



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Ely Ranger District
825 Avenue E
Ely, NV 89301
775-289-3031

File Code: 2300
Date: October 31, 2017

NEVADA DEPT. OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ATTN: DCNR J. SCANLAND
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES PROGRAM
901 S. STEWART STREET, SUITE 1001
CARSON CITY, NV 89701

RE: Ranger Trail Reconstruction OHV Grant Application, Ely Ranger District

Dear Commissioner/s:

The Ranger Trail Reconstruction Project is located on National Forest System Lands on the Ely Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest near Ely, Nevada. The project is in conformance with the Humboldt National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. This project falls under a Categorical Exclusion (CE) and is exempt from further documentation in an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). The CE Category is 36 CFR 220.6(d)(4) "**Repair and maintenance of roads, trails, and landline boundaries**". No project or case file is required.

For the past 2 years the Ely Ranger District has been actively working with the local OHV group, the High Desert Trailblazers, to identify and implement motorized trail opportunities within White Pine County. This trail was jointly identified as a high priority for the OHV users and the Forest Service. The Ely Ranger District commits to conduct maintenance on this trail for the next 25 years and will work with partners and volunteers like the High Desert Trailblazers to fulfill that commitment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (775)289-0176 or by email at jnoriega@fs.fed.us

Sincerely,

JOSE NORIEGA
District Ranger

cc: Kevin Wilmot



Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bradley Crowell Director
James Lawrence, Deputy Director
Dominique Etchegoyhen, Deputy Director

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

Nevada Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles



STATE OF NEVADA
Off-Highway Vehicles Program
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 1003
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Telephone (775) 684-2794
Facsimile (775) 684-2715
www.nvohv.com



OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES GRANT PROGRAM
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
NEVADA COMMISSION ON OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES
NRS 490

FALL 2017 GRANT APPLICATION

(RFA APPENDIX A)

APPLICATIONS DUE

November 1, 2017, 4:00 PM, PST

Please mail early; Applications postmarked prior to 4:00 pm on November 1, 2017 but not received prior to that time are untimely and will not be considered.

NOTE: this is the State OHV program, NOT the Federal Recreational Trails Program

SUBMIT: ONE FULL COLOR COPY, DOUBLE SIDED
BY MAIL OR HAND DELIVERY
(8.5" X 11" ONLY. MAPS MAY BE 11"X17" NO LARGER)

TO: NEVADA DEPT. OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES PROGRAM
ATTN: DCNR J. SCANLAND
901 S. STEWART STREET, SUITE 1001
CARSON CITY, NV 89701

AND

ONE ELECTRONIC FILE; PDF VIA EMAIL jscanland@ohv.nv.gov
OR MEMORY DEVICE ENCLOSED WITH APPLICATION.

DO NOT ATTACH ITEMS THAT ARE NOT REQUIRED.

For questions please contact:

Jenny Scanland

Executive Secretary

(775) 684-2794

jscanland@ohv.nv.gov

**NEVADA OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION**

**Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Nevada Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles**

Project # _____ (State admin only)

This application has seven (VII) sections which are all REQUIRED to be filled out in full. To avoid disqualification, all application areas must be concise and complete; certifications must be signed and dated. Denied applications: correspondence will be sent to applicant by email describing the reason for declaring the application incomplete.

SECTION I - PROJECT INFORMATION

1. **Project Name:** Ranger Trail Reconstruction Project

2. **Project Dates:** Expected Start: 5/1/2018 Expected Completion: 9/30/2019

3. **Applicant Name:** Ely Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Phone: (775) 289-5100 or (775) 289-5129

Mailing address: Ely Ranger District, 825 Avenue E, Ely, Nevada 89301

Email: erinrajala@fs.fed.us or jnoriega@fs.fed.us

4. **Classification of Applicant:** (check one)

Federal State County Local/Municipal Other: _____

Partnership Non-profit For Profit Individual

If the applicant is a corporate or legal entity, proof of good standing in the entity's state of incorporation is required. NAC 490.1345 (Note: grantees must have the capacity to implement and accomplish proposed project and properly administer awarded funds).

