideally strict parameters for helicopter tours can be put in place, especially over the cultural areas, to prevent noise pollution.
12	I do not believe that many existing recreational activities should be eliminated, because that would damage the image of the Monument with locals and current users. Reducing, expanding and/or reorganizing current uses should be a priority, but not completely removing any. Because I am no longer a local, I am not familiar enough with the exact recreation areas to provide detailed comments regarding signage. Getting local input should be critical.
13	Further determination of the lands that have wilderness quality should be undertaken, and all such lands should be maintained for their potential for wilderness. This means no vehicles, no bikes, etc.
14	I also would like the BLM to do an evaluation of potential human recreational uses and determine in advance where hiking, etc. would be appropriate. In particular, I am concerned about the impacts of mountain biking since this activity and mechanical advantage are giving this activity more and more geographical advantages.
15	The current recreational activities are the ones you make for your self and your family, they are the treasured moments within a vast area found without campsites, kiosks, and 'scenic overlooks'. When a family discovers that kind of freedom it is priceless. We do not need you to do it for us. Leave it alone.
16	Would love to see better access for RVing and camping. During our visit we only found one easily-accessible camping spot, 14 miles inside the monument for our smallish RV. Larger dispersed camping areas would be a really nice way to attract the right kind of campers who appreciate this type of environment. Signage to dispersed camping areas would be a bonus. For more info please check out our blog post about our visit: http://www.liveworkdream.com/2015/12/16/basin-and-range-rv-camping/
17	Leave motorized vehicle access as is.
18	No
19	Ideally strict parameters for helicopter and air tours can be put in place, especially over the cultural areas, to prevent noise pollution. Signage for visitors direction should be placed at the Monument sign already in place, when turning off Hwy 318 onto Seaman Wash Road. No other signage should be in place anywhere in the monument on BLM managed property. The area needs to remain in its remote and beautiful state. No recreational activities should be expanded, but current uses should be allowed. No facilities should be provided. The area needs to remain remote and unspoiled.

6/7/2016

36 of 64

Recreation

20	some signage is needed for sure. Development and improvement of hiking facilities (trail heads, toilets, water, camping) is needed.
21	Principal recreational activities that I would like to see expanded include astronomy, bird watching, plant study, and geology investigations. Limited back-country camping can be allowed in areas that are less sensitive to human use. I strongly advise against ORV recreation because this land is not appropriate for "sacrificial" destructive uses. BLM should provide simple signage explaining appropriate and forbidden recreational uses, in addition to signs that direct visitors to iconic places of interest.
22	The National Monument should continue to allow access to managed OHV recreation on routes that are currently open for either/or street legal or non-street legal motorized travel. The National Monument should authorize SRPs. A signing and mapping program is critical for the long-term success of managed recreation (both motorized and non-motorized) in the project area. Develop a substantive user volunteer program to help the agency manage the Monument. Travel by riders on OHVs is harmonious with natural values and infinitely sustainable. Many OHV riders including me appreciate natural places and the solitude they offer. Benefits of riding that can't be found confined in OHV reservations. Consider an OHV has a smaller carbon footprint than a horse and less impact on terrain. Nature is extremely resilient up to a point of use. Increased use can be accommodated by managed trail networks. The best way to keep riders on designated trails is an extensive, robust, varied, and challenging trail network to interesting places. The best way to establish such a network is working with the riders.
23	No new facilities need to be built. All existing uses should remain. All existing roads should remain. Signs are not needed. Save money and use it to gather horses. Save money and use it to perform beneficial vegetative treatment projects and build more range improvements.
24	I don't want to see any more GD BLM sign anywhere in the state. If you ask me they are more of a blight on the landscape than a powerline
25	Let ATV's be used by ATV enthusiasts and hunters so it can be enjoyed by the people and not be controlled by bureaucrats who never use the outdoors.
26	No facilities need to be installed for recreation. Keep recreational activities as they are currently, including the motorcycle races. Allow open recreation without restrictions. Consider allowing competitive motor cross events within the City to allow full enjoyment of the artwork, various topographic sculpting all surrounded by the expanse of Garden Valley, the Golden Gate and Worthington Mountains.
27	Recreation can is being overemphasized. There is a natural and already recreational uses that has been occurring for along long time.
28	Focus more on recreation projects near population centers. Don't see a need to develop recreation on this land at this time.
29	Foot trails to a few especially scenic or interesting points should be created, allowing trips from a few minutes to up to a full day.
30	No

6/7/2016

37 of 64

Recreation

31	Lincoln County residents should not be excluded or unduly restricted from the recreational activities on the Monument area that they have enjoyed in the area for generations. BLM should have public meetings in Lincoln County meeting rooms around the County and field tours to hear out the local publics, their concerns, and needs. Locals are the best voice to answer the questions posed in this Recreation section. The area is widely used by local residents for hunting and trapping. These activities should be maintained and in no way curtailed. The Planning effort should include at least one representative from the Lincoln County Wildlife Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, as well as at least one member from the Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited Conservation Group to provide further inputs during the planning process.
32	We do not need the BLM to provide facilities or signs or manage anything within Lincoln County or Nevada
33	On current Rights of Way Maps must be provided (paper & Virtual)
34	Allow for recreation to stay the same. Do not put up signs as they detract from the scenic landscape
35	No new facilities - just let people enjoy the area
36	The hiking trail system in the Monument needs to be expanded upon. There are no hiking trails currently in the Monument only dirt roads. To hike anywhere you have to hike cross country potentially doing damage to the environment. For example there is no trail to Leviathan Cave. SLM need to place signs at every intersection to prevent people from getting lost. They should also mark trail heads. Maps could also be provided at the visitor center to keep people from getting lost. BLM also needs to be working with USFS because some of the best recreation in the Monument are located on USFS lands.
37	Access to All as is
38	No No and No - it is what it is leave it alone
39	I don't want them to put signage
40	Expand outdoor use as Jeep trails, horse trails, etc. People will protect what they see more than "Wilderness/prohibited" areas which are later sold for \$\$\$ for land developers who could care less about the public. Look at Clark County and see the misuse
41	a nonmotorized trail from Murphy Gap to Water Gap in Golden Gate Range
42	This area is huge. There needs to be planned facilities throughout the monument. Also, all current roads need to remain open and active

6/7/2016

38 of 64

Forest and Woodland Products

37 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	Very little of the land that falls in the Monument has wood for harvest. Most of the areas that has good wood for harvest falls outside the Monuments boundaries and is controlled by the USFS. Absolutely, firewood should be allowed to be collected for personal use within the monument.
2	This is a limited resource and should not be exploited. Fire restrictions should be in place.
3	Yes at this time. Forests can be more safer if some down and decaying vegetative matter is collected; unhealthy trees marked and cut for firewood, not in any great scale.
4	Yes, collecting firewood for personal campfires should continue to be allowed. Similarly, other forest products (e.g., pine nuts) should remain available for collecting for personal use.
5	Yes. This activity has been occurring throughout the Great Basin long before the creation of the BLM and Forest Service.
6	We all know that campfires are a signature of a good Nevada campout, so I hesitate to restrict personal use. However, certain areas will not be able to support such collection if visitation increases, so certain restriction will have to be in order. I would like to see wood from nearby pinyon/juniper treatments to be available for visitors to use for fires in the Monument, since many treatments are occurring and local businesses could work with the FS or the BLM to harvest and sell some of this wood to park visitors.
7	So the regulation is already in place ? Generations of family's that cut wood in the past are now left without, for what ? Got bad news for ya, the rural residents of this state will burn camp fires with the wood found on the land, so you may as well call it 'permissible' or your setting yourself up for failure.
8	NO! People will unfortunately do it anyways but the more you can make it clear it's not acceptable the better the land will be for future generations.
9	Yes allow personal use of firewood
10	Yes as long as the firewood is not taken from a living tree.
11	If personal firewood permits are already permitted, then they should continue.
12	yes - collecting downed wood for personal use is appropriate
13	Collecting of any plant material should be forbidden in all cases. All vegetative material needs to be left for natural recycling and use by biological elements of the ecosystem (fungi, bacteria, invertebrates, and vertebrates (reptiles, birds and mammals)).
14	Collecting firewood for personal use should be allowed.

6/7/2016

39 of 64

Forest and Woodland Products

15	Follow best management practices. Consider the benefits of wood cutting before just saying no. Consider how can cutting firewood prevent wildfires by fuel management while maintaining a natural setting. This can apply to small commercial operations. The economic wellbeing of small rural communities and governments should be higher priority in land management decisions.
16	Yes
17	Damn right!! I Do!!
18	I think the monument designation should not be allowed then this would not be an issue.
19	Allow all use of woodland and forest products for personal and commercial use as they are currently or look to expand collection of native seed for use in restoration activities. Why has a decision already been made to close commercial wood cutting? This was not mentioned in the proclamation, and an arbitrary decision to restrict such use is an example of how BLM is planning to deal with all other uses on the monument (slow, yet steady restrictions with no public input or comment).
20	To me, collecting firewood in the 'back country' would be a practice difficult to manage or notice. In my time in the Great Basin, fire wood collection around highly visited areas, especially in the pinyon-juniper belt usually results in many thrashed live trees. Existing ecological research results on the importance of standing and down dead plant material should be consulted and utilized on managing firewood collection on a location-by-location basis.
21	thr wood use should be allowed and even in fire ground area commercial thinning.
22	Yes.
23	Collecting wood for campfires should be allowable, but of course restrictions to prevent wildfire must be codified and enforced.
24	Yes
25	The N-4 Board agrees that commercial firewood cutting may not be an appropriate activity within the Monument. Carefully planned firewood cutting by individuals, when occurring in designated areas that enhances the condition of the resource should be allowed. Also treatment areas show additional benefit by providing opportunity for the visiting public to view before and after photos of the treatment sites to demonstrate why it is allowed and encouraged. Also to discuss the early wood cutters (carbonelles) role in cutting the pinyon-juniper woodlands, stacking the wood and slow burning it for charcoal used in the historic mine mills to process gold. The N-4 Board fully supports proactive treatments of Pinyon and Juniper woodlands in order to prevent and/or limit catastrophic wildfire. The Board would suggest that nothing in the management plan curtail such active management practices, including the potential use of Stewardship Contracting or Stewardship Agreements to implement such projects.
26	Yes, anything the people of Lincoln County and Nevada deem necessary should be permitted

6/7/2016

40 of 64

Forest and Woodland Products

27	Of Course
28	Commercial wood cutting has always ben part of the local custom and culture of the area and is nessary for controlling wildfire, and forest health. Personal use should also be allowed
29	Yes you are setting the area up for a big fire
30	Removing dead trees off public lands within the Monument is paramount, whether it is for personal use of commercial. Removing dead trees will help prevent catastrophic wildfires.
31	Allow woodcutting IE management IE Fuel Reduction
32	really? Have you been out here? You ask this (pointing to recreation) and then you worry about collecting fire wood? Really?
33	Yes I do
34	Yes
35	Firewood cutting should be encouraged in Wild Horse Valley, S Coal Valley S Garden Valley
36	Yes personal firewood cutting should continue to be permitted for home heating use
37	Yes & you better plan to do something to manage PJ or it will become all Phase 3 so other plants have to water & die out & then you will have erosion erosion erosion

6/7/2016

41 of 64

Geology and Mineral Extraction

38 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	The number of gravel pits within the Monument should be increased to reduce the cost of maintain the road. The closer the gravel pits are located to the road the cheaper the cost will be to maintain the roads.
2	Decreased
3	Evaluated and adjusted when future needs dictate. If you paved some roads maybe reduced; increased only if warranted; there are other places and BARBN should not export sand and gravel long distances such as population centers but don't state and county road departments.
4	Maintaining graded roads on muddy landscapes always is a problem. It seems reasonable to continue using the existing gravel pits within the monument, but leaving tall piles of gravel after the work is done should not be allowed (the gravel pile in Garden Valley is the highest man-made feature in the area and is visible from a long ways off). I don't know where all nine gravel pits are located, but to the extent practical, the number within BRNM should be minimized.
5	In reference to mineral extraction, all illegal, bird-killing mining claim markers should be knocked down, and those associated with abandoned claims should be removed.
6	That number should be increased for the construction of the Yucca Mountain Rail Corridor.
7	Allowed to remain the same.
8	This number should remain the same or be reduced if certain pits are no longer producing. It makes sense for the Monument to supply its own gravel for porjects, so it does not create extra disturbance to areas outside the Monument, but becasue it is a Monument, increasing the number of pits would be against the goals of the Monument, as would using pits inside the monument to generate gravle for use outside the monument.
9	Sorry commercial gravel use must be treated like the firewood and collection should cease immediately unless collected for personal use, after-all its a National Monument !
10	We never even noticed them, but would probably notice more. The roads, however, are really nice so do whatever it takes to continue maintaining them that way, even if it means another gravel pit.
11	Decrease the gravel pits. No new Oil Wells.
12	If the existing pits satisfies the current need, then leave as is. If the need could be met with fewer pits, then I believe it should be reduced.
13	Allowed to remain the same.
14	plenty of gravel elsewhere in Nevada. Once existing agreements expire revert to non-commercial uses.
15	The gravel pits need to be reduced in number and possibly eliminated if sources outside the Monument can be exploited.

