



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, DC 20010
www.blm.gov



DECISION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

To: Deb Haaland
Secretary

Through: Laura Daniel-Davis
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary,
Land and Minerals Management

Laura Daniel-Davis
Digitally signed by Laura Daniel-Davis
Date: 2023.03.08
11:04:58 -05'00'

From: Tracy Stone-Manning
Director

Tracy Stone-Manning
Digitally signed by Tracy Stone-Manning
Date: 2023.03.08
10:50:24 -05'00'

Subject: Request for approval of expenditures from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Special Treasury Account as recommended for Round 19 in the SNPLMA Executive Committee Final Recommendation

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you approve expenditures from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act, as amended (SNPLMA), Public Law 105–263, special Treasury account and other authorizations outlined below, with the provisos as stated.

1. Authorize the total expenditure of \$400,122,466 from the SNPLMA special Treasury account for Round 19, including estimated expenditures of:

Project Category	Projects	Total Recommended Funding
Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisitions	2	\$4,930,923
Capital Improvements	8	\$71,993,239
Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan	3	\$3,501,521
Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas	17	\$232,303,774
Conservation Initiatives	6	\$7,870,899
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project	4	\$12,066,350
Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention	6	\$17,455,760
Category Totals	46	\$350,122,466
Special Account Reserve		\$50,000,000
Total Round 19 Recommendation		\$400,122,466

Appendix A - Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended) Round 19 Final Recommendation lists the projects recommended for funding by the SNPLMA Executive Committee (EC).

- a. All approved SNPLMA Round 19 funds not required to complete a project will be returned to the SNPLMA special Treasury account to be used for future projects and other authorized purposes. No reallocation of excess funds to previously approved projects is authorized.
- b. Authorization for expenditures for projects submitted in Round 19 as set forth in this Decision Document will not be construed as a final approval for any expenditure. The amounts authorized herein are not approved for expenditure unless and until all requisite procedures are followed as outlined in this document and in the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*.
- c. The estimated cost for land acquisitions under both the Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition and Parks, Trails, and Natural Area categories reflects the owner's asking price plus estimated costs for other necessary expenses such as appraisals and case management but does not reflect the actual value of any property or the actual price to be paid for any property. The actual purchase price will be based on the appraised fair market value determined consistent with appraisal requirements outlined in the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*. Acquisitions of land and interests in land using funds from the SNPLMA special Treasury account will be made in all cases from willing sellers and will comply with the land acquisition authorities of the acquiring agency or entity. Acquisitions by the United States will also comply with the guidance for such acquisitions established by the Department of Justice. Final purchase of any property, including final determination of the purchase price, will depend upon successful completion of the acquisition process under these authorities, as well as the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*.
- d. For projects that will be performed by Federal agencies, no amount authorized herein will be an amount approved for expenditure until the following have been met:
 - i. A notice of availability of funding has been issued.
 - ii. A work plan has been submitted by the proponent and accepted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The work plan will set forth a schedule of milestones with associated expenditures.
- e. For projects that will be performed by non-federal entities, no amount authorized herein will be an amount approved for expenditure until all the following have been met:

- i. A notice of availability of funding has been issued.
 - ii. A cooperative agreement or grant between the recipient entity and the BLM or other Federal agency has been fully executed.
 - iii. A work plan has been submitted by the proponent and accepted by the BLM or other Federal agency. The work plan must set forth a schedule of milestones with associated expenditures.
 - iv. The starting point for an identified deliverable and its associated funding start date has been reached.
2. Authorize the establishment of a reserve within the SNPLMA special Treasury account in the amount of \$50,000,000 for expenditure at the discretion of the EC toward allowable expenditures under SNPLMA and in accordance with the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*. The Round 19 Special Account Reserve (SAR) availability would expire when the Secretary approves Round 20. These SAR funds are authorized to address unexpected shortfalls between estimated and actual costs for approved projects and respond to unique opportunities or unanticipated circumstances that require immediate action. All expenditures from the SAR will be undertaken in compliance with established procedures and internal controls as well as all applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Funds in the SAR that are not obligated or allocated upon the approval of Round 20 would be returned to the SNPLMA special Treasury account for allocation in future rounds.
3. Simultaneously approve the use of financial assistance agreements in support of SNPLMA projects to meet any requirements for additional review by the Department of the Interior and/or the BLM. This review requirement would apply to the SNPLMA non-Federal cooperative agreements for the Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas; Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Program; and Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention categories. Absent a simultaneous approval to release funds for projects that would be funded through grants or cooperative agreements, those projects may be required to undergo additional reviews. As such, non-federal partners with approved projects in one of the listed categories would likely experience unnecessary delays with the implementation of their projects.
4. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(c)(4), the funding recipient entity is directed to initiate consultation with State Historic Preservation Officers, brief the BLM SNPLMA Program on all findings and determinations required under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and ultimately demonstrate NHPA compliance to the BLM SNPLMA Program prior to initiation of project implementation. Project implementation cannot begin until the BLM SNPLMA Program confirms all or part of the project area NHPA compliance requirements have been completed. Project implementation may be phased if NHPA compliance requirements for each phase have been completed before implementation of that phase begins, and if the integrity of any historic property or property eligible for listing on the National Register within

the larger project area is maintained. Non-compliance with this paragraph will result in part or whole project termination.

5. Reiterate the expectation that approved projects will be implemented in accordance with the project purpose and deliverables and within the timeframe specified in the project nomination, with appropriate time allocated for project startup and closeout as agreed upon in the work plan approved by the BLM. Requests for extension of time for project completion should be considered exceptions to the expected practice of timely implementation of projects and therefore limited in number and scope.

SECRETARY'S DECISION

- APPROVE Expenditure for All Projects and the SAR as recommended
- APPROVE Expenditure for Certain Projects and SAR
- APPROVE Expenditure for All Projects and a portion of the SAR
- APPROVE Expenditure for Certain Projects and a portion of the SAR
- DISAPPROVE Expenditure for All Projects and the SAR

COMMENT:

Date: 16 MAR 2023



Deb Haaland

APPENDIX A
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 19
Final Recommendation

Priority Ranking	Project Title	Requesting Entity	Amount Requested	Project Duration (Years)	Cooperative Agreement (Yes/No)
Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition Proposals					
1	Genoa Peak Land Acquisition	USDA-FS	\$2,776,013	3	No
2	Smoke Creek Ranch Acquisition	BLM	\$2,154,910	3	No
Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition Proposals Total:					
\$4,930,923					
Capital Improvements Proposals					
1	Crystal Springs Outflow Restoration	FWS	\$12,353,195	5	No
2	Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail Phase II	BLM	\$35,108,605	5	No
3	Lehman Caves Electrical System Phase II	NPS	\$5,846,630	5	No
5	Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction	USDA-FS	\$1,978,180	5	No
6	Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction	USDA-FS	\$1,158,980	5	No
7	Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theaters Renovation	BOR	\$5,934,420	5	No
8	Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction	USDA-FS	\$1,016,730	5	No
12	Nevada Fire Zone Complex	FWS	\$8,596,499	5	No
Capital Improvements Proposals Total:					
\$71,993,239					
Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Program Proposals					
1	Fine-scale Vegetation Map of Clark County	Clark County	\$1,000,000	5	Yes
2	Mark Recapture Surveys on Demography Plots	Clark County	\$888,000	5	Yes
3	Muddy River Restoration Phase II	Clark County	\$1,613,521	5	Yes
Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Program Proposals Total:					
\$3,501,521					

APPENDIX A - Continued
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 19
Final Recommendation