5. **Project Manager:** Erin Rajala (Recreation Staff) or Jose Noriega (District Ranger)

Phone: (775) 289-5129 or (775) 289-5100

Mailing address: Ely Ranger District, 825 Avenue E, Ely, NV 89301

Email: erinrajala@fs.fed.us or jnoriega@fs.fed.us

State T-Vendor # (if available) NA

6. **Landowner:** Ely Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Contact: Erin Rajala (Recreation Staff) or Jose Noriega (District Ranger)

Phone: (775) 289-5129 or (775) 289-5100

Mailing Address: Ely Ranger District, 825 Avenue E, Ely, NV 89301

Email: erinrajala@fs.fed.us or jnoriega@fs.fed.us

9. **Classification of Land Control:** *(check all that apply)*

federally managed public land Private Land County City

Other: _____

Lease; Attach copy of lease with expiration date.

R&PP; Attach copy of lease with expiration date.

If the proposed project is to be carried out on public land, attach any applicable written agreement with any government entity having jurisdiction over that land, including permits, leases, easements, and rights-of-way. NAC 490.135

10. **Project Costs:** *(Please do not submit match not directly related to the project)*

State OHV Grant Request: \$94,922

Other Funds: \$20,402

Total Project Amount \$115,324 100%

What are the sources of your leveraged (other) funds?

Federal Private In-kind City/County Other

Please *describe* source(s):

Contributed Federal Funds (Salaries) and Volunteer, in-kind labor sources.

11. **Project Type(s) (NRS 490.069 Sec.2c) check all that apply:**

Studies or planning for trails and facilities;

Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Studies.

○ Other studies _____

- Acquisition of land for trails and facilities
- Mapping and signing of trails and facilities
- Reconstruction, enhancement or maintenance of existing trails and facilities
- Construction of new trails and facilities
- Restoration of areas that have been damaged by the use of off-highway vehicles.
- The construction of trail features, trailheads, parking, or other ancillary facilities which minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive areas or important wildlife habitat areas.
- Safety training and education related to the use of off highway vehicles
- Compliance and enforcement

Note: Operations & management and purchase or lease of equipment associated directly with a project are eligible.

12. **All Trail USERS:** (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mountain Biking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking/Backpacking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single track motorcycle | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoe/ski |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ATV quads | <input type="checkbox"/> Dune buggy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Side by side 50" or wider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Race Course | <input type="checkbox"/> Skills riding course | |

Other Type here:

13. **Scope of Work:** Please describe *exactly* what work will be completed. Programs, planning, NEPA, surveys, mapping etc. and include miles of trail, trail type and other measurable goals including a timeline for completing the work. NAC 490.1375. If purchase of equipment is included please explain where/how it will be housed and maintained. (In order to avoid duplication, **do not include** justification or narrative in this section; refer to Section VII, Scoring Narrative).

Ranger Trail Scope of Work and Timeline

This proposal involves the reconstruction of the Southern Portions of the Ranger OHV Trail in White Pine County, Nevada. The trail is approximately 50 miles in length and is located within the Schell Creek Range on the Ely Ranger District. The trail is a motorized trail however sections of the trail are only open/safe for certain classes of OHV's. The objectives of this proposal are to reconstruct a minimum of 10 miles and a

maximum of 15 or more miles of the Southern portions of the trail to allow safe use for OHV's including UTV's up to approximately 65 inches in width. The trail is open to ATV's, UTV's, Horses, Mountain Bikes, and hiking. The following are the specific action items and timelines:

- Logistical Planning, Pre-construction Site Visits, Contract Preparation (March – May, 2018).
- Complete a lease of a trail dozer and if needed a mini-excavator. (summer of 2018)
- Begin Reconstruction of the trail (Summer of 2018 may continue into 2019 if needed) Key action items during reconstruction:
 - Where needed increase the width of the trail tread to approximately 70 inches to allow safe passage for UTV's.
 - As needed reduce out-sloping and address sloughing on cut slopes to reduce potential for rollover accidents.
 - Work the trail tread to ensure there is sufficient out-slope and/or waterbars to address drainage issues. This will reduce erosion, reduce potential for sedimentation, and reduce long-term maintenance cost.
 - Thin or prune vegetation for trail clearing widths as needed.
- Install directional, informational, and educational signing along the trail route and at key access points along the Ranger Trail (summer of 2019). This will include installation of Wilderness boundary signs where the trail is close to the High Schells Wilderness Boundary. This will reduce potential for motorized incursions within the wilderness.
- Complete any final construction work and cleanup on the trail. (summer of 2019)
- GPS the portions of the trail that were reconstructed for accurate mapping. (August, 2019)
- Complete News Releases, Final Project Reports (including numerous photos), and any other administrative requirements. (September, 2019)
- Project Completed (September 30, 2019)

