Resolution

of the Nevada Association of Counties

RESOLUTION protesting the United States Forest Service Travel Management Plan Scoping

Whereas, the United States Forest Service has implemented the process for the Combined Travel Management Project for the Ranger Districts in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, and

Whereas, several of Nevada's Counties that are host to the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest have determined that the proposed Travel Management Plan scoping document and maps are inadequate, making it impossible for informed decisions to be made and suitable comments to be submitted to the Forest Service before the various deadlines. Furthermore, Counties have found many discrepancies between County maps and Forest Service maps in regards to condition of roads, actual use of roads and to the extent of the very existence of highly utilized roads, and

Whereas, the United States Forest Service has proposed in the Travel Management Plan to close hundreds of miles of roads and trails on the public lands hosted by Nevada's Counties and, in some instances, even eliminate access to privately held in-holding properties, and

Whereas, some of the roads identified for closure in the scoping document and accompanying maps are RS2477 designated county roadways, and

Whereas, the proposed United States Forest Service closures of roads and trails within the public lands of Nevada's Counties would be a detriment to hunters, recreationists, miners, ranchers, private property owners and the general public, and

Whereas, the current scoping documents do not address the issue of game retrieval nor off-road parking which the lack thereof will cause permanent harm to the enjoyment of the public lands by the general public and to the economies of Nevada's Counties, and

Whereas, several host Counties have identified severe historical, cultural and economic impacts of the proposed Travel Management Plan Scoping Documents and Maps.

Now Therefore be it Resolved, that the Nevada Association of Counties requests that the United States Forest Service cease all work on the Travel Management Plans until the United States Forest Service can provide new, clear, concise and complete maps and a revised scoping document, and

Be it Further Resolved, the Nevada Association of Counties requests that the United States Forest Service extend the public comment period for the Travel Management Plan Scoping Document and maps to a date that will provide ample time for the development and public review of the revised scoping document and new maps to be provided by the United States Forest Service, and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Nevada Association of Counties is expressly opposed to any road closures within the public lands of Nevada's Counties without proven and approved scientific knowledge that such closures are warranted and do not abrogate any rights of the host Counties, including RS2477 Rights-of-Way, and without the approval of the affected host County Board of Commissioners, and furthermore requests that all scientific information or documents used by the United States Forest Service to determine the cause or necessity for closure of each road identified in the Travel Management Plan scoping document and maps be provided to the host County upon request, and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Nevada Association of Counties requests that the United States Forest Service prepare a comprehensive Environmental Impact Study (EIS) on all aspects of the Travel Management Plan prior to the adoption or implementation of the Travel Management Plan, and

Be it Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be delivered to the Governor, Members of the Nevada Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Secretary of the United States Department of Interior, the Chief of the United States Forest Service, the Supervisor of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, and the Nevada State Forester.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 18th Day of November, 2010 by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Counties:

Attest:

Robin Williamson

President

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NACO Resolution 10-05

