

Revised Copy



BLM News

Las Vegas Field Office

4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 30, 2004

Contact: Susanne Moore, 702-515-5046

BLM calls for project and land acquisitions using Southern Nevada Public Land Management funds

LAS VEGAS --- The Bureau of Land Management is seeking nominations for projects and land acquisitions with funds raised through sale of public land in the Las Vegas Valley. Nominations may be submitted from August 30 through November 22.

The expenditures are authorized by the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA). The categories for nominations are:

- Park, trail and natural area development projects in partnership with local governments in Clark County
- Conservation initiatives, including environmental education projects
- Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan development (nominations will be accepted through January 6, 2005)
- Capital improvement projects at Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, the Desert National Wildlife Refuge and in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area
- Environmentally sensitive land acquisitions

Information about nomination procedures, as well as the SNPLMA, is available on the BLM website at www.nv.blm.gov/SNPLMA. Nominations for Round 6 expenditure must be submitted directly to the BLM no later than November 22, 2004. The mailing address is: BLM Las Vegas Field Office, Land Sales and Acquisitions, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130. The public may also visit or call the BLM at (702) 515-5114.

Under the authority of SNPLMA, the BLM is directed to offer designated public lands for sale in the greater Las Vegas Valley. Ten percent of the money raised goes to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for infrastructure requirements; five percent goes to the State of Nevada General Education Fund. Eighty-five percent is available to the Secretary of the Interior for expenditure in the categories listed above.

For Round 6, the procedures for nominating and evaluating lands for potential acquisition in Nevada under Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) and the Federal Land Transaction Act (FLFTA) have been integrated. Under the authority of FLFTA, federal agencies can acquire inholdings within or lands adjacent to certain federally-designated areas. Under SNPLMA, environmentally sensitive lands throughout the state can be acquired for public ownership.

Lands nominated during this sixth round of expenditures may be recommended for funding under either act, or for combined funding under both laws. Specific requirements for nominating lands for acquisition, and requirements for nominating projects, can be found at www.nv.blm.gov/SNPLMA. This website provides information on the nomination requirements for all expenditure categories, and a sample land nomination package.

On August 5, 2004, Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton authorized expenditure of \$455 million for the fifth Round of SNPLMA-funded Southern Nevada projects and acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands. That investment includes \$253 million for park, trail and natural area development in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, and Clark County, Nevada, and \$97 million for capital improvements at Red Rock National Conservation Area, the Desert National Wildlife Refuge, Spring Mountain National Recreation Area, and Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

The next scheduled BLM land auction is February 2, 2005 at the Cashman Center in Las Vegas, where 4320 acres in 74 separate parcels will be offered for sale.