14. **Standards/Guidelines that will be applied to your project:**

- Universal Access to Outdoor Recreation - A Design Guide
- USFS Standard Specifications for Construction & Maintenance of Trails
- BLM Handbook 9114-1 Trails
- NOHVCC Handbooks

Other: _____

15. **Has the applicant received funding from the OHV Program in the past?**

- No Yes

Number of projects funded: _____

Amount of funding Received: \$ _____

Number of projects Completed: _____

SECTION II – LOCATION, MAPS, PHOTOS

Project Location:

County: White Pine County

Nearest Municipality/Town/City: Ely, Nevada

Center of project: Latitude: N 39°28'30" Longitude: W 114°38'20"

Maps are a very important part of the application. They are considered part of the final agreement if funded. Please provide readable, proficient maps.

Required Maps: for all maps please include a legend, north arrow, scale, and map name.

Topographic maps preferred. You may include *additional* aerial/google maps.

- General location map (showing project area within the state or county)
- Topographic map (7.5 minute series quadrangle, 1:24,000 scale) with project boundary and map name Township: _____ Range: _____ Sections _____
- Detail map indicating specific project elements (e.g., structures, trail alignment)
 - Maps larger than 11x17 will not be accepted

Please attach the following photographs:

- At least two (2) overviews of the project area from different angles and distances. (Good photographs at trail level and google aeriels help the scoring committee to understand the location, depth and breadth of your project.)*

SECTION III - Federal Lands or Other

Federal Environmental Compliance

A. If Federal funds or Land are a part of the project and NEPA was completed, indicate which document was produced, and please attach the decision document to this application:

- Record of Decision (ROD)
- Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Categorical Exclusion (CX) (Project falls under a Forest Service CE and no further documentation is Required)

- SHPO 106 compliance/concurrence letter.
- Other compliance documents already completed. (do not attached the EA or EIS)
- Not applicable

If NEPA or planning is a part of the project describe the steps in the Scope Section I, #13.

SECTION IV - BUDGET

Proposed Budget: Provide your budget details in the following format. This budget should align clearly with your scope of work from #13.

- *Please follow this format as much as possible* and be very specific, as your application will rate higher. You may create your own spreadsheet.
- Reminder, include all sources of funds for the completion of the project including federal, in-kind, private/city/county and state funds.
- Attach copies of estimates and identify what each contract will include.
- Attach copies of all quotes/estimates.

Item Description	Item	OHV Grant Request	Federal	Other	Total
Contracts: studies, planning , design, engineering	NA				
Contracts: construction	NA				
Direct labor costs Salaries, including fringe, actual costs	• Equipment Operator (60 days)	\$24,000			\$56,340
	• Project Manager (30 days)	\$10,500			
	• District Ranger (15 days)		\$8,040		
	• GS-7 Laborer (60 days)	\$13,800			

Volunteer or donated labor/in-kind # Hrs. skilled labor @ \$23.56/hr. (not required but is important for scoring higher) (You will have to provide paperwork for this in your reporting to receive score points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers (High Desert Trailblazers and Others)(20 days) 			\$3,770	\$3,770
Purchase or rental of equipment - Specify type of equipment – cost- # of days. Attach estimate or quote.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail Dozer Rental (12 weeks @ \$1,450/week) Other Equipment Rental 	\$17,400 \$4,000			\$21,400
Purchase of Materials List items & cost of each item or group of items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signs Misc. Supplies 	\$6,000 \$4,000			\$10,000
Vehicle Gas and Maintenance standard is now at .54 per mile. Estimate miles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment Fuel (350 Gallons @ \$3.00/gallon) Road Crew Mileage (11,800 miles) Other Vehicle Mileages (3,200 miles) Volunteer Mileages (1,600 miles) 	\$1,050 \$6,372	\$1,728	\$864	\$10,014
Other: be specific	Per Diem Costs (60 days @ \$130/Day)	\$7,800			\$7,800
Other: be specific	Overhead Costs (estimated)		\$6,000		
Totals		\$94,922	\$15,768	\$4,634	\$115,324
Percentages		82%	14%	4%	100%

**** Cost Estimates were developed from a recent OHV Trail Construction Project on Ward Mountain during the summer of 2017.**

SECTION VI – TRANSMITTAL LETTERS and LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Transmittal Letter(s): transmittal letter(s) must be submitted **and attached to this application**. They must be signed by the appropriate club or agency head, (Chairperson/President of the organization or other authorized official) **AND by the landowner**.

