

Bureau of Land Management
Battle Mountain District
Tiehms Buckwheat Monitoring Report

Date/Time of Visit: 11/17/2020

Date Report Completed: 11/20/2020

Weather Conditions:

Site Condition (choose from below): 1

0 = No change | 1 = Minor | 2 = Site disturbed | 3 = Site damaged | 4 = Vandals at site

Nature of Impact/Damage: (Check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Activity (General) | <input type="checkbox"/> Digging | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Falls |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal Activity (Herbivory) | <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Down/Damage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Activity (Uprooting) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing/Gate Damage | <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Foot Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Trails/Trailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Looting | <input type="checkbox"/> Trash/Dumping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint Ball Damage | <input type="checkbox"/> Trespass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Grazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Damage (Weather) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Tracks/Parking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collectors Pile | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Damage (Animal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfires |

Other:

Comments and Concerns (type in box, below):

Populations visited during this site visit included 6A, 6B, 1, and 2. Ocular estimates were conducted to see if damage from herbivory is ongoing. Sites looked similar to previous site visits. Ocular estimates of dead or damaged plants in subpopulation 1, 2 looked very similar to previous site visits the herbivory does not seem to be ongoing within 1 and 2 at least to a noticeable degree. In sites 6A and 6B it is possible that herbivory to a very small degree is ongoing. Plants are dead and decadent due to extremely dry conditions and the onset of winter weather making it nearly impossible to determine if plants were recently dug up. After the initial 9/11 site visit a high degree of foot traffic was observed. On the 11/17/2020 site visit very few "fresh" human tracks were observed within the subpopulations. Human traffic in the area seems to have decreased substantially no cars or people were observed in or near any of the subpopulations. Recent moisture made determining the presence of fresh human footprints very easy. Game cameras were removed and may be reinstalled if deemed necessary. It will be very hard to assess the damage again until spring of 2021. No LEO actions needed at this time.

Monitored By: Brandon

Lead Preparer Signature:

Renewables AFM Signature:

[illegible]

Image 1



Image 2



Image 3



Image 4



Image 5



Bureau of Land Management
Battle Mountain District
Tiehms Buckwheat Monitoring Report

Date/Time of Visit: 12/3/2020

Date Report Completed: 12/4/2020

Weather Conditions:

Site Condition (choose from below): 1

0 = No change | 1 = Minor | 2 = Site disturbed | 3 = Site damaged | 4 = Vandals at site

Nature of Impact/Damage: (Check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Activity (General) | <input type="checkbox"/> Digging | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Falls |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal Activity (Herbivory) | <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Down/Damage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Activity (Uprooting) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing/Gate Damage | <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Foot Traffic | <input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Trails/Trailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Looting | <input type="checkbox"/> Trash/Dumping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint Ball Damage | <input type="checkbox"/> Trespass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Grazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Damage (Weather) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Tracks/Parking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collectors Pile | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Damage (Animal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfires |

Other:

Comments and Concerns (type in box, below):

Populations visited during this site visit included 1, 2, 3 and 6 staff included myself and Daltrey Balmer AFM for Renewable Resources. Ocular estimates were conducted at each subpopulation visited to see if herbivory was ongoing. The number of dead or damaged plants appears to be similar to the 11/17/2020 site visit. However, plants are dry and decadent making it hard to tell if the plants were recently dug up or damaged. Photo points were also established in subpopulations 1, 3 and 6 and can be observed in the photo log below. The plots were placed around a group of plants that had not been damaged. These plots will be checked and photographed bi-weekly to observe any changes to the plants within the plots. If deemed necessary, more plots can be added as needed for a larger sample size. No cars or people within any of the subpopulations was observed foot traffic within the subpopulations has decreased. We also observed the seedling transplant locations no Tiehms buckwheat seedlings were observed within the transplant locations. Camera setting was accidentally set on black and white will correct on the next site visit.

