

**Mt. Charleston License Plate Grant Program**  
**ROUND 1 SUMMARY OF PROJECTS**  
February 1, 2010

The Mount Charleston License Plate fund (NRS 321.5959) is administered by the State Land Use Planning Agency (SLUPA) within the Nevada Division of State Lands and sponsored by the Conservation District of Southern Nevada for projects and programs that support the natural environment of Mount Charleston. These funds are available as grants and must be used for:

- ***The support of programs for the natural environment of the Mount Charleston area, including, without limitation, programs to improve the wildlife habitat, the ecosystem, the forest, public access to the area and its recreational use, and must not be used to replace or supplant money available from other sources. The Administrator may provide grants from the account to other public agencies and political subdivisions, including, without limitation, unincorporated towns, to carry out the provisions of the program.***

SLUPA received six project requests during Round 1 of the program in Fall 2008 and all were approved after review by a Technical Advisory Committee. The total grant award for all six projects amounted to \$107,658.69, which includes a 3% allowance for administrative purposes that is in addition to the grant award. Five of the projects are on the Clark County side of the range and the sixth is on the Pahrump side, and can be summarized as follows:

Mt. Charleston Communities Fire Hydrant Marker Flags

**Grant Award: \$ 1,793.00**

**Status: Project completely funded and file closed pending verification of marker installment.**

- This project proposes the placement of reflective metal poles and flags on top of fire hydrants for better visibility in the Mt. Charleston communities.

Mt. Charleston Community Gateways Design Project

**Grant Award: \$25,000.00**

- The Mt. Charleston communities are directly adjacent to US Forest Service lands and frequently experience problems with visitors who are not able to distinguish private lands from public lands. These visitors end up inadvertently trespassing. The communities want to encourage visitation while protecting privacy. Public lands officials are often unable to properly address the situation as well.
- The project seeks to support a partnership between private land owners and the US Forest Service that will use environmental/public art to more clearly delineate public lands from private lands. The project is called "Gateways" but may manifest itself in other ways as the partners develop environmentally-pleasing artwork that helps define these public/private boundaries.

Mt. Charleston Birding Brochures and Guided Walks

**Grant Award: \$14,700.00**

- The Red Rock Audubon Society proposes a 2-part educational outreach effort. Part 1 would be to publish a full color brochure checklist of the 226 birds commonly associated with Mt. Charleston. Part 2 would consist of a series of educational field tours led by experienced Audubon leaders who have extensive knowledge of local birds, as well as plants and trees.

Keeper of Wheeler Well

**Grant Award: \$13,030.00**

- Educational program based on the story of Dick Senior (“Keeper of Wheeler Well”), who has dedicated considerable time to the rehabilitation and maintenance of an important water source on the west flank of the Spring Mountains, east of Pahrump. Artists and educators will be employed to tell his story of stewardship and its link to the importance of water to wildlife and the ecosystem. Elementary schools will receive a final “reading program”, presented by the artists, and assisted by Forest Service staff, and possibly coordinated with Earth Day activities. High school interns will learn to present the program so the project is maintained in future years.

Mt. Charleston Wilderness Stewardship Program

**Grant Award: \$ 25,000.00**

- Through partnerships, wilderness stewardship will be promoted by the Wilderness Outreach and Education Program. The program will help visitors understand wilderness areas, foster stewardship of the land and to practice “Leave No trace” ethics during their visits. A coordinator will work with surrounding communities and coordinate the volunteer program as well as special outreach events.

Mt. Charleston OHV Host Program

**Grant Award: \$25,000.00**

- Provide support of volunteers on the west side of the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area for improvements and management of the designated OHV Road, Trail and Area System. The OHV Host Program will provide a full time coordinator to support volunteers (hosts) and provide special outreach events. Hosts will also be trained to offer recreation and natural resource management information, provide educational programs, and help with fundraising events.