- ✦ **Land Owner:** a letter of support by the landowners (county, city, state, federal, private) stating that they have read and agree (1) to the application (2) that the applicant’s interest in the subject land is sufficient in scope and authority to allow the applicant to complete the proposed project and operate and maintain the proposed project after its completion NAC 490.1355 (3) and any match or other tasks in the application that are assigned to them. The State may require the landowner/agency to be co-grantee on the grant agreement/contract.
- ✦ A commitment to maintain the trail/facility, and allow for motorized access to those facilities for 25 years or the normal life of the project, by the appropriate entity.
- Letters of Support are limited to three (3).** Please attach them to the application.

SECTION VII – SCORING NARRATIVE

Address the following 14 questions in the order listed below.

- **Be specific and concise** with your answers.
- **Please submit no more than five (5) double-sided pages for your Narrative.**
- **Please type directly into this application.** *If the form doesn’t work for you, please cut and paste into another document and answer in the same order as given below. (if not applicable answer N/A)*

1	<i>Public Education, Law Enforcement & Outreach:</i> Please describe how your project/program will incorporate public education and/or outreach to increase registration and showcase the benefit of OHV communities, including registration events.	The Ranger Trail is a popular OHV Trail in the Duck Creek Basin. The trail links three developed campgrounds in the area. The Forest Service conducts regular outreach and law enforcement on this trail and the three associated campgrounds providing excellent opportunities for OHV outreach, education, and registration checks.
2	<i>Trail Mapping:</i> Please describe how your project /program will move public lands in Nevada towards having travel plans completed and will result in trail mapping and creation of maps for the public. (With landowner/manager approval).	The Forest Service is in the process of reconstructing all three campgrounds in the area using SNPLMA Funds. As part of this effort, educational/outreach information on OHV opportunities will be placed at the kiosks in the campgrounds. Maps showing the larger area and OHV trails/opportunities will be created and printed for visitors. Websites will also be updated with the new maps and recreational opportunities including OHV Trails. This project will provide an updated OHV Trail system that accommodates current OHV Users and provides well signed and safe opportunities to ride. An existing travel management plan is in place on the Ely Ranger District.

3	<i>Access: Please describe how your project/program ensures protection of access. Explain what access/opportunities would be lost or restricted if the project doesn't occur.</i>	This trail project will maintain safe OHV Access and opportunities in the area. Without this project access on the trail would be partially limited due to safety concerns and width limitations for some OHV's
4	<i>Demand for New Facilities: Please describe the justification (the DEMAND) for NEW facility/program development: restrooms, trails, signs, and other amenities.</i>	This project does not involve the creation of new trail facilities like restrooms. The current trail accesses three developed campground that have sufficient restroom facilities. The primary need here is trail signing which has been incorporated into the project proposal.
5	<i>Connectivity: Please describe the increase in connectivity between trails, facilities and other locations that your project/program would provide when completed. Attach maps if necessary. i.e. towns, parks, areas, trails etc.</i>	The Ranger Trail is a motorized trail that runs north-south in the Schell Creek Range in White Pine County. This proposal is the first phase of reconstruction of the trail on the southern half of the trail. This section of the trail connects the Timber Creek, Bird Creek, and the East Creek Campgrounds which all allow OHV's. The trail also interconnects with a system of high clearance roads that are open to OHV's and allow additional opportunity to ride and explore. This project will increase opportunities for UTV's which is by far the fastest growing segment of the motorized recreational community.
6	<i>Environmental Studies: please describe how your environmental studies, project/program is in a highly desired area that will result in maintaining or expanding OHV riding areas.</i>	Future phases of this project will extend to the north providing links to additional roads and trails for OHV riding experiences. This trail parallels the boundary of the High Schells Range and Wilderness and provides some of the best opportunities to view wildlife and other scenery in one of the most beautiful Mountain Ranges in the State.
7	<i>Design for Conservation: please describe how your project/program considers water and habitat conservation. Example: how the trail features are designed to be sustainable while protecting environmentally sensitive areas or important wildlife habitat area.</i>	This trail proposal will incorporate measures to create improved drainage and water bars. This will reduce erosion and sedimentation into streams. Improved signing will reduce potential for motorized intrusions into the High Schells Wilderness Area. Educational materials at each campground will provide information to OHV users regarding ways to mitigate impacts to resources.
8	<i>Existing Facilities: please describe how your project /program assists in the maintenance and/or rehabilitation of Existing Facilities. "Taking care of what is already there to protect the investment".</i>	The Ranger Trail is an existing OHV Trail that currently has some drainage and safety issues. Examples of safety issues include narrow sections, poor signing, out-sloping of trail that is too excessive and creates a potential for roll-over, and drainage issues that create hazards.
9	<i>Leveraged Projects: please describe how your project/program leverages private, BLM, USFS, State, local government, or in-kind funding, services or donations (considered as investment in</i>	This project proposal leverages the proposed grant request with Forest Service funding and some volunteer commitments to complete this Project. Approximately 18% of the project costs are covered by the Forest Service and volunteer time.