Monitored By: Brandon

Lead Preparer Signature:

Renewables AFM Signature:

Date/Time of Visit: 12/3/2020	Date Report Completed: 12/4/2020
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[illegible]

Image 1

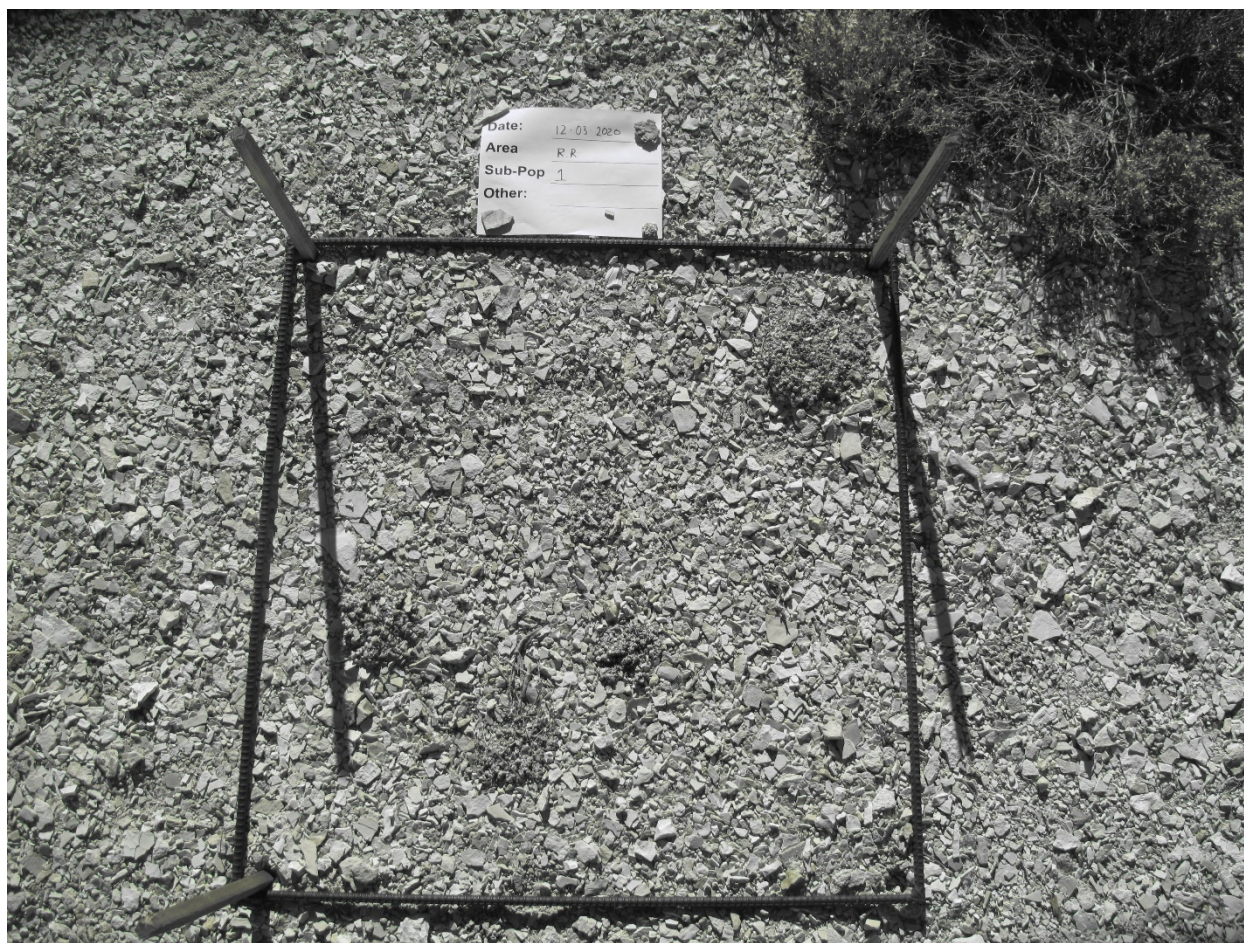


Image 2

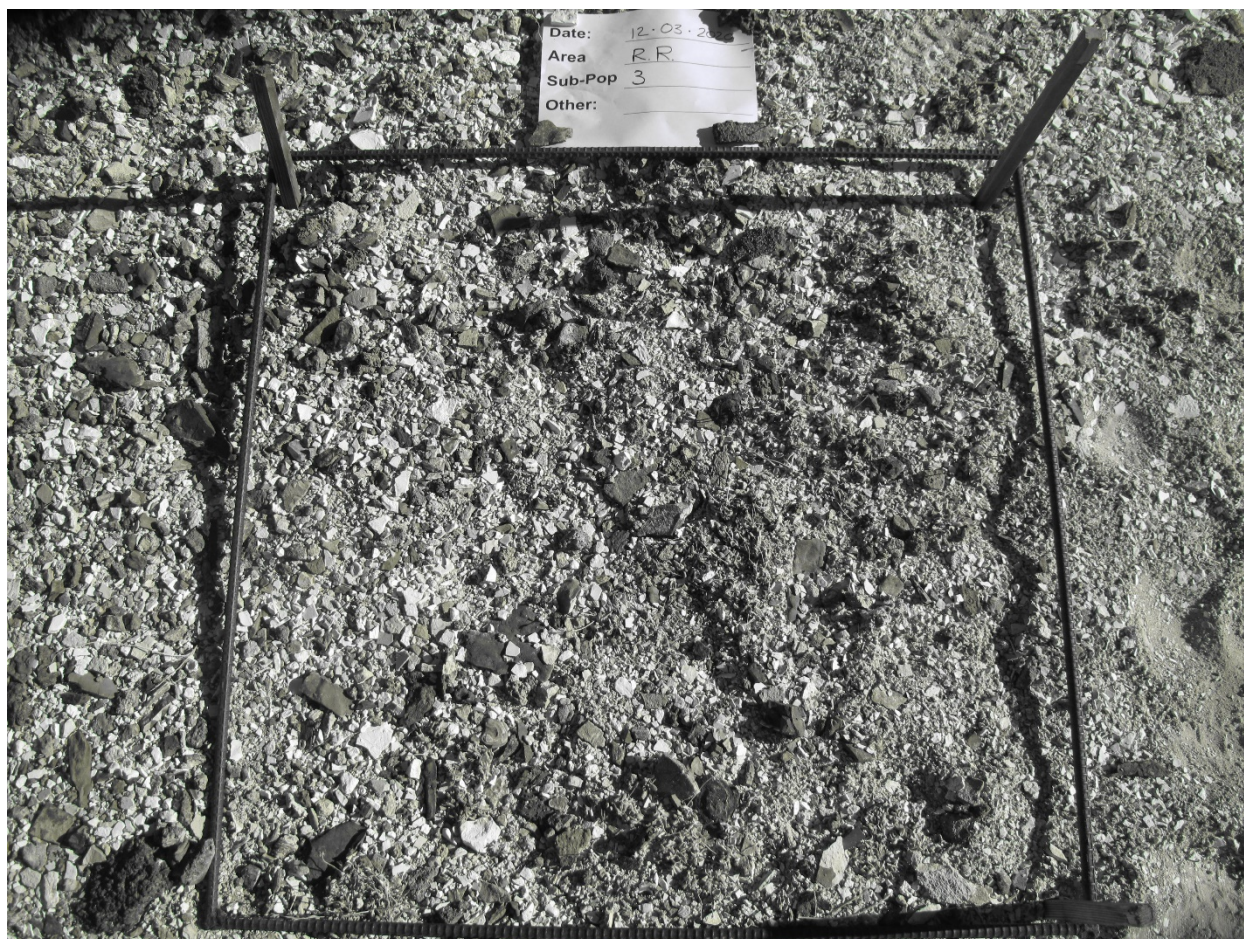


Image 3



Image 4



From: [Crosby, Brandon J](#)
To: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
Cc: [Kulpa, Sarah](#); [Balmer, Daltrey J](#)
Subject: Re: Recent monitoring
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:31:55 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-i2dttwi1.png](#)
[11_17_2020 Tiehms Buckwheat Monitoring Log.docx](#)
[12_1_2020 Tiehms Buckwheat Monitoring Log.docx](#)

Hi Justin,

I have been going to the site bi-weekly and have not observed any OHV tracks in subpopulation 1 but I will certainly take a good look next week for any OHV tracks. I do vaguely remember seeing some tracks on the hill adjacent to subpop 1 in previous site visits but they were old and I do not think any plants were impacted. Did they provide any photo's or reference points as to where the tracks were located?

