

Elko Daily Free Press – October 3, 2017

Legal Notice:

**USDA Forest Service
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest**

**Opportunity to Comment on
Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing Availability Analysis**

The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Mountain City-Ruby Mountains-Jarvis Ranger District is preparing an Environmental Assessment for Ruby Mountains Oil and Gas Leasing Availability Analysis for approximately 54,000 acres of National Forest System land (NFS). The Forest Service proposes to determine which NFS lands will be made administratively available to the BLM for oil and gas leasing and what stipulations to include to protect resources. The lands are located south of Lamoille Creek and North of Sherman Creek, on the west side of the Ruby Mountains. These lands are within areas covered by the 1986 Humboldt Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP), and all are designated as open to leasing. If made available, these lands may be proposed for oil and gas leasing by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in a future lease sale. The Nevada BLM is a cooperating agency on this NEPA analysis.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B. This project is not authorized under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA); however it is subject to the Pre-decisional Administrative Review Process under 36 CFR §218 Subparts (A) and (B). It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection under §218.

Written, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following the publication of this notice in the Elko Daily Free Press. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.

Written comments must be submitted to Susan Elliott, Project Lead, at 660 South 12th Street, Suite 108, Elko, Nevada 89801; or you may hand-deliver your comments during normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays, to the above address. E-mail comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to sgelliott@fs.fed.us. Please put "Ruby Oil and Gas" into the subject line. Electronic comments can also be submitted using the project webpage at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52443>. To submit comments using the web form, select "Comment/Object on Project" under "Get Connected" on the right panel of the project's webpage.

For objection eligibility each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for objection eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this Project and will be available for public inspection and will be released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

For more information on this project please contact Susan Elliott, Forest Service Minerals Program Manager, at (775) 778-6123. Project information can also be found on the project webpage at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52443>.

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