NEVADA MINING ASSOCIATION
GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION
BEST PRACTICES

Nevada Mineral Exploration and Mining Industry
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.
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
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.
Background Information

Project Evaluation and Golden Eagle Habitat Assessment

Golden Eagle Protection Measures

“Take” Evaluation

Agency Coordination

Action Plan if Incidental “Take” Occurs
Legal Authorities

Project Jurisdiction and Status

Basic Golden Eagle Ecology
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
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)
Listing of steps based upon USFWS, State Wildlife Agency, and Federal Land Management Agency protocols