I will reach out to our Rec planner right now and see if she can get me some counters and I will try to get those installed next week as well. In my last two previous site visits I did not observe any vehicles or people and foot traffic within the subpopulations seems to have decreased since the eDNA paper has come out.

We have established a couple photo plots in subpops 1, 3 and 6 that we are going to photograph bi-weekly. All the plants in the photo plots have not been impacted so hopefully that will give us some idea if damage is continuing. Damage is definitely not occurring to the same degree previously observed but given the condition of the plants its really hard to determine how much damage is still occurring. I think spring will provide us with some better answers. Unfortunately, last week the camera was set to black and white so I apologize for the photo quality.

Thank You,

From: Barrett, Justin S <justin_barrett@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:02 AM
To: Crosby, Brandon J <bcrosby@blm.gov>
Cc: Kulpa, Sarah <sarah_kulpa@fws.gov>
Subject: Recent monitoring

Good morning Brandon!

On a call a few weeks back, we discuss the potential for BLM to install vehicle counters at Rhyolite Ridge. I was wondering if this has been done and, if so, has any data been collected yet?

Also, CBD had reported tracks from an OHV that had gone into occupied habitat (subpop 1?). Have you or anyone from the Tonopah office been able to verify the tracks and/or estimate the

From: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
To: [Crosby, Brandon J](#)
Cc: [Kulpa, Sarah](#); [Balmer, Daltrey J](#)
Subject: Re: Recent monitoring
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:53:02 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-i2dttwj1.png](#)
[Outlook-3zkuu4hy.png](#)

Thanks Brandon, this is really helpful!

It's my recollection that the observed OHV track was in subpop 1 and they had provided at least one picture but let me find that and share it with you. I have calls starting here in 8 minutes so, it might not be until this afternoon or tomorrow.

Thanks again!

Justin

Justin Barrett
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Reno Field Office
Phone: 775-861-6338

<https://www.fws.gov/reno/>



From: Crosby, Brandon J <bcrosby@blm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:31 AM
To: Barrett, Justin S <justin_barrett@fws.gov>
Cc: Kulpa, Sarah <sarah_kulpa@fws.gov>; Balmer, Daltrey J <dbalmer@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: Recent monitoring

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Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:02 AM

To: Crosby, Brandon J <bcrosby@blm.gov>

Cc: Kulpa, Sarah <sarah_kulpa@fws.gov>

Subject: Recent monitoring

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Also, CBD had reported tracks from an OHV that had gone into occupied habitat (subpop 1?). Have you or anyone from the Tonopah office been able to verify the tracks and/or estimate the damage done to plants? Have you noticed any sign of other vehicles in occupied habitat?

Thank you for any information you have!

Hope you're doing well!

Justin

Justin Barrett
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Reno Field Office
Phone: 775-861-6338

<https://www.fws.gov/reno/>

From: [Gilkeson, Joanna C](#)
To: [Maciel, Martha L](#); [Jackson, Marc A](#); [Barrett, Justin S](#); [Kulpa, Sarah](#); [Meredith, Lauren K](#); [Bierce, Pamela](#); [Heil, John C](#); [Heston, Sophia M](#)
Subject: Re: Tiehm's buckwheat eDNA Final Outreach Plan - Website Link
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:38:44 AM

Hi everyone,

The summary is posted on the website! It shows up as a "highlight" on our home page.

Here is the direct link to the summary of the report: <https://www.fws.gov/reno/news/environmental-dna-analysis-supports-conclusion-damage-rare-tiehms-buckwheat-plants-was-caused>

Here is the direct link to the report: https://fws-reno-prod.opengov.ibmcloud.com/reno/sites/default/files/2020-12/FINAL_Tiehms_eDNA_report_20201201.pdf

Thank you all. Have a great Friday and weekend.

Best,
Joanna

Joanna Gilkeson (she/her)
Public Affairs Specialist
Reno, Nevada
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office: 775/861-6336
Cell: 760/473-3954
<https://www.fws.gov/reno/>

From: Maciel, Martha L <martha_maciel@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Jackson, Marc A <marc_jackson@fws.gov>; Gilkeson, Joanna C <joanna_gilkeson@fws.gov>; Barrett, Justin S <justin_barrett@fws.gov>; Kulpa, Sarah <sarah_kulpa@fws.gov>; Meredith, Lauren K <lauren_meredith@fws.gov>; Bierce, Pamela <pamela_bierce@fws.gov>; Heil, John C <john_heil@fws.gov>; Heston, Sophia M <sophia_heston@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Tiehm's buckwheat eDNA Final Outreach Plan

Great summary! Thanks for the re-cap and for all your efforts in coordinating the release.