6/7/2016

42 of 64

Geology and Mineral Extraction

16	Allowed to remain if operational. If not operational, then maybe considering dropping.
17	Follow best management practices. The economic wellbeing of small rural communities and governments should be higher priority in land management decisions.
18	All pits should be granted a right of way. Any new pits identified should also be granted a right of way. This should be addressed as needed.
19	Shut down the so called work of art down there, it's the most offensive thing in the monument
20	No changes.
21	Increase if needed to maintain roads or uses on the monument with proper vegetation management (i.e., invasive species or weed control). If determined to be needed or requested, then allow these activities to occur as this was not restricted in the proclamation.
22	Allowed to remain the same.
23	There should just be a opening when a new one is needed, closing when abandoned. Opening gravel areas close to use reduces costs and reduces wear and tear on roads and vehicle.
24	All pits should be granted a right of way. New pits should be created as needed.
25	I can only think that this use is overall small. Continued use is probably not a factor in degradation of the monument. Opening of any additional gravel or sand pits should be carefully examined though.
26	Allowed to remain as long as it provides the need
27	Existing gravel pit uses should remain as such. Gravel is critically important in the construction industry and also for road repairs and maintenance. In addition, gravel pits are not widely abundant in southeast Nevada, thus their importance should be recognized where construction and growth occur. The BLM will need to determine if additional pits should be allowed within the monument based on demand and availability in the future.
28	Again, anything that the people of Lincoln County and Nevada need should be allowed. Leave the pits alone. Increase as needed.
29	remain the same
30	Gravel Pits should be allowed upon request by the Ln Co road Dept as it is necessary to maintain well graveled roads that provide for tourism
31	Why is it okay to extract gravel but not commercial or strategic minerals?
32	BLM should increase the number of gravel pits in order to reduce their cost of maintaining that roads.
33	Allow continued use of all "minerals"
34	We were assured that would not change - what has happened to that assurance?
35	Allowed to remain the same
36	the same
37	allowed to remain the same
38	at least allowed to remain the same

6/7/2016

43 of 64

Fire

33 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	BLM should not conduct controlled burns. They should reduce hazardous fuels through grazing. This method has proven to work.
2	Controlled burns are inexpensive prevention and necessary to reduce the chance of a major fire or catastrophic burn. Most definitely pursue where warranted.
3	Controlled burns are an important tool for maintaining the health of landscapes and protecting against catastrophic fires. Controlled burns should be allowed where necessary and as conditions allow.
4	The Monument should work with the BLM to do whatever has been proven to work regarding fuels management in areas where wildfire will be damaging. Not all fires are damaging, but where invasive weeds are present, fire almost always increases these plant pests. The Monument should not invent it's own way to manage fuels unless these methods are a product of research, collaboration, or tried-and-true approaches.
5	So I cant cut cords of wood to heat my home, but your going to burn off thousands of acres that you have allowed to overgrow by not allowing me to heat my family's home... Sounds reasonable.
6	Yes.
7	No controlled burns.
8	Yes
9	No. Just fight and control the fires when and if they happen.
10	if necessary
11	Controlled burns are a valid tool for vegetation weed management, however they must be prescribed according to current standards of fire ecology for the Mojave Desert element.
12	So ours and future generations can breathe vegetation has to be considered as a resource. Protection of vegetation is best done by best management practices. Vegetation is a resource, but there can be too much vegetation in a given area. That leads to catastrophic wildfires that burn areas clear while discharging ash and smoke that covers skies hundreds of miles away. The best management of nature is by conservation. Preservation sounds good to people whose world is dominated by a hundred thousand square miles of never ending urban sprawl. Preservation is counterproductive to stewardship of natural places because it's non-management of resources that need to be managed. Preservationist don't know the damage they do because living in cities far away they don't feel the consequences of bad policy they helped implement.
13	Yes
14	No stay the hell out, don't advertise this debacle. If people don't come from California it will ____ be just free
15	No, if it is designated as a restrictive monument area if there is a fire let it burn naturally until it's outside the area.

6/7/2016

44 of 64

Fire

16	As stated above for vegetation treatment projects, fire should be used as a tool to improve vegetation conditions or reduce certain vegetation. Fire could be used prior to herbicide or to reduce unwanted woody vegetation and should not be restricted in it's use.
17	Yes.
18	Yes.
19	Not sure.
20	No
21	Controlled burns present a challenge to identify the most ideal conditions to conduct such burn. In addition there is serious risk of losing control of the burn and impacting vast areas of forage and wildlife habitat. Burn areas are also subject to invasive species in many instances. The N-4 Board supports carefully planned controlled burns as a tool for resource improvement, but mainly after other proven treatments have been attempted and unsuccessfully applied. Controlled burns typically result in livestock removal for a period of time (2+ years) at a cost to the rancher, so the anticipated results should be carefully considered before implementing the treatment. Close coordination should occur between SLM and the rancher(s) from the onset of the proposed treatment.
22	No. The Department of the Interior should get out of the fire business. It is a waste of tax dollars.
23	Hell no! Let the campers collect the fuels
24	No. Intensify grazing to control fuel loads, along with Pinion Juniper harvesting
25	Grazing does the same thing without the risk of a fire getting away from you
26	BLM should control bum within the Monument to help reduce catastrophic wildland fire.
27	The BLM is charged with "management" manage
28	Only if the inholders & affected interests are in agreement
29	Yes
30	Probably
31	Yes BLM should spend more \$ on prescribed fire than on wildfire suppression
32	areas of the monument are dense and think with P.J. continue authorization of wood cutting permits will help keep fuels down. Controlled burns also should be allowed
33	Yes & continue grazing for the same purpose. And follow the current understanding of Dr. Barry Pergman of UNR that the only way to manage cheatgrass is to graze it. In the fall work very well because it reduces the litter that cheatgrass likes to see into & therefore helps the perenial grasses get a foot up.

6/7/2016

45 of 64

Special Designations Management

35 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	I think it would be a great idea to de-designate the Mt. Irish Area and Shooting Gallery. There is no need for these areas to be Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.
2	Yes
3	No, don't de-designate and there are others that should be considerer for Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) status in current and future planning,
4	If Monument status protects special resources as well or better than ACEC status, then it makes sense to de-designate those areas and simplify management.
5	Miners, ranchers, and timber cutters have had some 150 years to locate resources and build roads. If in that time, nobody has found reason to build a road, the remaining roadless areas should be considered for Wilderness designation.
6	This land should be left as is, adhering to the multi-use mission of the BLM for the public benefit. This designation benefits nobody except that goofy artist who constructed the 'City'.
7	If the existing designation's management protocols are the same as those of the Monument, de-designation would pre appropriate. If the existing designations management protocols are more strict than the Monuments, then the existing designations should remain.
8	De-Designate all other areas within the new make believe area and leave it alone. Put up a pretty wood sign on a highway somewhere and call it something great, just leave the land alone. You can feel good about yourself knowing your not ruining the last free state. Additional protection ? Yes against any further designation or regulation. Say it sloooooowly, Leave It lone.
9	Protect Mr Irish ACEC
10	Yes
11	No
12	No Opinion
13	Both Mt.Irish and Shooting Gallery merit ACEC designation as part of the National Monument designation.
14	I wouldn't want the restrictions reduced.
15	ACECs and other designations should be constantly be reevaluated. Some areas of the monument should be managed differently. Minimize bureaucracy and special designations.
16	No
17	There are no other areas in this state that need special designation. This place didn't need it, but now that's its been shoved down our throats just leave it be as much as possible

6/7/2016

46 of 64

Special Designations Management

18	Open all federally designated areas to recreational motorized travel to provide more people and senior citizens the opportunity to use and see them when hiking is out of the question due to distance. Those areas are of no use except for the extremely physically fit therefor of no use to the majority of people who use the outdoors.
19	Remain as is, and do not add any other restrictions that are currently provided by the ACEC. Other areas do not need additional protections. However, multiple use of the resources including recreation, livestock grazing, gravel use, OHV use, etc. needs to have protections listed to maintain and ensure their future use on the monument (i.e., create a management plan that states these uses will continue at the maximum level possible).
20	No. The Mt. Irish ACEC and Shooting Gallery ACEC are exceptionally unique and deserve management distinction even if redundant.
21	No.
22	Not sure about this.
23	Don't understand
24	Yes, the SLM should "de-designate" existing ACECs within the monument as there is no need for multiple designations. The specific management objectives for those areas can be rolled into the overall Management Plan for the Monument.
25	De-designate all ACEC areas in Nevada and the monument, including the monument itself
26	White River Narrows. Education
27	Yes - No
28	Does the fact that there are overlapping designations suggest there might be too much management? De-designate whenever possible.
29	We with the Monument would just go away.
30	BLM should de-designate the Mt. Irish and Shooting Gallery ACEC's because there is no need to have these area's protected twice. There should not be any need for additional protection beyond that offered by the Monument status to any other land in this area.
31	No
32	you did not know these would overlap when it was designated??? Yes the areas that the ranch has protected for over 100 years already
33	Yes
34	Clean up the overlap, allow public access
35	No other areas need to be protected as with the wilderness and monument it all ready covers 1.4 million acres

6/7/2016

47 of 64

Travel Management

36 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	I believe that the existing roads need to be maintained better by BLM including two-track roads. Paving a road to a visitor center would be extremely beneficial. Creating new roads from the visitor center throughout the basin to points of interest would be needed.
2	Non motorized areas. Designated areas for OHV.
3	Are there roads within the Monument that suffer existing or recurring resource damage? There will be when the word gets out. Should the BLM provide new or improved routes to any locations? Yes, designated routes allow the reduction of pioneered trails. The level of use was such that a pioneered trail would recover before it became permanent; increased use will occur and the 90% who would pioneer will be reduced to 5% who will still pioneer if recreational trails are provided. Are there areas that should be specifically identified for motorized or non-motorized use (hiking, biking)? Yes of course; we don't want recreational mountain biking near archaeologically significant resources but don't want to deny such users a place to play. Balance and multiple use best works with good planning; anticipation and proactive management; I pray your budget will allow this.
4	Is it true that ranchers are limited to existing roads even when rounding up cattle and sheep? I've seen ATVs used off-road to manage cattle.
5	I don't know of any roads that lead to areas of existing or recurring resource damage; maybe I don't understand the question.
6	Part of the lure of BRNM is the wild and rugged road system that leads to the far corners of the area. I don't think any roads need to be added or improved (certainly no pavement), except maybe we could run a grader out to Natural Arch and the rock art sites once in a while. Other important roads seem to be maintained regularly and as needed.
7	Bikes must be restricted to existing roads. In my experience, bike riders are as bad, maybe worse, than ATV riders when it comes to the proliferation of trails.
8	Roadless areas should remain roadless unless there are compelling reasons to add new roads.
9	The use of Public Land for trails that promote hiking and biking is a great use of the land and should be protect and promoted within this designated area.
10	Seaman Wash road is essential for accessing many parts of the Monument including City. It will be important for the BLM to provide financial and other support to the county to adequately maintain that road.
11	I am not familiar enough with the area to make detailed comments. I would suggest that placing higher value on local people's opinions and needs would help the Monuments travel plans fit in with local opinions and needs, which should be a priority, because friction between local culture and the Monument will only be problematic to its success and its ability to preserve what it's trying to preserve.

6/7/2016

48 of 64

Travel Management

12	Oh boy. There it is. Why dont you just answer the question yourself, you basically do that anyway. Do not block any existing dirt roads, do not mark anything. For the most part no one is hiking or biking in this area, those that are want you to stay out and leave it alone. No one is asking for regulation in this area.
13	Yes! See above regarding adding dispersed camping areas for RVers and campers. As for motorized OHV use, we say NO WAY. Would also like better highway signage with enough warning to turn off with our RV.
14	Do not change the Travel Management Plans. No road closures
15	Many of the roads suffer damage from flooding, snow (freeze / thaw), and general vehicle use. I don't believe relocating roads will change this.
16	Seaman Wash road is essential for accessing many parts of the Monument including City. It will be important for the BLM to provide financial and other support to the county to adequately maintain that road. No, there should be no new or improved routes. Leave them as they are, it is critical to the remote nature of this area to leave it as it is.
17	All existing roads and trails must be continued unless there is a valid environmental conflict. Don't shut the place down to 4x4's!
18	The President's Monument Proclamation thanks the stakeholders for their excellent stewardship of the area. I am a member of long term stakeholder group. I am an off highway motorcycle rider and racer. I've raced and ridden in this area for over 20 years and know people that raced and rode there 20 years before me. The pristine nature of the area after all those years of riding and racing in organized competition is proof of the long term sustainability and compatibility with nature of off highway motorcycle recreation and sport. Off highway vehicle recreational riders and sportsman should be given the same considerations promised other stakeholders. I feel the term "travel management" inappropriate for the purpose because "travel" is defined as "getting from one place to another". Travel emphasizes destination over the journey. Riding the journey is as much the adventure as the destination. Travel management justifies the policy of minimization. If the goal is transportation, why do we need several routes going to the same place? The answer is, the best way to keep riders on designated routes is by providing many miles of robust challenging routes. Riders prefer loop routes, the return route different than the outbound. On a weekend outing they prefer not riding the same trails twice. An extensive network of existing 2 track roads in the Monument is an asset to establish a managed travel plan that serves riders with excellent riding opportunities sufficient to avoid rider created routes. And offer a riding mecca attracting riders and the dollars they spend in the local economy. The best way to establish a viable travel network is working with riders that know the area. There are many riders in several clubs willing to help.
19	All existing roads should remain open and have a right of way.
20	All areas currently open to motorized use should remain open. Further access should be evaluated as the need arises

6/7/2016

49 of 64

Travel Management

21	You're lying. I've seen roads closed by USFS and BLM. Especially the small two track access roads making access to some areas unusable. Your unmentioned intent is to close off all small and leave only major travel roads.
22	Your statements above indicate to me a pre-determined course of action. You really don't want my opinion. However, I think you should continue to allow access as it exists today. Encourage people to explore the area, don't ban them from it.
23	Keep all current roads open to all motorized use, and consider adding more roads where needed for management and access to public lands.
24	All existing roads should remain open and have a right of way.
25	A complete travel management plan should be drawn up. Travel maps must be made available at every entrance road to the monument. A reasonable amount of signage should be installed in the monument area. It does not need to be overdone because most people now have smartphones with GPS capability and can navigate well without signage. The monument should have no more open roads than it is able to maintain. In Nevada, we have too many backroads which are not maintained by any entity, and the consequent soil erosion and resource damage is unacceptable. The lesson is to designate, with public input, a set of roads for travel and then close the rest.
26	Again, the people of Lincoln County and Nevada should decide how to manage travel in our county and our state
27	Must be
28	No - No, the county already does that - No my livestock right uses moterized vehicles in the round up of livestock and has for about 20 years now
29	"Travel Management Plan" means shutting down roads. Please do not do that.
30	BLM should pave the Seaman Wash road at least to the "City" if not all the way to Cherry Creek. This would allow the best way for visitors to reach the Monument and hopefully a visitor center. There are several two-track roads that tend to get rutted in winters months that need grading and constant maintenance. BLM should also reimburse Lincoln County for any maintenance done on county roads within the Monument.
31	Yes more access not less