Priority Ranking	Project Title	Requesting Entity	Amount Requested	Project Duration (Years)	Cooperative Agreement (Yes/No)
Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Proposals					
1	Sloan Canyon Gateway Park	Henderson	\$4,468,859	5	Yes
2	Carson River Trail System Phase IV – Riverview Trailhead	Carson City	\$2,310,000	5	Yes
3	Bird Viewing Preserve Visitor Center	Henderson	\$9,293,492	5	Yes
4	Russell Road Recreation Complex	Henderson	\$8,393,432	5	Yes
5	Northern Beltway Trail Phase II	North Las Vegas	\$2,072,495	5	Yes
6	Craig Ranch Regional Park 20-Acre Expansion	North Las Vegas	\$24,624,985	5	Yes
7	James Regional Park Softball Complex	Clark County	\$39,771,004	5	Yes
8	Marich Fields Upgrade	White Pine County	\$9,584,890	5	Yes
9	Broadbent Park Multi-Use Redesign	White Pine County	\$6,195,290	5	Yes
10	Heritage Park Phase II – Recreation Center	White Pine County	\$27,215,940	5	Yes
11	Hollywood Regional Park Multi-Use Fields	Clark County	\$28,289,900	5	Yes
12	Children’s Science and Nature Park	North Las Vegas	\$31,779,248	5	Yes
13	Northwest Regional Park Phase 1A	Las Vegas	\$24,375,000	5	Yes
14	Clark County Shooting Complex Improvements Phase IV	Clark County	\$7,435,471	5	Yes
15	Warm Springs Acquisition and Improvements	Southern Nevada Water Authority	\$1,400,000	5	Yes
16	Alamo Sports Complex	Lincoln County	1,844,800	5	Yes
18	Lorenzi Park Tennis Addition	Las Vegas	\$3,248,968	5	Yes
Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Proposals Total:			\$232,303,774		

APPENDIX A - Continued
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 19
Final Recommendation

Priority Ranking	Project Title	Requesting Entity	Amount Requested	Project Duration (Years)	Cooperative Agreement (Yes/No)
Conservation Initiatives Proposals					
1	Wildlife Water Development for Desert Bighorn Sheep Conservation	FWS	\$781,221	5	No
2	Modernization of Groundwater Wells for Wildlife Refuge Habitat Conservation	FWS	\$1,441,426	5	No
3	Improving Mountain Lion Management with Outreach, Inclusiveness, and Community Science	NPS	\$2,210,324	5	No
4	Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management	USDA-FS	\$1,124,075	5	No
5	Condor Canyon Habitat Restoration and Evaluation	BLM	\$934,253	5	No
6	Wild Horse and Burro Herd Monitoring and Enhancement	USDA-FS	\$1,379,600	5	No
Conservation Initiatives Proposals Total: \$7,870,899					
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Proposals					
1	South Spring Valley and Hamlin Valley Watershed Restoration Implementation	BLM	\$3,072,000	5	No
2	Illipah Watershed Restoration	USDA-FS	\$3,396,395	5	No
3	South Schells Restoration	USDA-FS	\$4,867,255	5	No
4	Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weeds Phase II	USDA-FS	\$730,700	5	No
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Proposals Total: \$12,066,350					
Hazardous Fuels and Wildfire Prevention Proposals					
1	National Forest Resilience Corridors	USDA-FS	\$7,715,630	6	No
2	SMNRA Wildland Urban Interface Prescribed Fire and Noxious Weeds	USDA-FS	\$1,548,250	6	No
3	Tri County Fuels Reduction	USDA-FS	\$1,028,790	6	No
4	Mt Rose Fuels Reduction	USDA-FS	\$2,011,740	6	No
5	Lake Tahoe West Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction	USDA-FS	\$3,769,350	6	No
6	Marlette Hazardous Fuels Reduction	State of Nevada	\$1,382,000	6	Yes
Hazardous Fuels and Wildfire Prevention Proposals Total: \$17,455,760					

APPENDIX A - Continued
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 19
Final Recommendation

Priority Ranking	Project Title	Requesting Entity	Amount Requested	Project Duration (Years)	Cooperative Agreement (Yes/No)
		All Categories Total:	\$350,122,466		
		Special Account Reserve:	\$50,000,000		
		Round 19 Total Budget:	\$400,122,466		