	<i>the project. Match is not required but is commended and will receive additional points).</i>	
10	Partnering: <i>Please describe coordination that has occurred with stakeholders, partners and the public in which all interests have had an opportunity to be heard related directly to this project/program.</i>	The Forest Service has been actively coordinating for the past 2 years with the High Desert Trailblazers, a newly formed OHV Group in White Pine County. We just partnered with them to complete a new OHV Trail near Ely that improves OHV access to a series of existing roads and trails with direct access to Ely. We have been actively coordinating with this group on this project.
11	Youth and Family Engagement: <i>Please describe how your project/program helps to engage youth and families.</i>	The most important tie this project has to youth and families is the direct access and link to the existing developed campgrounds in the area. This trail provides expanded OHV recreational opportunities to families using the campground facilities. The safety improvements to the trail will allow riders of all experience levels to enjoy and use the trail system.
12	Economic Integration; <i>Please describe how your project/program develops outdoor recreation opportunities that help local and/or regional economies grow (e.g., economic impact, additional OHV funding sources, improved user or business group participation).</i>	Currently the Forest Service is working within a larger group within the County that is investigating opportunities to increase OHV and other recreational uses in the area. This effort is being led by the City of Ely, OHV Groups, Businesses, and Agencies. The Forest Service is on the leading edge as we are already implementing a number of projects through various partnerships and grants. This project will move us further toward creating a series of improved recreational opportunities and economic opportunities/diversification.
13	Underserved populations: <i>Please describe how your project/program helps to meet the needs of underserved regions and populations. (e.g., identify people and neighborhoods without access to trails, and establishes outdoor recreation opportunities for them; or creates new recreational opportunities not currently available in the area)</i>	This project will increase OHV recreational opportunities in Rural Nevada. This project will also create a safe OHV Trail and expand opportunities for a wider range of experience levels.
14	Maintenance: <i>although this OHV grant program requires maintenance of all facilities funded for 25 years or the normal life of the project, we would like you to please describe HOW your project will be maintained and WHO has committed to the ongoing maintenance of the facility or continuation of the service/program. (Please also attach letter as described in Section VI).</i>	This project will create a safe, well-constructed OHV Trail that should require only minimal maintenance. The most significant maintenance activity is expected to be signing on the trail. The Forest Service has committed to the maintenance of the trail and will work with Volunteer groups like the High Desert Trailblazers to monitor the trail condition and complete maintenance as needed.
	<i>Additional justification or project history if you feel important and doesn't fit under a criterion listed above.</i>	This project proposal is one piece of a series of actions in the Schell Creek Range to improve recreational opportunities in the area. Other examples include Reconstruction of developed campgrounds