6/7/2016

50 of 64

Travel Management

32	Motorized vehicles should remain only on existing roads, minimizing, or avoiding new roads with the exception of targeted special lookout areas, etc. Minimizing roads will help to avoid spread of invasive weeds and intrusion into areas important for wildlife solitude. Where and if new roads are absolutely necessary and constructed, special attention should be directed at immediate revegetation with proven and adapted plant species to help stabilize soils and prevent establishment of invasive species. Livestock permittees should be allowed full access to the range improvements as deemed necessary, generally accessed on two track trails with 4 wheel drive vehicles. With the exception of trails established around petroglyph, etc., bike and hiking trails should be avoided, as these areas become disturbances and invite the presence of invasive species. The permittees running on the allotment would have the best knowledge of roads with existing or reoccurring resource damage. In developing a Transportation and Travel Management Plan, the BLM must reach out to all permittees with grazing allotments in the area, as well as to Lincoln County planning to ensure that all needed roads and trails are maintained. The N-4 Grazing Board would advocate for no net loss of access to the public lands within the monument, and would ask that the BLM consider designation of certain routes be accessible by permittees for "administrative access" to range improvements such as fences, water troughs / hauls, pipelines, etc. rather than completely closing such limited use trails.
33	You need to drive here in the springs & winter Do Not build any roads anywhere they do not already exist - they are already roads every where. Do Not specifically i.d. areas of use
34	No
35	If you limit motorized vehicle, you have made the area in violation of ADA. Only people without health problems will be allowed in. There is too much exclusion of the public now
36	every storm even washes out the roads. All current road should stay open for motorized use.

6/7/2016

51 of 64

Social and Economic Values

36 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	Adding a visitor center and an entrance fee would be of great economic benefit to the Monument and the counties. Fee entrance could be split between the BLM and the counties. BLM could use the money to improve the Monument while the counties could use the money to promote the monument. If BLM restricts development of the natural resources, grazing, water development, mineral resource development, or oil and gas development it will have nothing but a negative economic impact to the counties in this area.
2	Only time will tell; If the rate of climate change continues to fluctuate who knows what will happen in the future; it may be a lacustrine paradise or waterless desert; It could be a the next Yellowstone but no in our lifetime. It could be a place to discuss climate change; the existing historical dam at Oneota or the fact that a dry ravine is named Water Cap gives evidence to climate change in the last 100 years. Until the tourists discover it impacts and benefits will be marginal.
3	Much of the western US is transitioning from extractive economies to experience economies. As the mines play out, jobs are lost and there is little opportunity for second uses. As the land dries out, ranchers and farmers move north and east following the water. Recreation, however, can remain forever and never uses up the resource. Campgrounds will bring visitors to the area, and campers will use local communities to resupply food and fuel. I've led groups who didn't want to camp, and we filled up local hotels. As we develop a few campgrounds, open City, and advertise the area, people with money in their pockets will come to experience this part of the Great Basin and the local economy will grow. While visitation might be limited, I'd imagine that there is some demand to witness sheep shearing and cattle roundups.
4	If this designation prevents the construction of the Yucca Mountain Rail Corridor and eliminates any future mineral resource development the economic harm to Nevada could be significant.
5	The potential economic benefits are many. As with other land art sites City is a destination. People will travel from around the world to see it. Because of the time commitment to visit City visitors will be staying in local hotels, eating at local restaurants, buying supplies for camping, filling up at the local gas stations. This will only increase over time.
6	Creation of more federal employees, thats about it. The machinery, and human disturbance brought by creating this make believe monument far outweigh the new federal jobs created
7	Local towns would benefit greatly. We used the closest town as a base camp. Spent money at the RV park and grocery store too. Also took the ET highway and visited/ate in Rachel, then over to Tonopah and Death Valley. Basin and Range is a great addition to a western NV road trip!

6/7/2016

52 of 64

Social and Economic Values

8	I don't know. I don't understand how 10 Monuments could raise revenue of 156 Million and create 1800 jobs.
9	I don't see any immediate economic impact. However by protecting the lands, it will continue to draw tourists that enjoy wildlife and nature well into the future.
10	The potential economic benefits are many. As with other land art sites City is a destination. People will travel from around the world to see it. Because of the time commitment to visit City visitors will be staying in local hotels, eating at local restaurants, buying supplies for camping, filling up at the local gas stations. This will only increase over time.
11	No Opinion
12	Birding, astronomy, geology, archeology and plant hobbyists will bring money for hotels and meals to the local community and as far away as Las Vegas. These visitors will help to diversify the economy of the greater region, a great benefit to Southern Nevada.
13	I would like to be able to pull my small rv and aprk in locations and camp. In addition, I would like to have places where I can hike on trails.
14	A positive impact locally if management as a monument doesn't bar prior stakeholders.
15	No Comment
16	You watch, this area will deteriorate if the designation draws more people. I doubt that it will however, it isn't the Grand Canyon, Zio, Bryce, or the caliber of places that are parks and monuments. Its simple a testament to the ego of 2 men
17	I doubt if there would be any measurable impacts. Only the people that use the area now would feel the negative impact.
18	Impacts include the additional restrictions that are added from the proclamation, and those BLM has already implemented (e.g., closing to commercial wood cutting) as well as those BLM is planning to implement (closed or reduced livestock grazing, road restrictions, OHV use, anything Mr. Heizer wants, etc.). BLM seems to always add restrictions above and beyond what is necessary to maintain the resources, and this provides a huge economic impact, especially to ranchers who use the lands for livestock grazing, OHV users, hunters, and the general public.
19	I would hope that Monument designation would come with increased visitation. I can't think of any larg-scale economic limitations.
20	Loss of potential oil and gas explorations and uses, loss of new uses not seen or imagenes today
21	Efforts should be centered on current projects near population centers. The monument is not needed.
22	I cannot address this. But work of the Headwaters Economics NPO shows that national monument status across the West brings significant economic benefits to communities surrounding the those monuments in nearly all cases. Make this data part of the presentation to the public at a visitor center.

6/7/2016

53 of 64

Social and Economic Values

23	Visitors will spend money in Lincoln County when visiting the Monument, thus contributing to the local economy to some degree. Negative impacts to ranching would occur if livestock grazing is removed or limited on the Monument. Initial visitation might draw recognized numbers, but likely will fall off considerably following initial visits. If it is determined during planning and/or management that the Monument justifies placing additional staff in Lincoln County, the County will benefit from the added employment and tax base. The N-4 Grazing Board adamantly supports the concept of no net loss of grazing AUMs within the Monument. Public land grazing is important to the custom, culture and economic well-being of the Monument itself and to Lincoln County.
24	Some tourism, not worth the costs. It will cost ranchers, miners, railroaders, oil & gas companies, etc. much more. And it will cause decreased revenue for Lincoln County.
25	Visitation to the Heizer sculpture should be available and profitable
26	Higher maintenance costs to county on roads. More garbage left by tourists, damage to private developments creating higher costs to Ln Co Sheriffs dept.
27	The obvious economic impact is to run grazers out of business and shut down mining exploration. You can see Heizers mess on Google Earth. Realistically, who is going to drive out here to see concrete when they can see it in the city every day?
28	Harry Reed has taken over 5,000 acres from us and we call him and leave a message for him-He always has a way to get back at us.
29	Economic impacts caused by this Monument could be catastrophic for the ranching families and private land owners. The Monument will also deny the counties and potential economic from natural resource development. Creating a visitor center and encouraging the public to visit the Monument could help subsidize the potential economic impact. Allowing the public to actually visit the "City" would also be a great economic benefit to the counties and the Monument.
30	Any positive benefits will be off set 10x by Govt Waste, Red Tape Compliance & increased monument/BLM Overhead
31	would be? Is it a little to late to ask that?
32	I think it will cause a negative impact
33	There would not be the economic gain promised by Congress. Just more restrictions and exclusions
34	The monument has few unique and outstanding features in comparison to other BLM lands in the county. There will be no economic benefit because the Monument offers nothing unique and outstanding
35	If the proper infrastructure was constructed. Visitor center, rv park, facilities built throughout the monument signage & kiosks showing sites and attractions
36	negative economic impacts to ranches if regulation creep reduces their opportunity to continue to ranch. No ranching always means no management no management means eroded soils

6/7/2016

54 of 64

Land Art Work CITY

35 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	The "City" should definitely be opened to the public for viewing. Constructing a visitor center near the "city" would be beneficial to providing information about the creation. I have been in Garden Valley hundreds of times and never been able to see it. I would definitely visit the "City".
2	Yes
3	I've been there; it is not for me but others would appreciate art on the large; The nearby ghost remains of Oneota appeal to me.
4	Absolutely! I can't wait to visit City again -- and this time with my camera. Directional signs for City should be consistent with existing signs.
5	I've been as close as legally permitted to the 'City'. It is a waste of alluvial soil used to create it. There is no public benefit to this structure.
6	Yes, often.
7	I despise the City, but if it in any way shapes the management or use of public lands, then I would argue that it must be open to the public in some way. The City can not have its cake and eat it too.
8	No, keep your collection booth and your tour guide.
9	YESSSSS!!!! We SO wanted to visit. Would like some reassurance though that the road across the lake bed is in good enough shape to traverse, it looked iffy. We didn't drive across.
10	I wouldn't go there but other people might
11	Yes
12	Yes, often.
13	absolutely
14	No, I would not visit City, and I feel this needs to be relocated outside the Monument.
15	Yes
16	I would not waste my time. It's sad that a little bit of dirt and concrete can be the reason for such a ridiculous designation. Money wasted.
17	Hell no!!
18	No, I didn't know it existed.
19	Why would I want to visit something that is such a horrible mark on the natural landscape. If the artist wanted to build it on his property, that is his decision. The government has no business promoting or subsidizing his personal endeavor. Would there be any difference in supporting an amusement park, if that is what he built?

6/7/2016

55 of 64

Land Art Work CITY

20	Isn't this one of the reasons for the monument? Why isn't it open? Why are tax payers funds being used to protect the City if it is not open to the public. My understanding is that the City is a bunch of gravel, sand and concrete, so I probably would not visit the City, but I should be able to, since I am a tax payer and my funds are being used to "protect" it. When will you issue a monument for "protection" of my private property and then ask if anyone will visit it? I feel that I have worked a lifetime to create a good horse ranch, yet I get no "Federal" protection and tax payer benefit. Probably because I am not a huge donor to Harry Reid. Please manage this monument to allow maximum public use of the resources as FLPMA requires. Do not allow special interests such as Mr. Heizer or Mr. Govan to control 700,000+ acres of land in Nevada just because they have the financial power and are big supporters of Senator Reid.
21	Probably once.
22	A lot of years and money spent...is there a value in it?
23	Never heard of it until the presidential decree. No local input was sought before this decision was made.
24	Absolutely. I believe that the "City" should eventually come into the public domain or come into the control of some NPO which would maintain it beyond Heizer's lifetime. Planning and negotiating for that result should be ongoing for the monument's staff. Although I don't condone the reshaping of landscapes simply for art, the City does stand as a tribute to the creativity and determination of humankind. It is, in some respects, as important a contribution as the petroglyphs hammered out by the native Americans.
25	It is likely that any visitors to the Monument would want to visit City, at least initially, to view the land form created by the artist. Once viewed, it is possible that many, or most, of the return visitors would not return to City based on their previous personal viewing of the art structure. The opposite is true for the "artsy" folks who might have a different appreciation of such structures.
26	I have driven by. It is private property and what happens on private property is private as long as it abides by county and state law. The artist is a drug addict and friend of Harry Reid. There is nothing there worth seeing.
27	Yes
28	No - It needs to be reclaimed as it is an eye sore in a beautiful desert view
29	No - and why is it okay for Heizer to disturb this pristine area but everyone else is being forced out?
30	I think everyone should be given the opportunity to visit the "City". If given the opportunity to wouldmost defiantly visit the city.
31	No - they have bought and paid for special & illegal consideration - which arbitrarily and capriciously trampled Lincoln Co Rights
32	No
33	Yes
34	Been there see it Yes it should be open for public viewing

6/7/2016

56 of 64

Land Art Work CITY

35	No - why have a "city" in a monument celebrating the vastness of the Great Basin. It is worse than makes no sense.
----	--

6/7/2016

57 of 64

Do you know of or have information (inventory data, historic uses, photographs, maps, past practices, etc.) specific to the Monument that BLM should consider in the planning process?

