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Organization: Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition

Title: Executive Director

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

The Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC) supports the EIS to analyze and disclose the potential effects of a forestwide integrated invasive plant treatment project. ENLC has worked closely with the Ely Ranger District for over 14 years on noxious weed issues within the boundaries of the seven (7) cooperative weed management areas that ENLC facilitates in White Pine County.

One of the greatest frustrations ENLC has had is that the Forest often doesn't have the funds to treat the noxious weeds that are on the Forest Service lands, or they don't have enough manpower to treat the weeds throughout the District each season. Since the Forest Service lands in Nevada are generally the uplands any invasives on the Forest will work their way downhill to the lower elevations which are BLM lands and private property. While we have successfully secured funds every year to work on the private lands and the BLM has been working diligently on their lands, the Forest has unfortunately had a hit and miss treatment strategy because of the aforementioned issues of lack of funding and personnel.

It is for these reasons that ENLC fully supports the completion of an EIS which will hopefully highlight these challenges and allow for additional funding to be secured so the noxious weeds can be appropriately treated on the Forest lands.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Betsy Macfarlan
Executive Director