As part of our roll out plan, I will share the link with SOL and John will share with RD/DRD and BLM communications.

I think that covers it.
Martha

From: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
To: [Sharkey, Anne-Marie](#)
Subject: Tiehms eDNA report
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 2:18:53 PM
Attachments: [Grant FINAL FWS Tiehms eDNA report 20201201.pdf](#)
[Outlook-sfanobkz.png](#)

Hello Anne-Marie,

If you haven't already seen this, here we just received the final report for the eDNA on Tiehm's. I've attached it here.

Do you have a report from your investigation that you can share yet?

Our biologist would like cite your investigation in the Species Report if possible.

Thanks!

Justin

Justin Barrett
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Reno Field Office
Phone: 775-861-6338

<https://www.fws.gov/reno/>

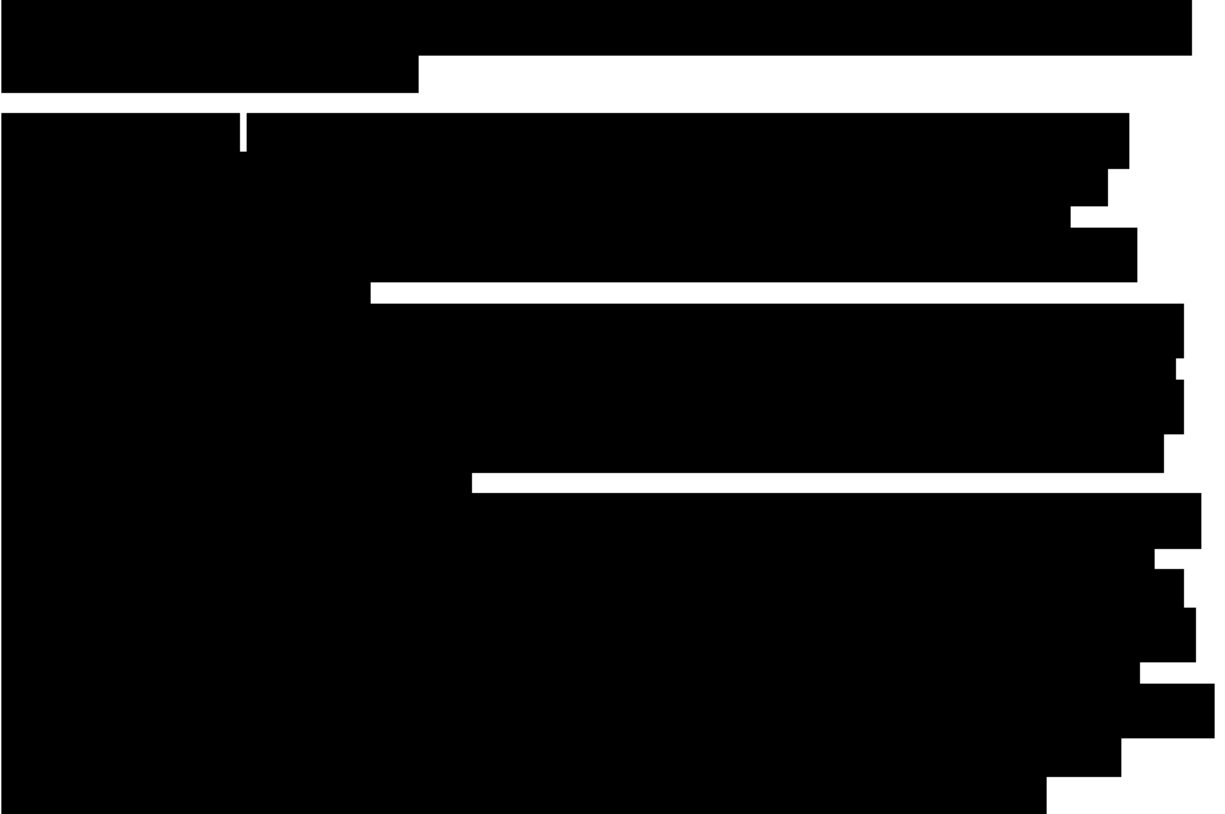


From: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
To: [Raby, Jon K](#); [Furtado, Douglas W](#); [Wickham, Perry B](#); [Crosby, Brandon J](#); [Todd, Marci L](#); [Amme, Brian C](#); [Ralston, Jill A](#); [Bush, Christopher I](#); infoweb@blm.gov
Subject: Tiehm's herbivory report
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 12:50:48 PM
Attachments: [FINAL Tiehms eDNA report 20201201.pdf](#)
[Outlook-c03gmuru.png](#)

Good afternoon,

I wanted to bring this report and statement to your attention. These have been posted on our Reno Fish and Wildlife website [Home | Reno Fish & Wildlife Office \(fws.gov\)](#) but there may be some problems with the links so I wanted to make sure the information was appropriately disseminated.

(b) (5)

A large rectangular area of the email body is completely redacted with black ink. The redaction covers approximately two-thirds of the page content below the introductory paragraph and above the signature block. There are some small white rectangular artifacts within the redacted area, possibly from the scanning process.

Justin Barrett
Assistant Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Reno Field Office
Phone: 775-861-6338

<https://www.fws.gov/reno/>



From: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
Subject: Tiehm's herbivory report
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 12:57:47 PM
Attachments: [FINAL Tiehms eDNA report 20201201.pdf](#)
[Outlook-lf2mgoz.png](#)