15 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	Yes but I don't know how to get them to you!
2	I prepared all the water rights maps used by the Department of Energy when they applied for temporary construction water in January 2008 to construct the Yucca Mountain Railroad. I sited all temporary construction water wells and prepared a comprehensive water resources assessment for every hydrographic basin traversed by the proposed railroad in support of the project EIS. This information can be obtained from the BLM, Nevada Division of Water Resources and the Nye County Water District.
3	The Nature Conservancy has (or had) a very large list of populations of several threatened or endangers species of plants for White River Valley and surrounding areas that may fall in the Monument. They also have a large dataset of other plant community data that could be useful in planning actions or preserving diversity. The Nature Conservancy should be contacted for this data. Contacts for the data are Louis Provencher and Tara Forbis de Queiroz (not with TNA any more).
4	Valid existing rights ? Hell of phrase to use.... Our right to drive within the open state, hunt, fish, camp and explore is very valid and existed well before this political boondoggle of an excuse to cut off oil, gas and power plant exploration. How do you think this will help secure a healthy open relationship between the citizens of Nevada and the BLM ?
5	The use and utilization of the resources in the monument happen each and every day. It has happened for thousands of years. All existing rights and uses should remain and be included in the plan.
6	I think the BLM should not touch it. The only benefit would be to the BLM not the people. This sounds like another Harry Reid sponsored plan to close off Nevada lands to the people that actually use them by all the restrictions placed upon them. I also believe that by closing access roads and limiting vehicle use it is an anti-hunting agenda of his, the Democratic party, and other Gov't entities. Not to distant from there overall gun control agenda.
7	Preserve the history, and encourage the public to explore it, too.
8	Consider leaving the area managed as is without further restrictions. The only restrictions you (BLM) shall be allowed to include are those included in the proclamation, so do not try to impose additional restrictions in the name of "protection". The monument was designated as a political statement by Harry Reid, and there is no need to continue on with further restrictions, just for job security.
9	The historical uses have been mining, hunting, grazing some horses,. There are suppose to be protections for valid rights and traditional uses. See key word: "anticipated". If there are not stronger protections for these uses with legal protections and penalties for abuses by governmental bodies the assurances are merely useless prattle..

6/7/2016

58 of 64

Do you know of or have information (inventory data, historic uses, photographs, maps, past practices, etc.) specific to the Monument that BLM should consider in the planning process?

10	Keep all existing rights. Do not block off the land for future uses that would benefit the local communities and their economies.
11	Suggest visiting with the long time ranching families that run livestock on, or reside in the general area of the Monument. Connie Simkins, Panaca, has extensive knowledge of the history of Lincoln County, or where to locate this information. There was no mention of water resources in this document. It is imperative that the BLM recognize that there are important water resource and water rights within the monument. Furthermore, access to and use of such resources by the rightful owner should not be limited or encumbered by the Monument's Management Plan. The BLM must recognize that water rights are in fact private property per Nevada State Law.
12	Hunting is a way of life and shall not be infringed
13	Yes I have maps. Grazing Rights, Rights of way, water rights, water developments, oil & gas, hunting, motorized recreation, cutting of fire wood and other wood products - stone & gravel and any other natural resource that can be harvested
14	Grazing and mining produce what we eat, what we drive, what we wear & use, and what we drive. They were here before Heizer or the BLM.
15	regarding no changes "No change was the Absolute Promise - I expect the statute of limitations on that promise to expire momentarily - then we'll see."

6/7/2016

59 of 64

Is there anyone you would suggest BLM send this questionnaire?

15 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	Yes all the residence in Lincoln County.
2	The current RAC
3	Suggestions have been sent via other channels.
4	Senators Harry Reid and Dean Heller. Congressmen Crescent Hardy and Mark Amodei (both supporters of Yucca Mountain), Congressman Joe Heck (potential supporter of Yucca Mountain), Congresswoman Dina Titus. Governor Sandoval.
5	All people living within 60 miles of the Monument. Louis Provencher of Nevada TNC.
6	Yes, Barrack Obama. It would be very entertaining to see his response considering he has never been to the area and could care less about the actual effect this will have on the rural life style of this last free state. Send him some of those precious horses.
7	Other RVers who have visited. I would be happy to put a call-out in Discussion Forums.
8	gkeator@aol.com, sandysteinman@gmail.com
9	Anybody that doesn't belong to the GD Sierra Club and like organizations
10	Members of the Nevada Bighorns Unlimited organization. Safari Club International Org. Wild Sheep foundation. State of Nevada legislators The involved counties legislators
11	All of the ranchers in the area, but consider revising these questions, because they are horrible.
12	any and all boxholders in Ln Co
13	Nevada Mining Association, Cattlemen's Association, Farm Bureau
14	Yes all the residence in Lincoln and Nye County
15	Towns of Alamo and Hiko

6/7/2016

60 of 64

Are there additional issues that you would like addressed in the planning process?

32 Total Responses

Response Number	Response
1	What I would like to see is a visitor center located in the center of the basin at water gap. A paved road to the visitor center with parking. An interactive visitor center explaining the history and culture of the area. Maps locating points of interest that also inform visitors of the history and other interesting facts. A viewing plate form overlooking the “city” to allow visitors the full experience of the art. Park entrance fees should be collected at this location. The visitor center should include an area for solar panels and wind mills to generate electricity to serve the visitor center.
2	Informing the public through a visitor center is the best way to protect and restore cultural significance of these lands.
3	Again, informing the public about the unique and varied natural and scientific resources of these lands through a visitor center is the best way to protect it.
4	1. Constructing of a visitor center, paving roads, entrance fees, Viewing platform to observe the “City”, creation of roads to points of interest, creating camp grounds, opening up “City” to the public, water resource development, mineral resource development, oil and gas development, BLM releasing land for private use, and clearing marking tail heads and places of interest.
5	Of course but I am realistic. I would hope you would establish planned triggers that would necessitate action That is setting threshold-Based Standards with quantitative thresholds that may not be crossed.
6	My main issue is: keep visitation and access the way it is. Unused roads could be rehabilitated to foot trails, but in general, we should strive to keep the grand visual expanse as it is while improving the habitat for plants and wildlife. Reintroducing Greater Sage-Grouse would be nice too.
7	I would like to know why jurisdictional (local) County Commissions weren't consulted prior to this designation. I would like for the BLM to consider the wishes of Nye County, in particular, as the potential host for the Yucca Mountain project. This Monument designation could limit DOE's ability to safely transport nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain and that is not in the public's best interest. That future corridor must be protected.
8	If any of the issues I brought up in the previous questions are deemed out of context with the questions, I would like them considered here. I would also like to thank you all at the BLM who are soliciting feedback and comments on this, and who are generally fighting the good fight to try and appease as many public lands stakeholders as possible. I know that you get much less respect than you deserve for this challenging task, so THANK YOU. I hope you all continue to see your jobs as very important but very challenging and that your top priority remains listening to all parties and being as objective and fair as possible in your decisions and actions. Good work.

6/7/2016

61 of 64

Are there additional issues that you would like addressed in the planning process?

9	Naw, that just about covers it. Your not going to leave it alone, your going to do what government does best, try to think and plan for others you do not know. Your going to regulate one of the last great vast areas of land left untouched for the most part, all in the name of politics. For the most part all the signs, markers and maps will mean nothing to the rural resident. But if it keeps some feds employed and the evil oil man out, I guess it is what it is.
10	Tepa Harvest, Pine Nut Harvest
11	maintain public access (hiking, biking, camping) develop a plan for eliminating inholdings through land swaps with non-monument lands.
12	We need to work on botanical surveys next spring, starting in late February to record desert annuals.
13	a. Where's land use policy that serves America's Heartland? Americans that truly appreciate natural places who live in rural communities and small towns and cities and those that live in urban areas but make that pilgrimage to the country as often as they can, are being squeezed out from both sides. One side public land is being disposed of to developers and urban sprawl creeps out a little further. On the other side their access to public land is denied by wilderness and a growing number of administratively created designations from monuments, WSA's, lands with wilderness characteristics, to conservation areas, etc. Even in designated recreation areas preservation has a higher priority than recreation. I concur that as population grows, use grows, as does the need for management for conservation. Good management can and should provide for use by the public at the same time protecting natural values. Public land for multiple use by the public needs some permanent protection from designation for restrictive preservation on one side and disposal sale for development on the other. b. Use BRC's Backcountry as a planning template. http://www.sharetrails.org/issues/back-country-designation
14	The plan should be driven by the local interests and stakeholders who have vested rights and are directly impacted by this ridiculous designation. These are the local users and true conservationists who should make the rules.
15	Ya shut it down and stay home until we get someone to remove the designation
16	Leave decisions like this up to the Nevada legislature.
17	In all your plans, are you really prepared to deal with the number of tourists that will come? They will come, just like with the GSNM. Tourists need a lot of infrastructure. Ultimately, you can't have it both ways.
18	The only issue that needs to be addressed is: how to restrict new rights-of-way for electric transmission or transportation. Pretty simple. The other questions you could consider are: 1) How can we please the public by increasing public uses like recreation, grazing and ranching? 2) How can we improve the local economy by allowing more uses?
19	Listen to local stakeholders who are directly impacted by this. Tell Washington this designation was not wanted in the first place.

6/7/2016

62 of 64

Are there additional issues that you would like addressed in the planning process?

20	John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club, visited the monument area, specifically the Golden Gate Range, in the late 1800's. I would like to see some recognition of his visit and of his work to preserve the natural areas of the West. The BRNM is a logical continuation of his vision. I believe that there should be no additional oil&gas leasing on the monument. This was not covered in this survey, but I certainly hope that this is not allowed. I understand that current leases will remain valid, but I expect rigid enforcement of the lease agreements.
21	Please plan to leave the "monument" and the State of Nevada
22	No P.J. "Restoration"
23	You promise this (no changes in the management are anticipated...) now but when this group is gone all agreements are off. The new group will not recognize prior signature.
24	The relationship this executive order has to prior law that was passed by congress recognizing surface rights.
25	Why was only one organization - which pushed for creation of BRNM - promoted on this questionnaire? What about the producers and people who have lived here for generations? No one actually believes grazing will not be cut. It's been cut 50% in Nevada since the 1970s.
26	referring to the Friend Group section "This should not even be included. Talk about a conflict of interest! This is solicitation. Clearly the fix is in."
27	Current and future water rights application, current and future right-of-ways, and potential BLM land disposal in the Monument
28	The N-4 Grazing Board would request that all permittees that have grazing allotments within the monument be notified of any meetings or activities related to the planning process. In addition, the Board would ask that you place Connie Simkins on your contact list as a representative of the Board, as well as our Range Consultant, John McLain of Resource Concepts, Inc. It is this Board's understanding, that nothing in the designation language was intended to limit or curtail public land grazing within the monument. As such, we would ask that nothing in the planning process limit or alter grazing permits, stocking levels, or access to rangelands and range improvements. The Board requests that the management plan clearly states that public lands ranching is important to the customs, culture and economy of the area, and reiterate that designation and subsequent management of the monument shall not curtail such activities.
29	Yes
30	A more intensive field monitoring plan than what occurs on BLM land
31	Development of Water Resources water transportation and development and ROW

6/7/2016

63 of 64

Are there additional issues that you would like addressed in the planning process?

32	No changes are anticipated here are the key words. The management plan for Great Basin National Park specified that grazing was to continue & be part of management. However regulation creep over time made it so it was economically impossible to continue to graze. You must put provisions in place to 100% prevent that from happening when future managers take over or you have doomed these valleys to being solid stands of cheatgrass, red brome & mustard & russian thistle
----	---

6/7/2016

64 of 64

***Basin and Range National Monument RMP and EIS
Scoping Report***

Appendix D

Scoping Meeting Materials

APPENDIX D

SCOPING MEETING MATERIALS

LIST OF MAPS

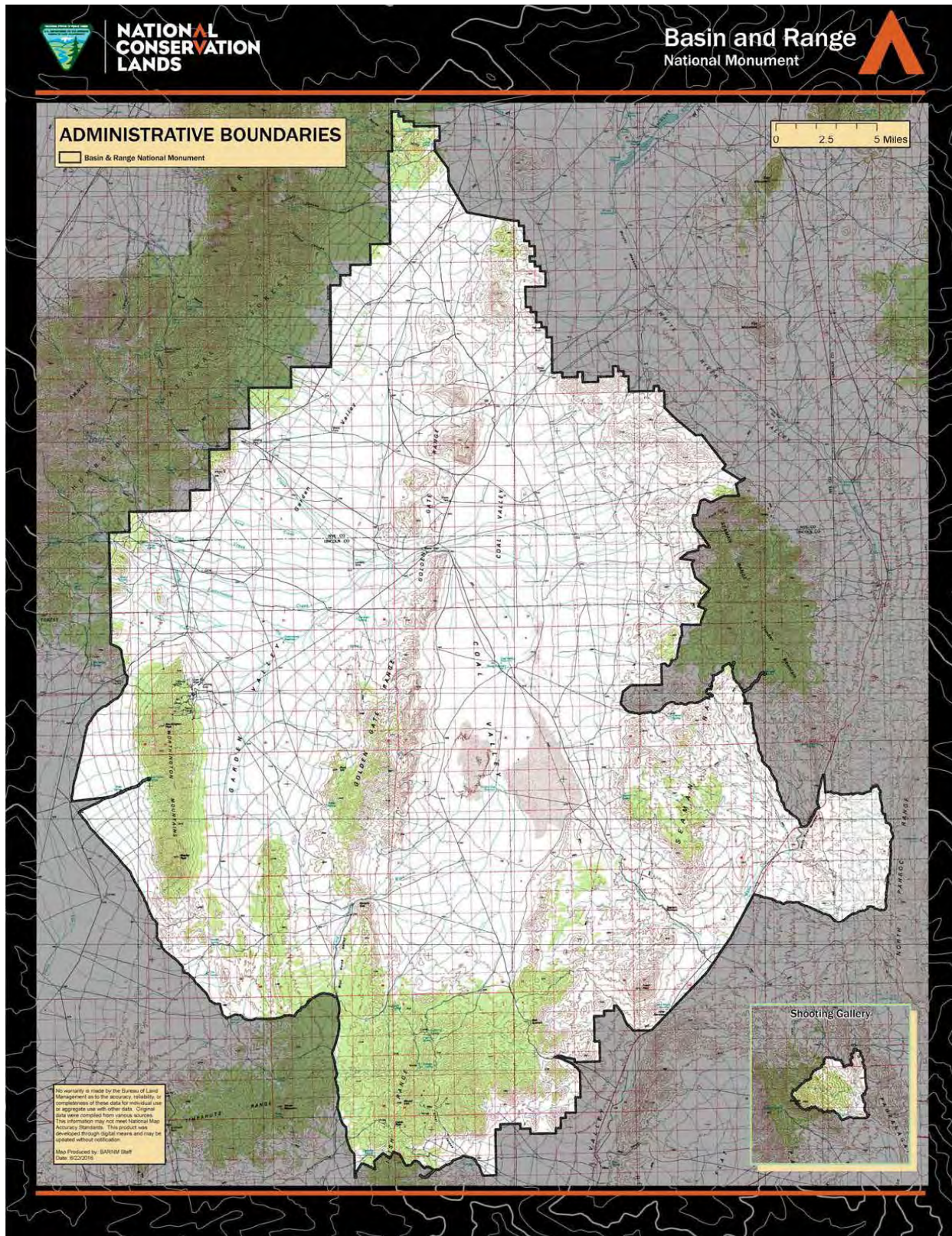
Map 1.	Administrative Boundaries	D-1
Map 2.	Administrative Boundaries	D-2
Map 3.	Fire History	D-3
Map 4.	Forest Products Permits	D-4
Map 5.	Grazing Allotments	D-5
Map 6.	Greater Sage Grouse Habitat Management	D-6
Map 7.	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	D-7
Map 8.	Land Status	D-8
Map 9.	Recreational Use	D-9
Map 10.	Special Designations	D-10
Map 11.	Transportation Routes	D-11
Map 12.	Visual Resource Management	D-12
Map 13.	Vegetation Treatments	D-13
Map 14.	Vegetation	D-14
Map 15.	Watershed Boundaries, Ely District Resource Management Plan	D-15
Map 16.	Noxious Weed Inventory	D-16
Map 17.	Wild Horse Management	D-17
Map 18.	Wildlife Habitat Management – Pronghorn and Bighorn Sheep	D-18
Map 19.	Wildlife Habitat Management – Mule Deer	D-19
Map 20.	World Imagery	D-20

This page intentionally left blank.