		under SNPLMA, Additional phases to complete the entire Ranger Trail, additional OHV Trails which connect to the Ranger Trails, and upgraded maps and websites showing all the recreational opportunities in the area.
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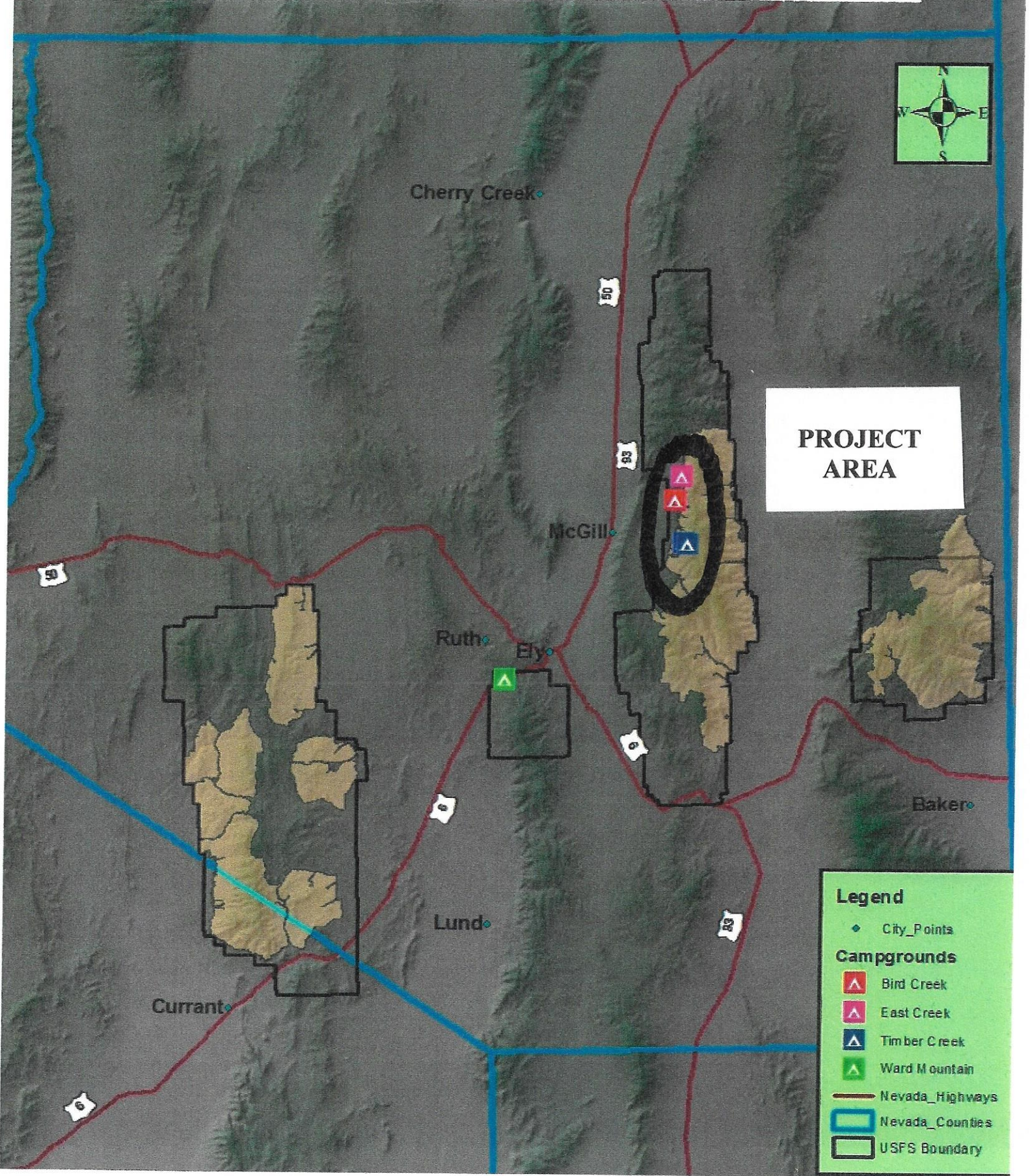
HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST ELY RANGER DISTRICT RANGER TRAIL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT



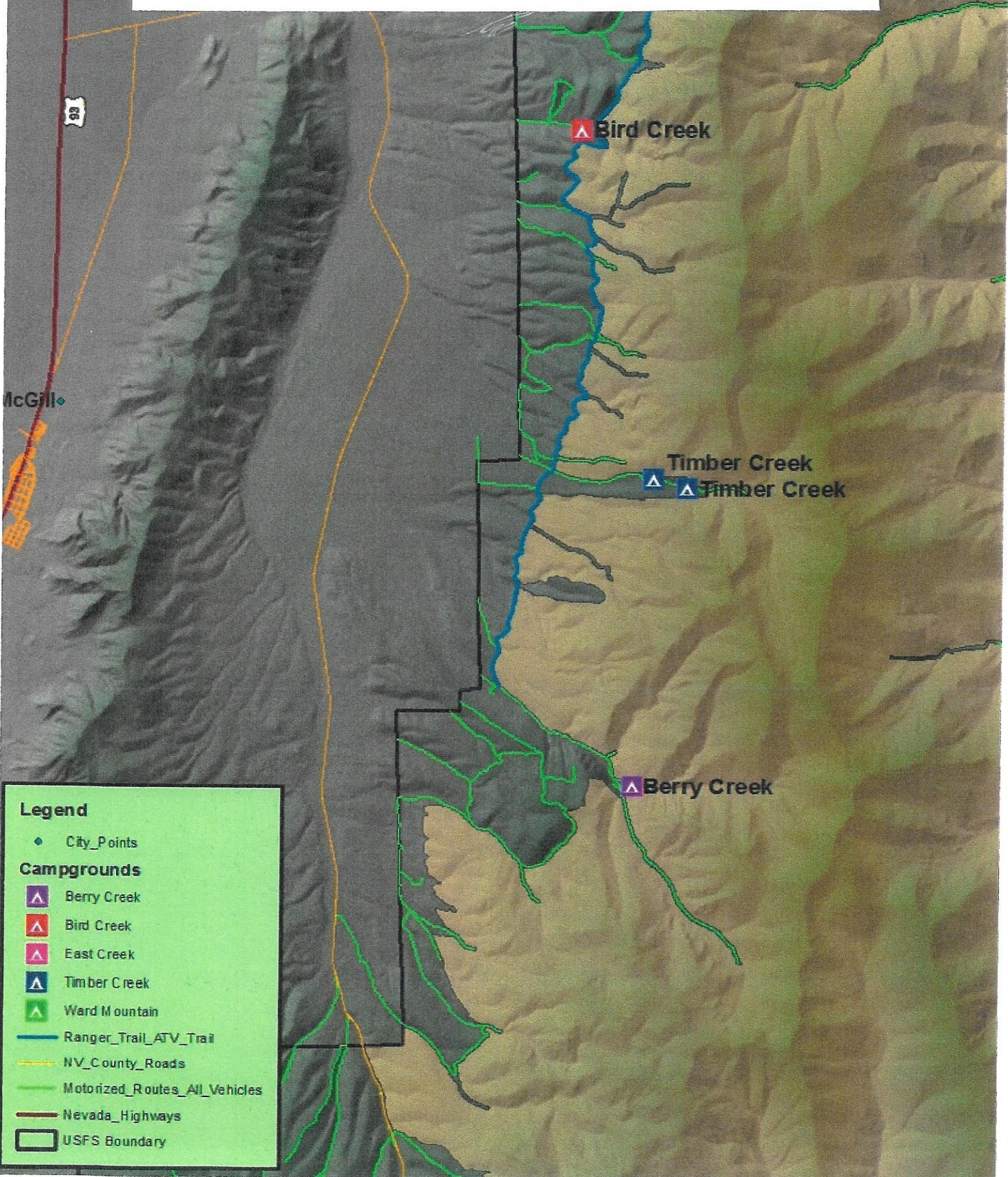
**PROJECT
AREA**

Legend

- ◆ City_Points
- Campgrounds**
 - ▲ Bird Creek
 - ▲ East Creek
 - ▲ Timber Creek
 - ▲ Ward Mountain
- Nevada_Highways
- ▭ Nevada_Counties
- ▭ USFS Boundary