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(b) (5)

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Welcome to the Reno Fish and Wildlife Office! The Reno Office protects and conserves endangered fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats in Northern Nevada, the Eastern Sierra

and Tahoe Basin for the continuing benefit of the American people.

www.fws.gov

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Phone: 775-861-6338

<https://www.fws.gov/reno/>



From: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
Bcc: [esmboc@esmeraldacountynev.org](#); [dstapleton@nvnapco.org](#); [Colby Prout](#); [clerktreasurer@esmeraldacountynev.org](#); [pdonnelly@biologicaldiversity.org](#); [center@biologicaldiversity.org](#); [jmaschinski@saveplants.org](#); [gradyb@ripon.edu](#); [Shaaron@nevadawilderness.org](#); [info@nevadalandtrust.org](#); [Tyre@nevadamining.org](#); [president@nvnpa.org](#); [brian.beffort@sierraclub.org](#); [Nevada@tnc.org](#); [emolvar@westernwatersheds.org](#); [tiones@wildearthguardians.org](#); [lmcdade@calbq.org](#); [ileneanderson@biologicaldiversity.org](#); [paul@westernwatersheds.org](#); [lcunningham@westernwatersheds.org](#); [nfraga@calbq.org](#); [Kris Kuyper](#); [Rebecca Sawyer](#); [jchrist@forestry.nv.gov](#); [rshane@forestry.nv.gov](#); [Janel](#); [James](#); [Elizabeth A Leger](#); [atiehm@unr.edu](#); [ohvinfo@ohv.nv.gov](#); [Kacey KC](#); [cdonohue@lands.nv.gov](#); [Kristin Szabo](#); [bcrowell@dcnr.nv.gov](#); [thompsonj@unr.edu](#); [Jacqueline Grant](#); [glovato@ndep.org](#); [smontooth@nig.nv.gov](#); [Clifford Banuelos](#); [Barrett, Justin S](#)
Subject: Tiehm's herbivory report
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 12:57:45 PM
Attachments: [FINAL Tiehms eDNA report 20201201.pdf](#)
[Outlook-11f2mqoz.png](#)

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From: [Barrett, Justin S](#)
Bcc: [Serrell Smokey, Chairman](#); [Rodney Mike, Chairperson](#); natural.resources@duckwatertribe.org; [Ronald Snooks, Chairman](#); environment@yombatribe.org; george@timbisha.com; environmental@timbisha.com
Subject: Tiehm's herbivory report
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 1:00:17 PM
Attachments: [FINAL Tiehms eDNA report 20201201.pdf](#)
[Outlook-l1f2mgoz.png](#)

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