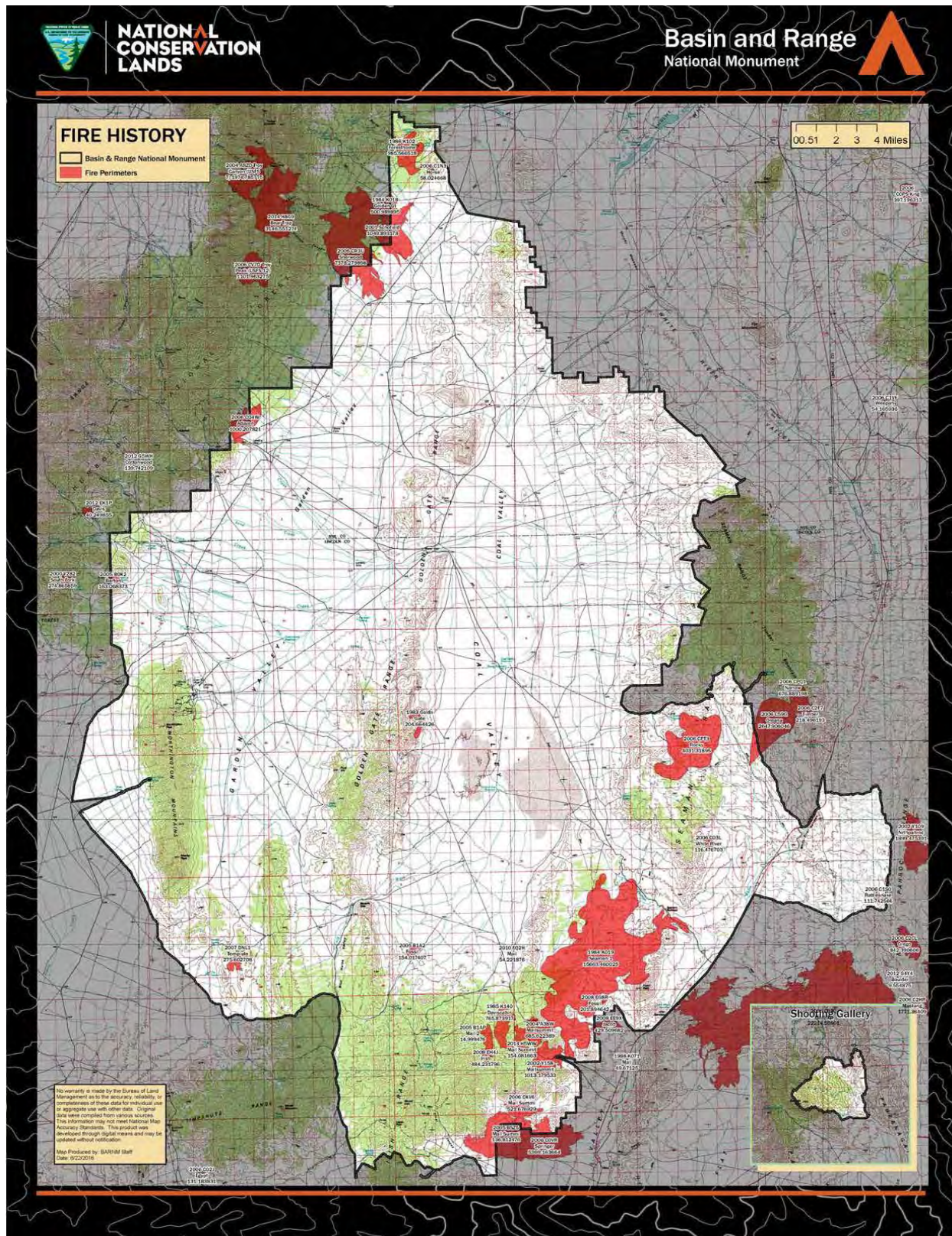
Map 1. Administrative Boundaries



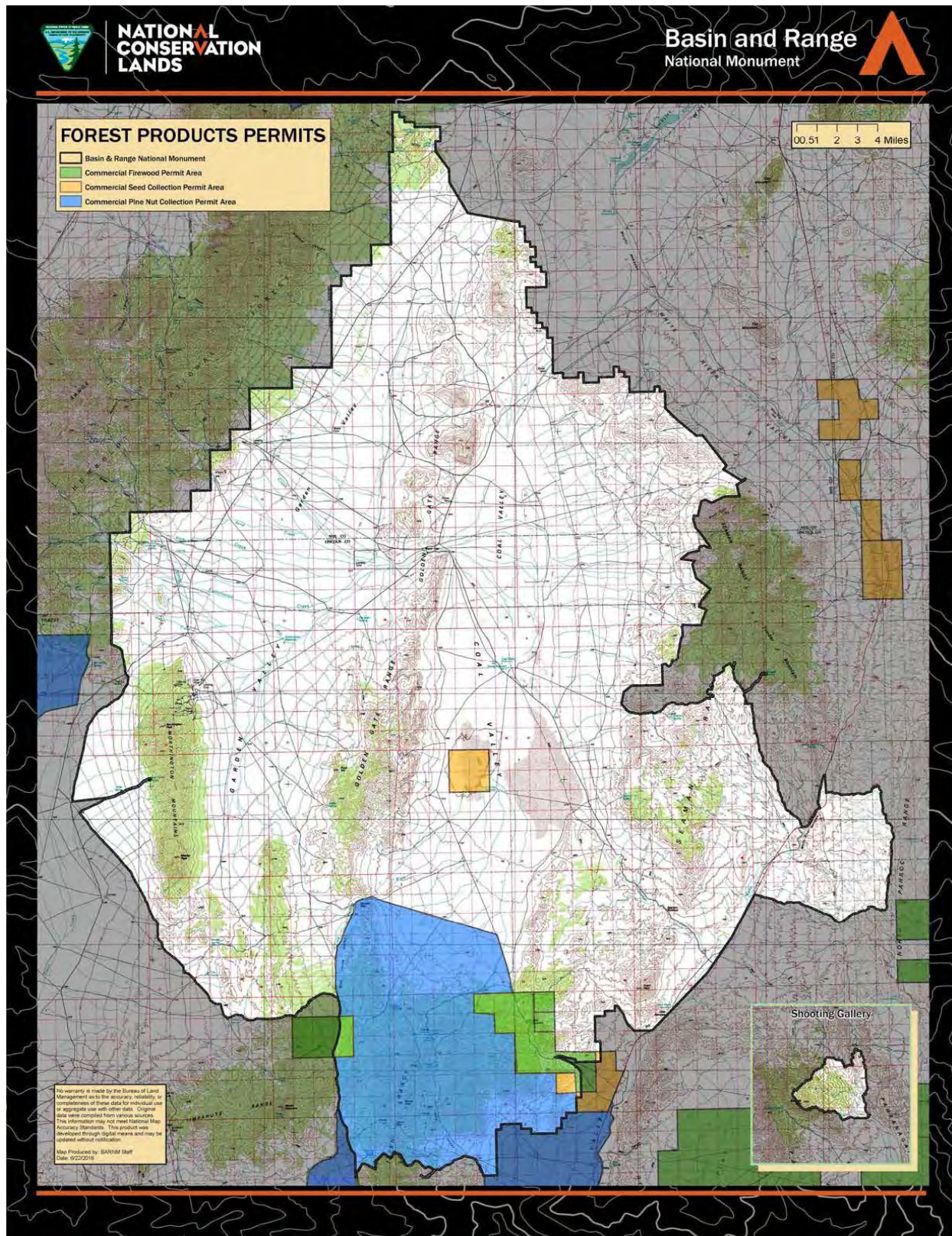
Map 2. Administrative Boundaries



Map 3. Fire History



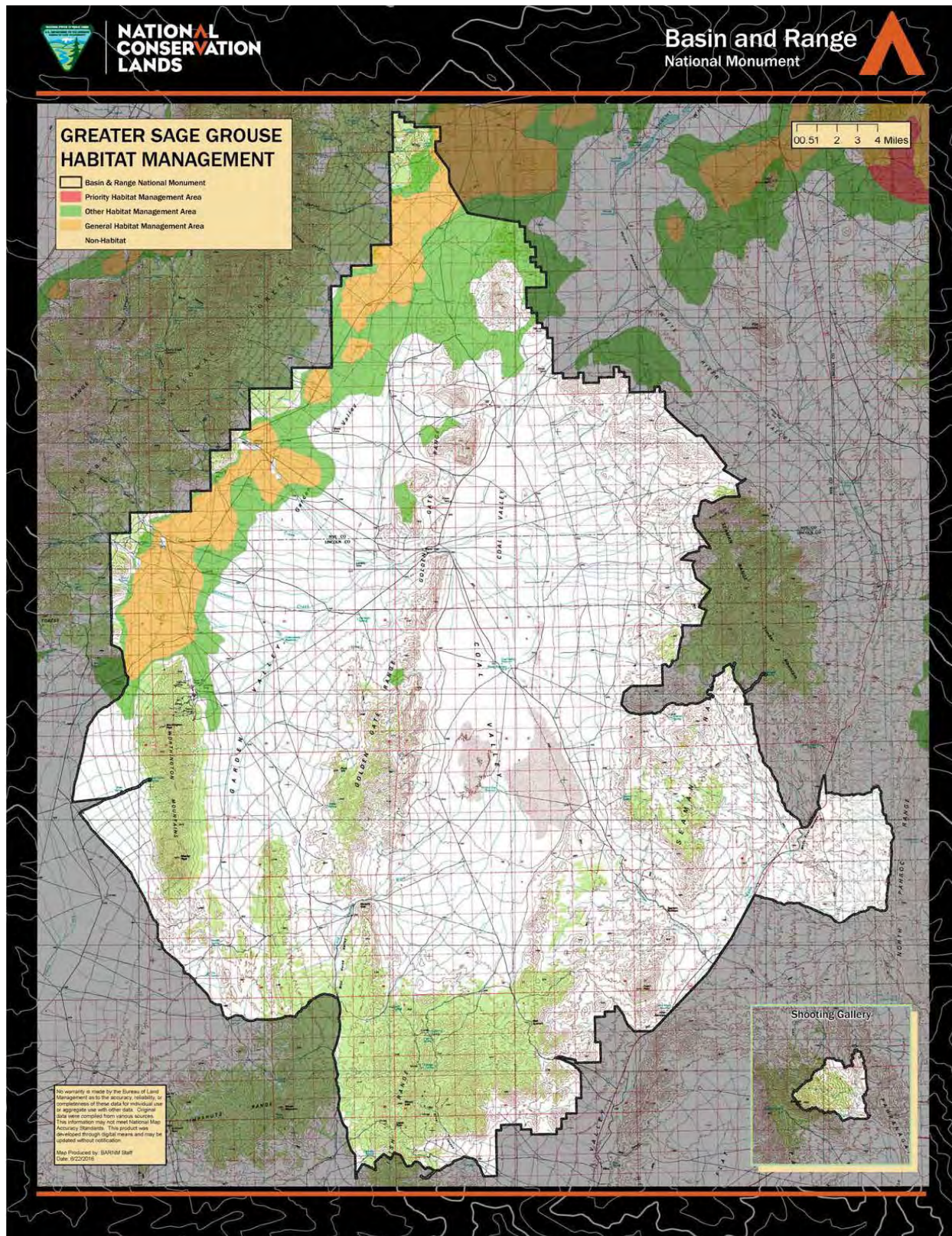
Map 4. Forest Products Permits



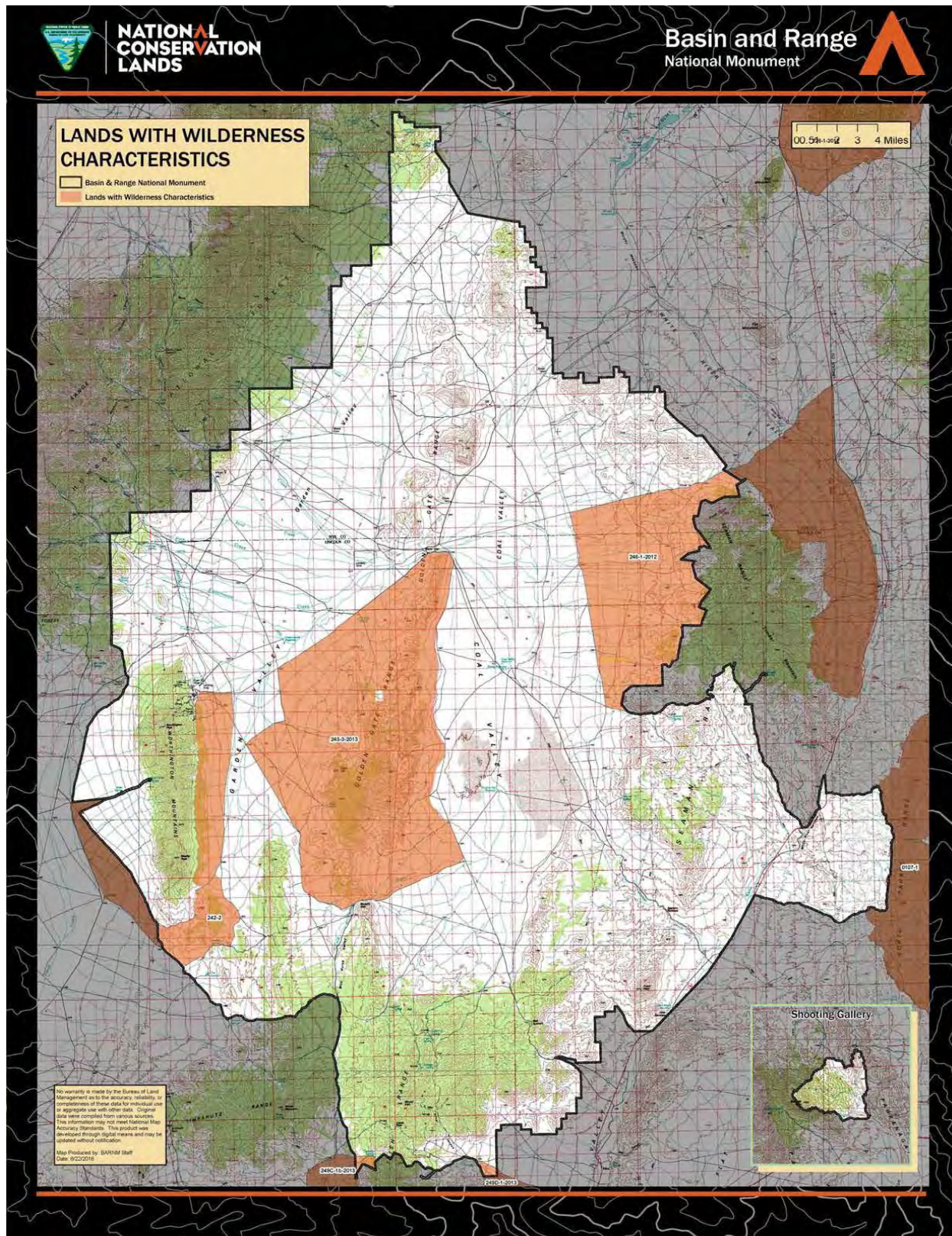
Map 5. Grazing Allotments



Map 6. Greater Sage Grouse Habitat Management



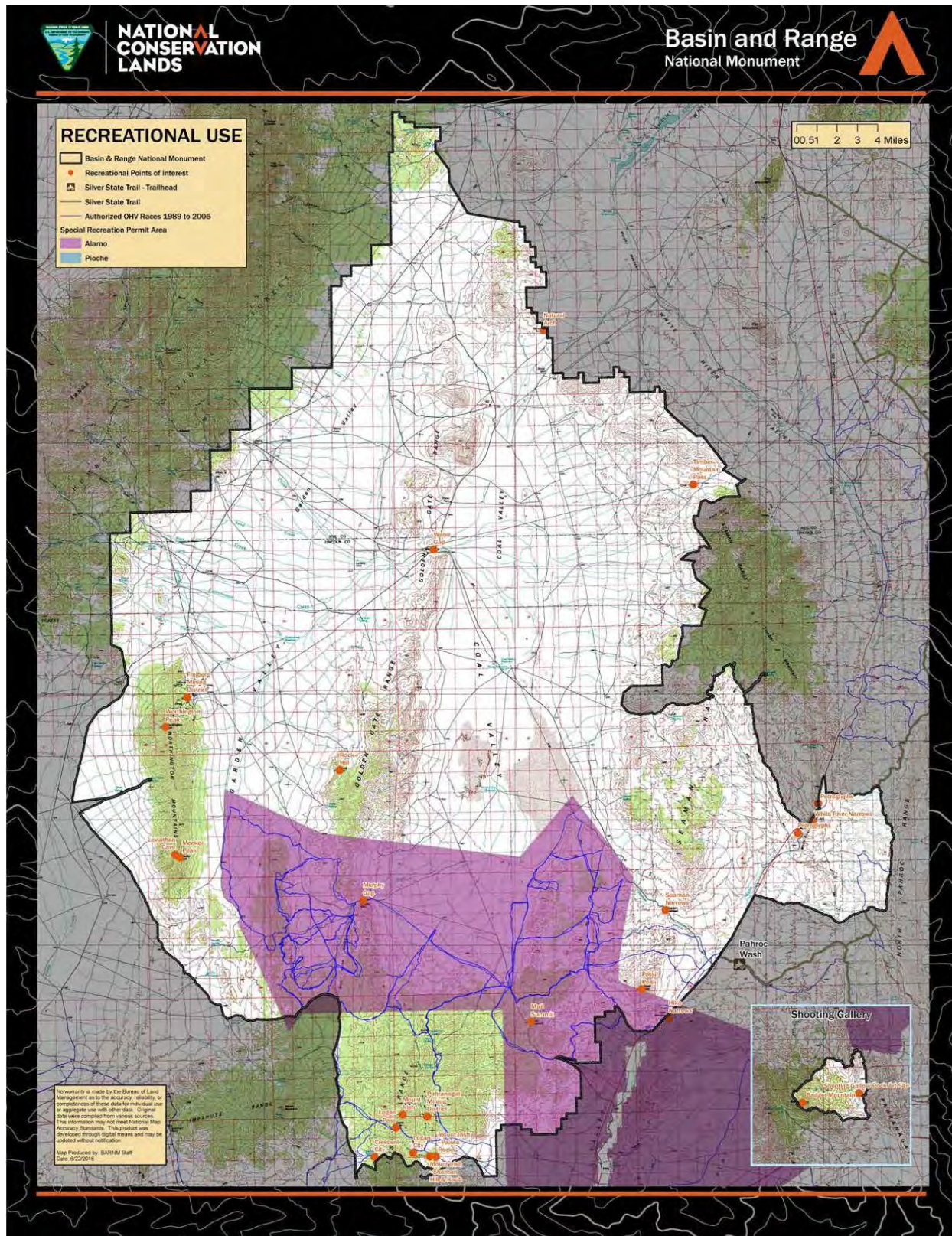
Map 7. Lands with Wilderness Characteristics