**Decision Memo - Recommendation to approve funding for the Callville Bay SNPLMA
Round 19 NPS nomination**

DECISION MEMO FOR THE SECRETARY

DATE: February 15, 2023

THROUGH: Shannon Estenoz
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

 Date: 2023.02.16
15:02:16 -05'00'

FROM: Charles Sams
Director, National Park Service

 Date: 2023.02.15
16:37:19 -05'00'

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve funding for the Callville Bay
SNPLMA Round 19 NPS nomination

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Upon reviewing the Round 19 Final Recommendation developed by the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Executive Committee (EC), the National Park Service (NPS) and the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks (ASFWP) recommend funding for one additional project, *Improve and Modernize Recreational Opportunities at Callville Bay (Callville Bay)*, presented below, totaling \$17,021,300.00, at Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Lake Mead NRA).

BACKGROUND

NPS and ASFWP recommend the Secretary approve funding for the Callville Bay SNPLMA Round 19 NPS nomination, totaling \$17,021,300.00 from the SNPLMA Special Account, subject to the availability of funds.

This project will ensure maintenance of current visitor services at Callville Bay down to lake levels of 950'. Lake level 950' is the minimum needed to maintain power operations at Hoover Dam, and lake levels are expected to be maintained at or above 950' through at least 2026. Current visitor services include motorized boat ramp access, marina services including gas, food and beverage, slip rentals for private boats, and boat rentals to the public. As lake levels drop, utilities and other marine infrastructure must be extended or relocated to maintain visitor services. Utilities also support land-based infrastructure, including a campground, trailer village and park housing. Completion of this project will ensure that visitors to the park will continue to have safe recreation access to the lake by means of boat ramp and marina services in one of the most visited sites within Lake Mead NRA.

**Decision Memo - Recommendation to approve funding for the Callville Bay SNPLMA
Round 19 NPS nomination**

NPS originally submitted Callville Bay for funding consideration in response to the SNPLMA Round 19 request for nominations in September 2021. However, on July 27, 2022, following public review of nominated projects, but prior to the EC briefing and development of the SNPLMA Final Recommendation for Round 19, the NPS Regional Director (Interior Regions 8, 9, 10 and 12) pulled this project from consideration and recommended resubmitting the nomination in a future round due to rapidly changing conditions, which outpaced the proposed project approval and implementation at the anticipated lake levels. Since then, the park has adjusted its planning timeline as it gained an increased understanding of both the anticipated lake levels and the recreation impacts if the project was abandoned. The situation at the Lake Mead NRA has become more urgent, and NPS and ASFWP now recommend that the Secretary approves funding for this project in the near term.

ANALYSIS

Views of other DOI Bureaus and Offices: The NPS Director has secured the support and surname of the following: Bureau of Land Management (BLM); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Bureau of Reclamation; USDA Forest Service; Assistant Secretary for Water and Science; Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget; and the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

Outside Perspectives – Members of Congress, Federal, State, Tribal, Territorial, local government, and Citizen groups: Secretarial approval of project would likely be supported by most of these groups, since there is increased concern about the loss of recreational boating access, particularly given that the press have consistently focused on the lowering water levels in Lake Mead. However, should the Secretary not approve funding of the project from the SNPLMA Special Account, Congressional delegations and State officials may question why this project was not approved for funding, since it would address a high profile need to restore lake access and support the local and regional business communities.

Constraints on Secretarial Action: SNPLMA section 4(e)(3) sets forth categories of actions for which the Secretary can approve expenditures from the SNPLMA Special Account—one of which is proposals for capital improvement projects. Section 4(e)(3)(B) of the SNPLMA requires the Secretary of the Interior to “coordinate the use of the special account with the Secretary of Agriculture, the State of Nevada, local governments, and other interested persons to ensure accountability and demonstrated results.” The Secretary has the authority under SNPLMA to fund all projects submitted for consideration during a funding round;

**Decision Memo - Recommendation to approve funding for the Callville Bay SNPLMA
Round 19 NPS nomination**

partially fund projects; or opt to fund none of the projects and fund any other project meeting the category descriptions in section 4(e)(3). Not more than 25 percent of the amounts available to the Secretary from the Special Account in any fiscal year (determined without taking into account amounts deposited under subsection (g)(4)) may be used in any fiscal year for the purposes described in subparagraph (A)(ii). All previous rounds of SNPLMA projects have been wholly approved as recommended by the EC or approved with additional projects; none has been partially approved or not approved at all.

