



**NEVADA MINING ASSOCIATION**  
**GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION**  
**BEST PRACTICES**

**Nevada Mineral Exploration and Mining Industry**

# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY

## PART 1 - GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES

### PURPOSE

- Mining and exploration operations differ from other industries, such as wind energy.
- Identified need to coordinate with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), federal land management agencies, and the state wildlife agency in Nevada (NDOW).
- Provide a clear process for evaluating a mineral exploration or mining project in the context of:
  - Golden Eagle management guidelines; and
  - Compliance with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.



# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES PURPOSE

- The Nevada Mining Association has created a working group consisting of a variety of mining and exploration interests varying in size and scope.
- Goal to Create Two Documents
  - Part 1 – Project Evaluation Guide
  - Part 2 – Permitting and Golden Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance



# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES PROCESS AND STATUS

- Part 1 in draft form. Final draft expected by the end of 2015.
- Overview presentations – November 2015
- Meet and work with USFWS upon draft completion (2016).
- USFWS document review and revision.
- Action agency (BLM, USFS) document review:
  - Current guidance, NEPA process, compliance, agency coordination, etc.
- Coordination with NDOW.



NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY  
GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES  
PART 1 - DOCUMENT OUTLINE

- Background Information
- Project Evaluation and Golden Eagle Habitat Assessment
- Golden Eagle Protection Measures
- “Take” Evaluation
- Agency Coordination
- Action Plan if Incidental “Take” Occurs



# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Legal Authorities
- Project Jurisdiction and Status
- Basic Golden Eagle Ecology



NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY  
GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES  
PROJECT EVALUATION AND GOLDEN EAGLE HABITAT  
ASSESSMENT

- Status and Type of Operation
  - Four Operation Types
  - Habitat Assessment and Survey Recommendations
- Data Sources and Sharing



# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION MEASURES

## ○ Categories:

- Project Design and Management
- Pre-Construction Surveys
- Activity Buffer
- Project Administrative Controls
- Facility Design
- Habitat Management and Enhancement
- Golden Eagle Nest Monitoring
- Bird Conservation Planning





# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES TAKE EVALUATION

- Overview of Project-Level “Take”
- Permit Determination
- Overview of Part 2
  - Types of Permits
  - Eagle Conservation Plans



# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES AGENCY COORDINATION

- USFWS
- Federal Land Management Agencies (BLM, USFS)
- State Wildlife Agency (NDOW)



# NEVADA MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING INDUSTRY GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES ACTION PLAN IF INCIDENTAL TAKE OCCURS

- Listing of steps based upon USFWS, State Wildlife Agency, and Federal Land Management Agency protocols