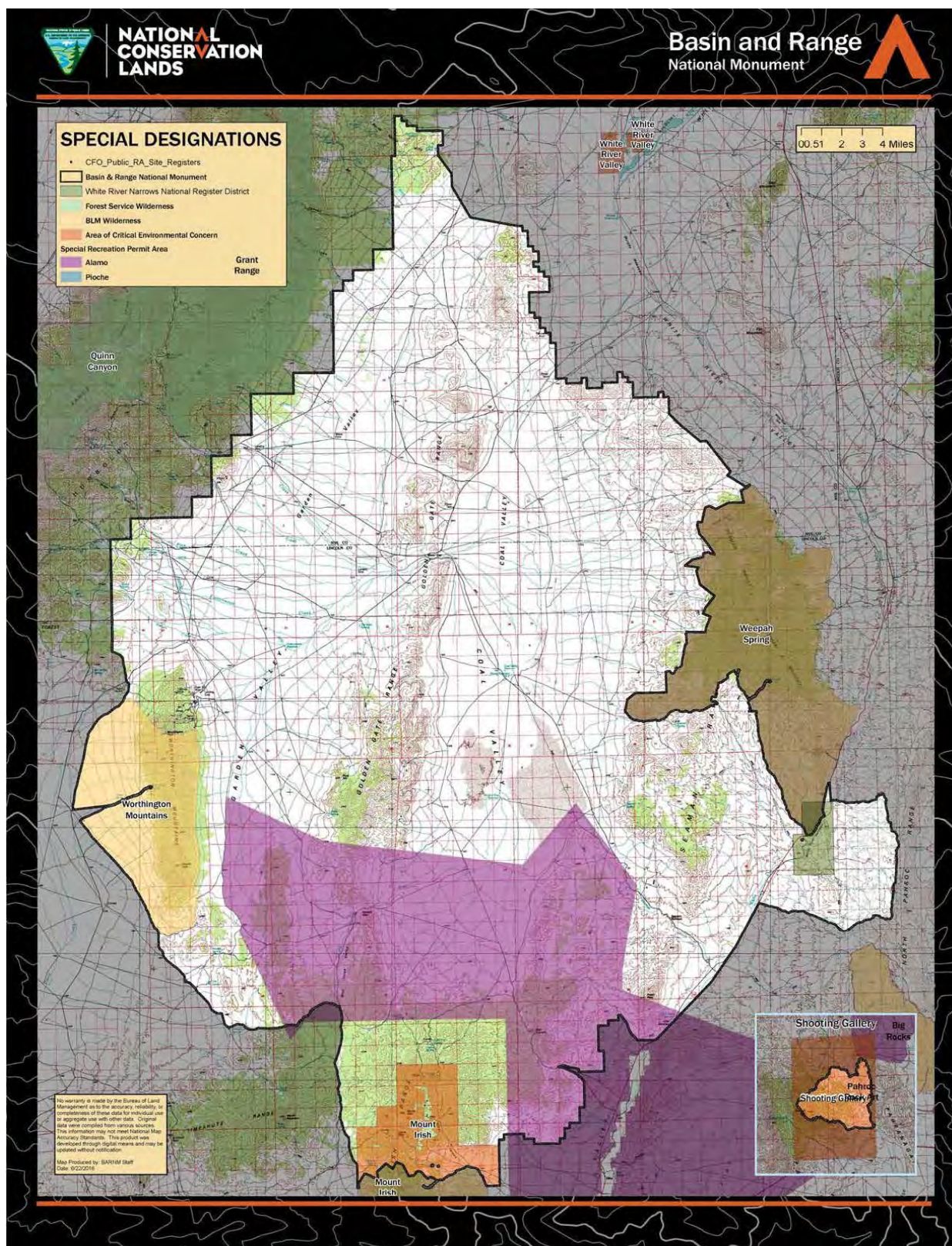
Map 8. Land Status



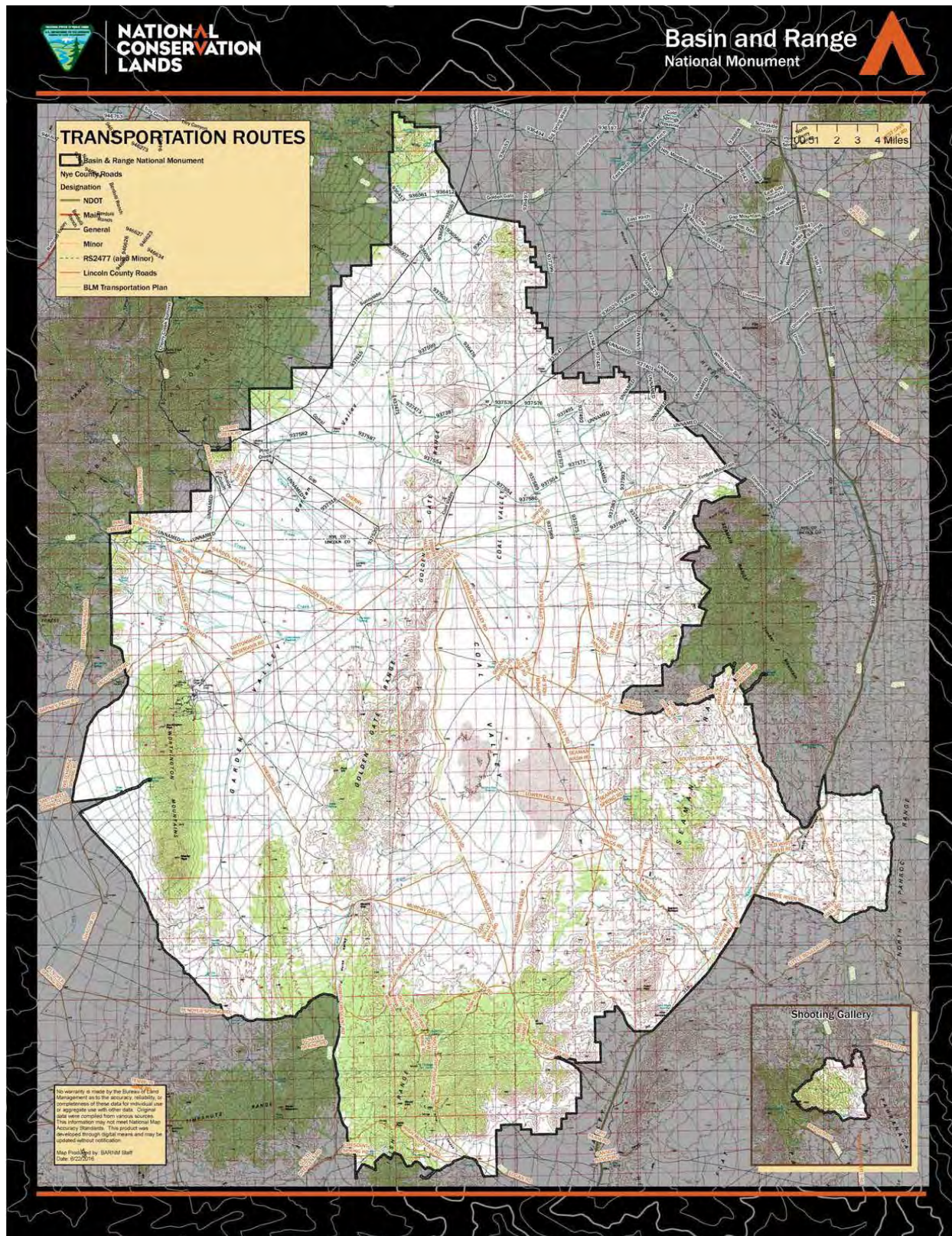
Map 9. Recreational Use



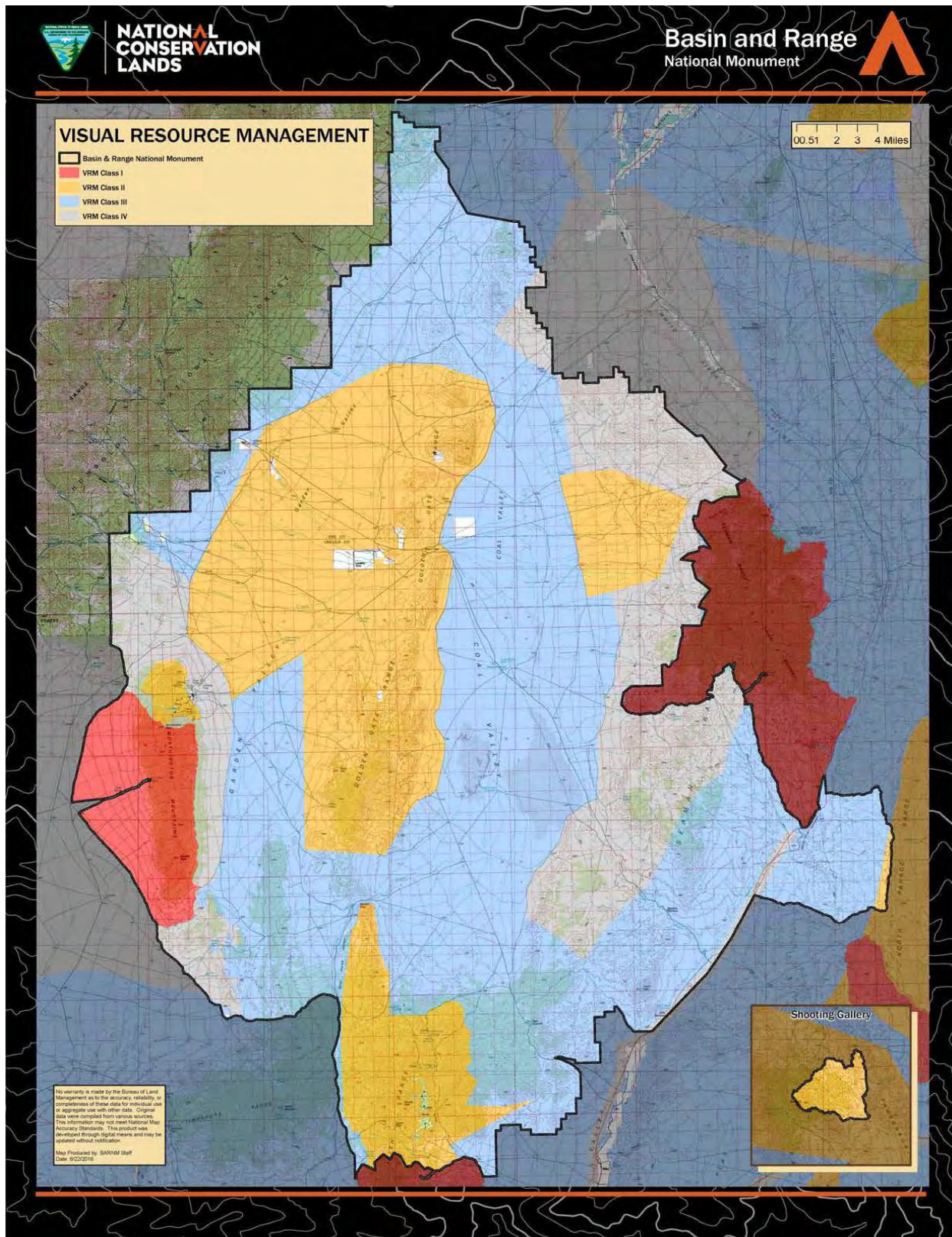
Map 10. Special Designations



Map 11. Transportation Routes



Map 12. Visual Resource Management



NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS

Basin and Range National Monument

VEGETATION TREATMENTS

Basin & Range National Monument
Vegetation Treatments
Treatment Type
PHYSICAL

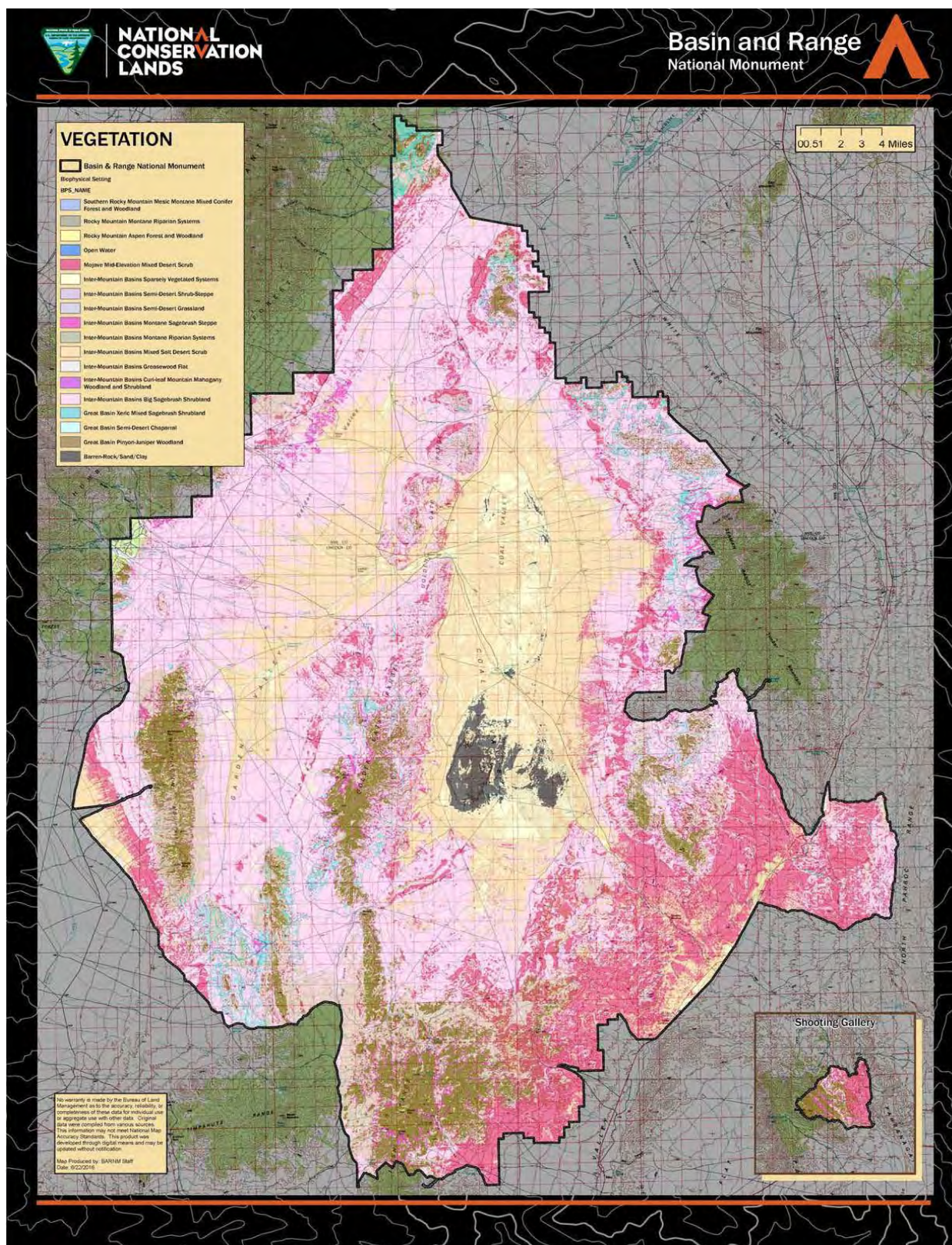
0.51 2 3 4 Miles

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

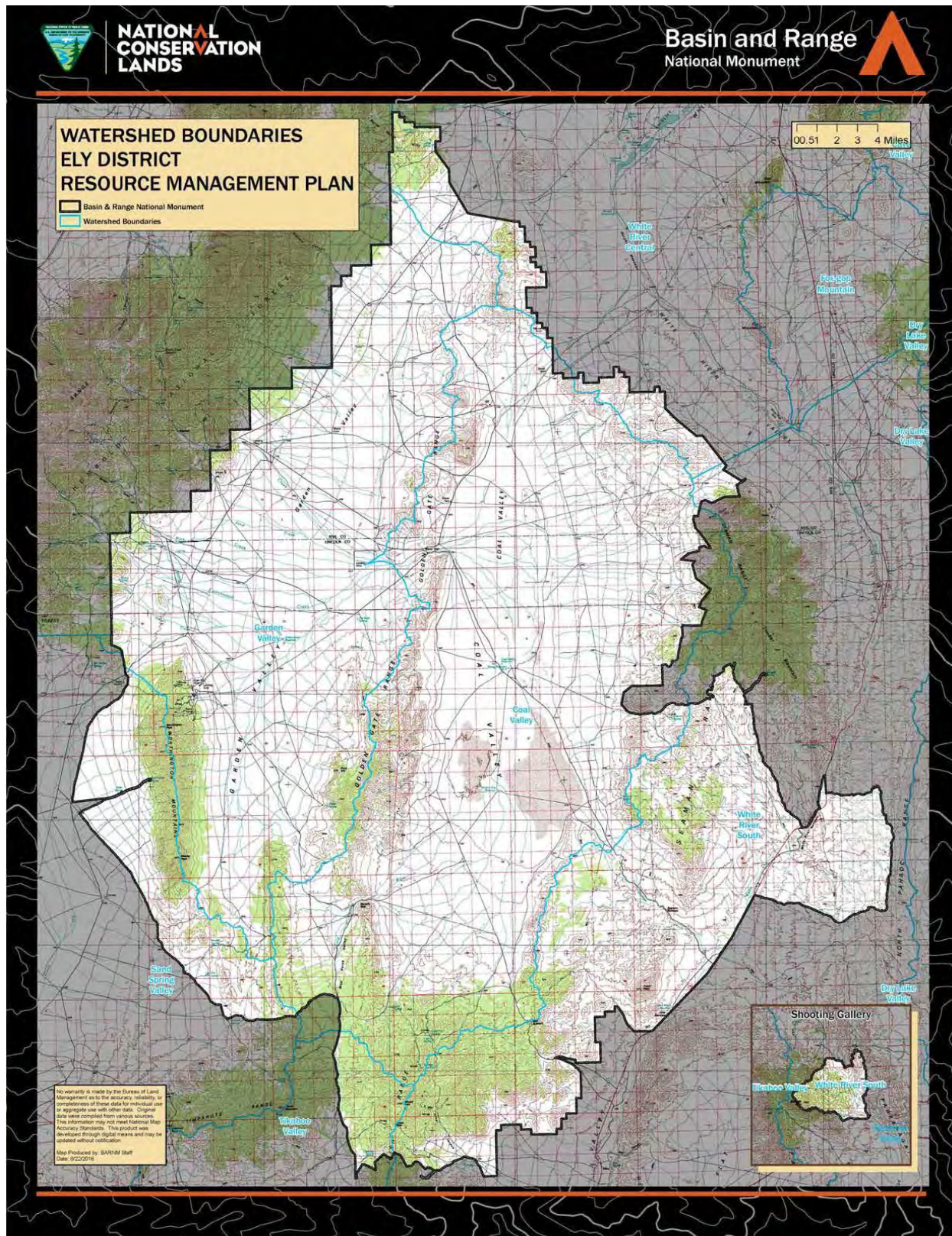
Map Produced by BARM Staff
Date 9/22/2009