The BLM initiated SNPLMA Round 19 in September 2021 by issuing a request for project nominations. Following consideration with both internal and external partners and public review of nominations consistent with the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*, the EC Final Recommendation included proposals for funding of 46 projects totaling \$350,122,466 in Round 19, with \$50,000,000 in the Special Account Reserve.

The EC Final Recommendation for the Round 19 Capital Improvement Proposals (CIP) expenditure category is \$71,993,239. As of December 31, 2022, there was \$83,090,403.73 available to the Secretary for CIP projects. The NPS and ASFWP recommendation that the Secretary fund the additional Callville Bay project in the CIP category would represent a difference of approximately \$6 million and would be subject to fund availability.

If the Secretary approves this recommendation to fund the additional Callville Bay project as part of Round 19, the availability of funding for the Callville Bay project could be expected to occur as follows: \$11 million would be available after the Secretary approves funding for the nomination once the BLM issues a Notice of Funding Availability and approves NPS's work plan. Then, \$1.25 million would be available every month thereafter until the project is fully funded. This disbursement schedule assumes that \$5 million is deposited into the SNPLMA Special Account each month (from funds returned from earlier Rounds and other sources), resulting in the availability of \$1.25 million for the projects in the CIP category. Additionally, if authorized, the expenditure of funds would occur after all other Round 19 CIP projects are funded, subject to the availability of funds in the SNPLMA Special Account.

Time Sensitivity: While there is no specific deadline associated with Secretarial consideration of the EC Final Recommendation for Round 19 or this NPS and ASFWP recommendation for funding for the Callville Bay project, persistent drought has rapidly and significantly lowered the water elevation of Lake Mead over the last 20 years and the water level is projected to recede below a level where the park can maintain access and visitor services as early as August of 2023.

Decision Memo - Recommendation to approve funding for the Callville Bay SNPLMA Round 19 NPS nomination

Approval of funding for this CIP would allow the NPS to promptly address maintenance of current visitor services as the lake level continues to recede.

The NPS EC member held a call with Clark County, the Nevada Association of Counties, and the State of Nevada about the request. In addition, approving this project will likely be supported by most of the other interested parties, since there is increased concern about the loss of recreational boating access, particularly given the consistent highlighting of lowering water levels in Lake Mead.

RECOMMENDATION

The NPS Director and the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks recommend you approve the expenditure of \$17,021,300.00 for Callville Bay in SNPLMA Round 19.

APPROVED BY: USDA, Forest Service Chief; DOI principals' concurrence indicated on the surname sheet.

RESPONSE REQUESTED BY: February 2023

DECISION: Approve expenditure of \$17,021,300.00 for Callville Bay in Round 19 as recommended by NPS and ASFWP.

APPROVE

APPROVE AS AMENDED

REJECT

DISCUSS

COMMENT:



Deb Haaland

Date: 16 Mar 2023

Table 1: Additional Projects Recommended by the NPS for Round 19 SNPLMA Funding

Subgroup Ranking	Project Title	Requesting Entity	Amount Requested	Cooperative Agreement (Yes/No)
Capital Improvements				
9	Improve and Modernize Recreational Opportunities at Callville Bay	NPS	\$17,021,300.00	No
Total Additional Funding Recommended			\$17,021,300.00	
Total Round 19 Project Funding Recommended by SNPLMA Executive Committee				
Revised Round 19 Total Budget Based on Recommended Additions			\$89,014,539	