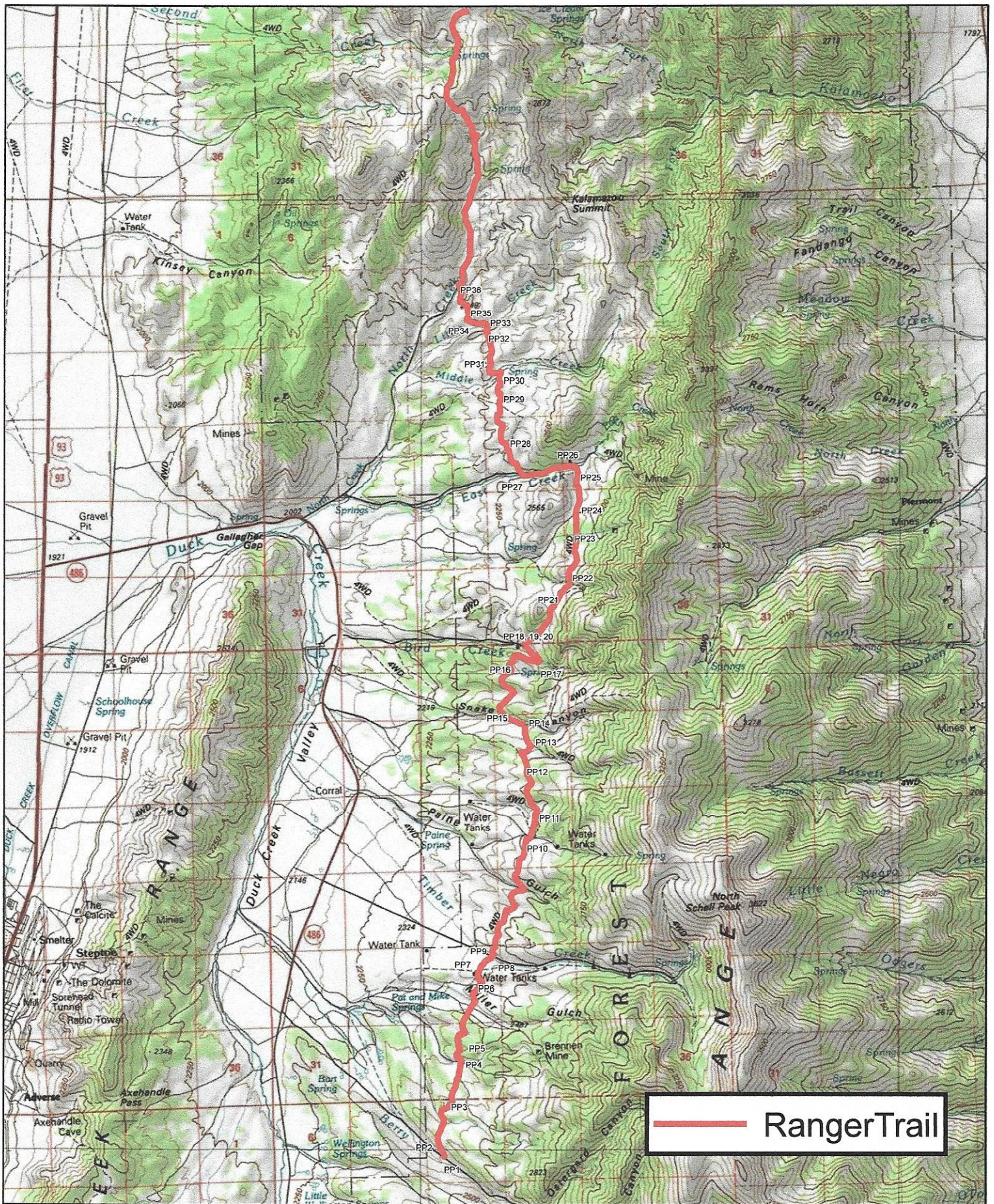


HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST ELY RANGER DISTRICT RANGER TRAIL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT



Legend

- ◆ City_Points
- Campgrounds**
- ▲ Berry Creek
- ▲ Bird Creek
- ▲ East Creek
- ▲ Timber Creek
- ▲ Ward Mountain
- Ranger_Trail_ATV_Trail
- NV_County_Roads
- Motorized_Routes_All_Vehicles
- Nevada_Highways
- USFS Boundary



 Ranger Trail



Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
 Ely Ranger District
 Ranger Trail - Berry Creek to Second Creek

Scale 1:100,000





Ranger Trail North of Berry Creek (Note the out-slope which is a safety risk for rollover)



Ranger Trail North of Berry Creek (Note the UTV rollover on the left side of the Picture)