Shooting Gallery

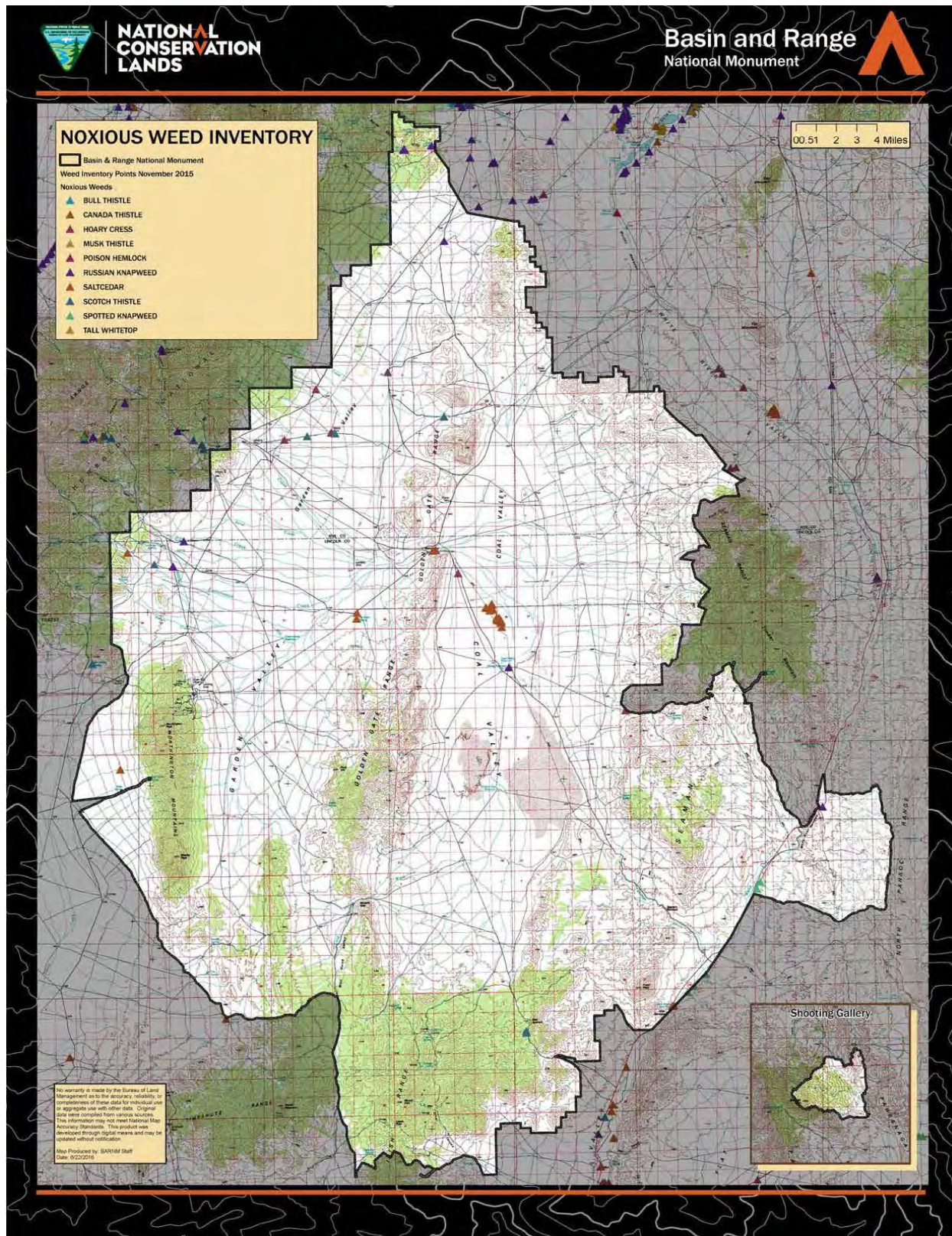
Map 14. Vegetation



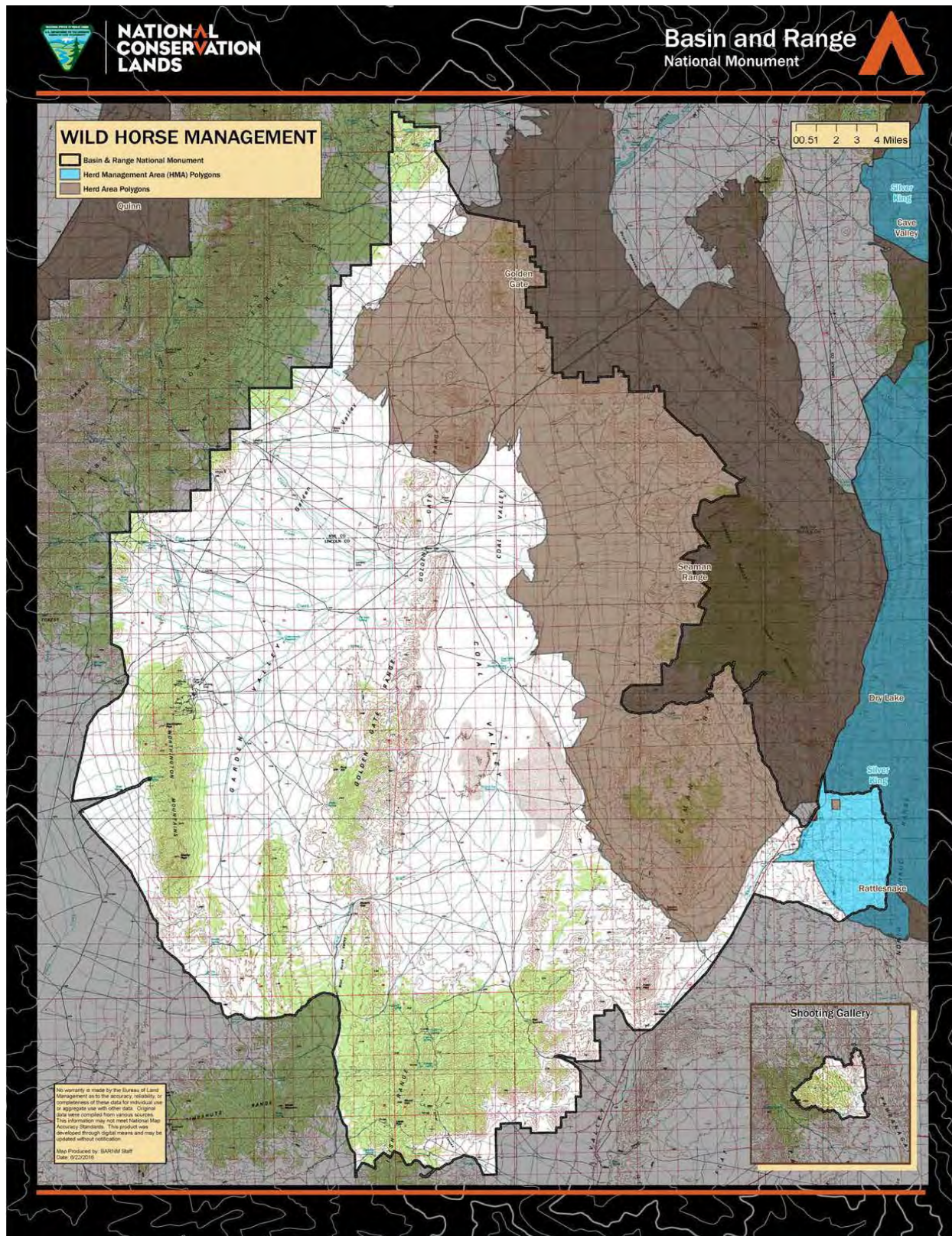
Map 15. Watershed Boundaries, Ely District Resource Management Plan



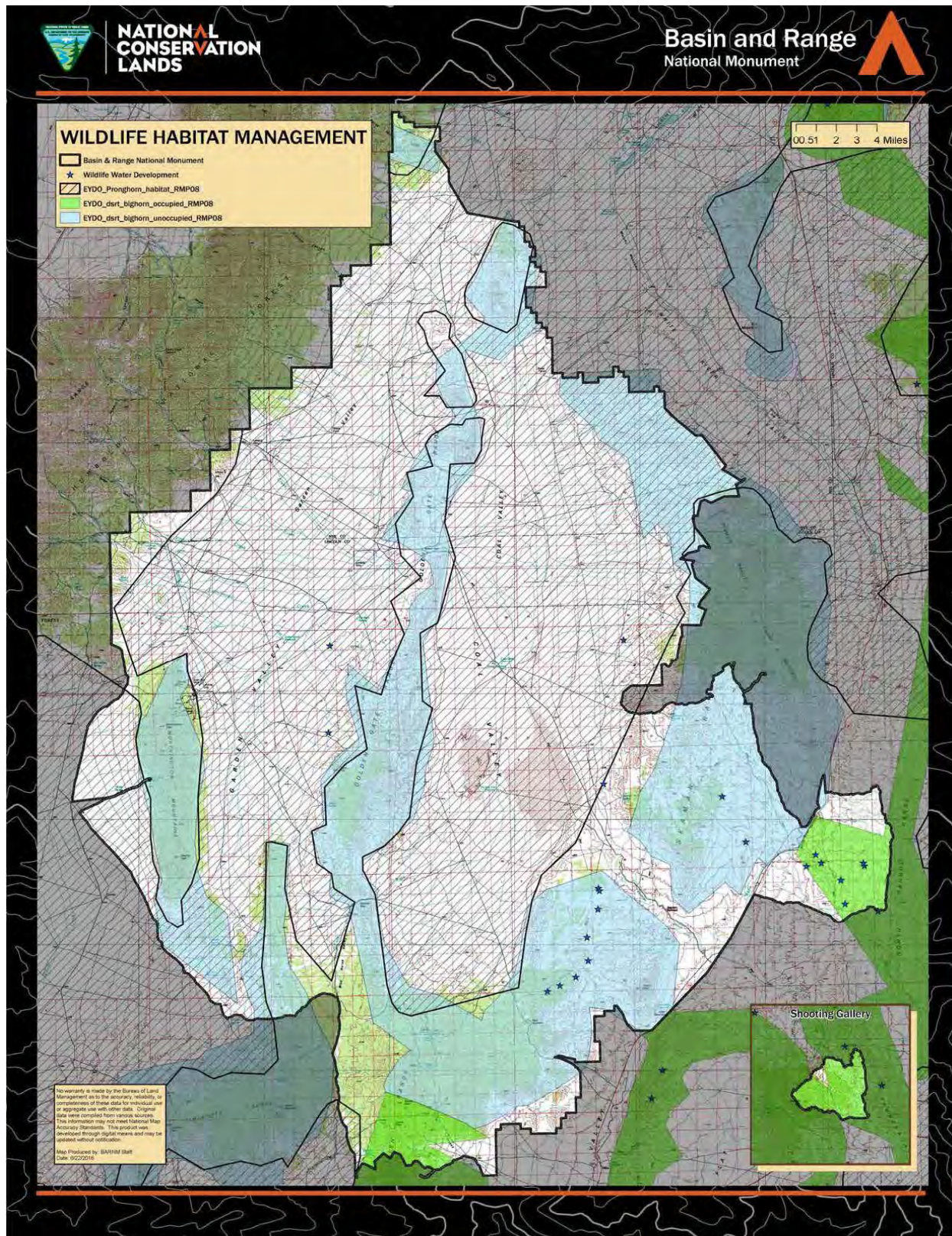
Map 16. Noxious Weed Inventory



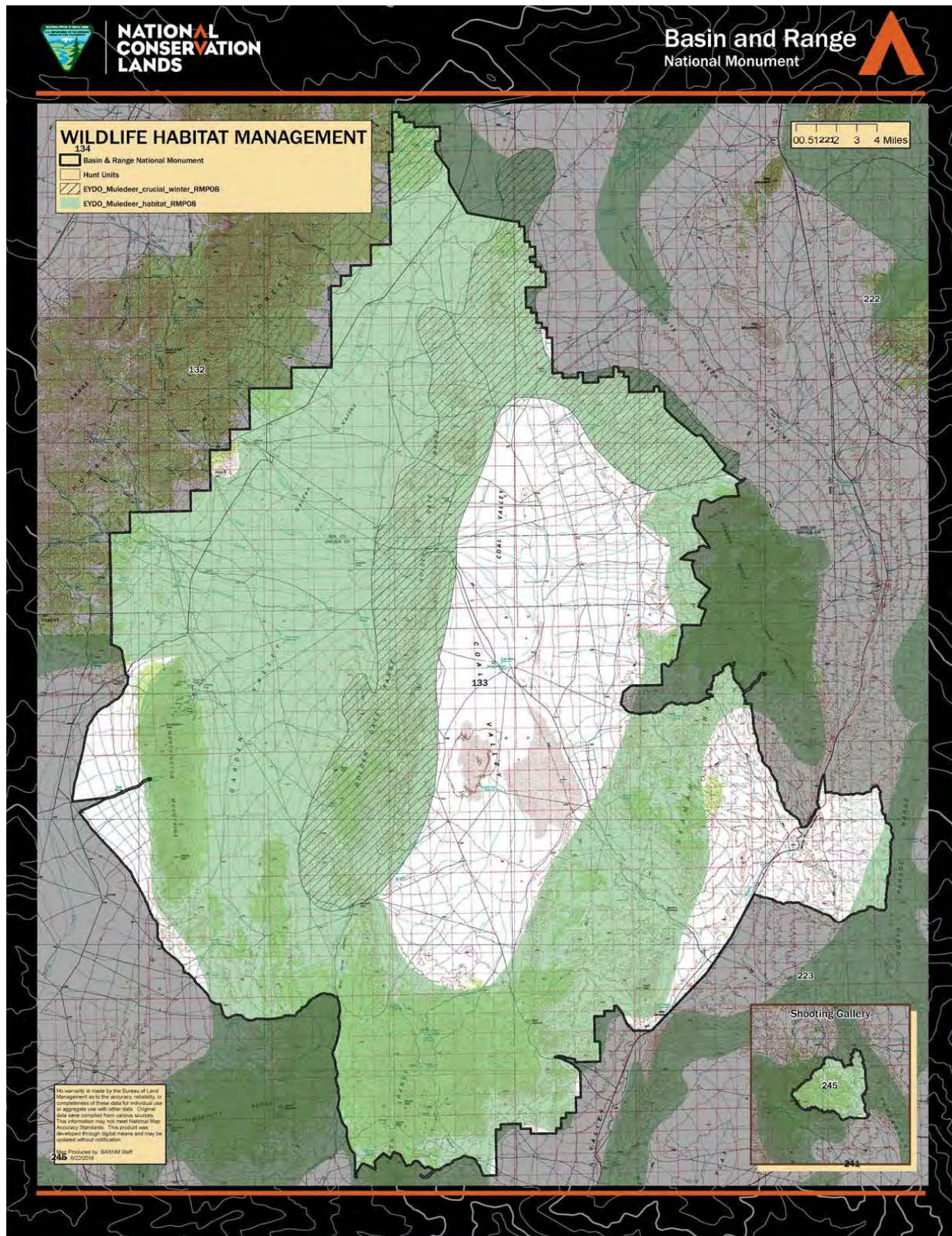
Map 17. Wild Horse Management



Map 18. Wildlife Habitat Management – Pronghorn and Bighorn Sheep



Map 19. Wildlife Habitat Management – Mule Deer



Map 20. World Imagery

