

Familiar tools make it easy for the public to view data and submit comments for the travel management plan

Collected route inventory data supports informed decision making in the next **route identification and designation step**

in the

[travel management plan](#)

. The widely adopted

[Google mapping tools](#)

provide an accessible and efficient method for the

2-way communication

of map data. Interactive maps facilitate the

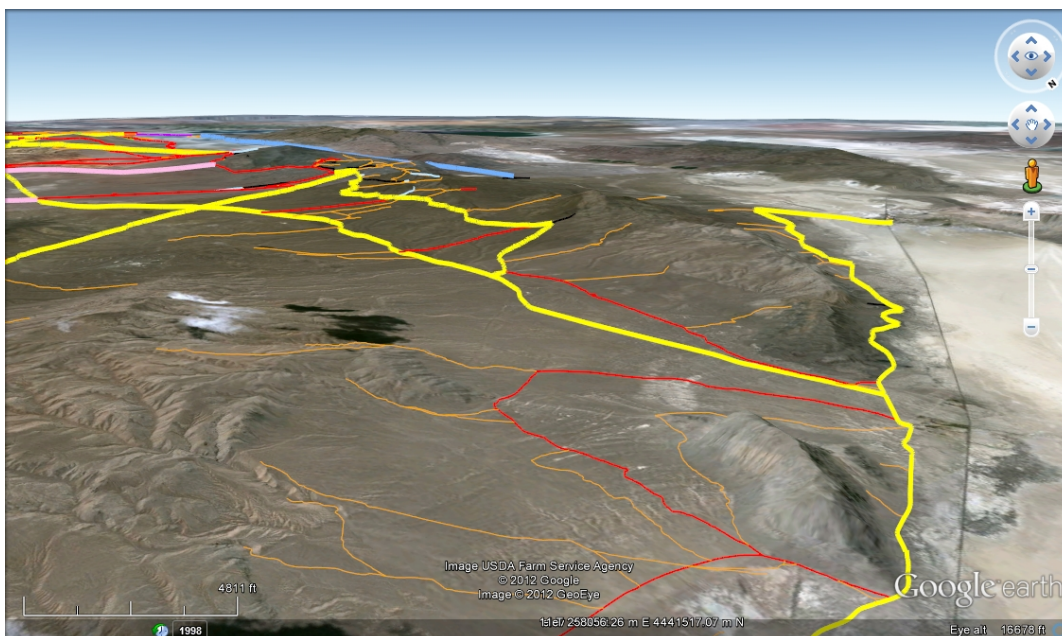
viewing

of detailed route data and the

submission

of the public's comments for the travel management plan being developed by Winnemucca BLM. This project focuses on the publication of the collected routes in the Nightingale Special Recreation Management Area (nSRMA), an area described in the draft

[Resource Management Plan \(RMP\)](#).



Objective

The dataset is intended to assist in the **route designation process for the travel management planning**. It store routes exclusively captured by resource grade GPS receivers.

Winnemucca BLM has devoted field staff to **route inventories and assessments** since 2005. A **district-wide**

de database

was compiled in 2010. This data collected by multiple teams and field sessions over 6 seasons, not surprisingly, some route segments duplicate and/or overlap each other.

This 2012 update finalizes this database

. Over 3,000 miles of GPS segments were edited to eliminate duplicate and overlapping routes, distinct routes were created, route classifications, names and numbers were assigned, and geodatabase topology enforced.

Also see [2011 nSRMA Route Inventory](#) and [Project History](#)

The project area focuses on the **Nightingale Special Recreation Management Area (nSRMA)**. The area is bounded by NV447 on the west, BLM2048 (the "High Road") on the north and I-80 from northwest to southwest. The adjacent checkerboard lands have been included as they must be traversed reach major, paved accessed routes. The public and [special recreation permittees \(SRPs\)](#) heavily access this area by all vehicle types (i.e. car, OHV, motorcycle). For this reason, the nSRMA is the first prioritized area for a travel management plan.

While fairly complete, it is not intended to be a comprehensive inventory of every route. While the field team expended their best efforts to cover the entire project area, inevitably, gaps exist in the data. Please reference corporate transportation layers to view missing routes and segments.

Data and Results

1,650 miles total collected in the Nightingale SRMA

Data collection by multiple field teams since **2005**

Route locations collected by [mapping grade GPS](#) and match closely with online imagery

All data captured according to [NV BLM route inventory standard](#)

Individual routes and designations to be created in next step of [travel management plan](#)

1,650 miles of routes within nSRMA to support travel management efforts

2,400 gps-tagged photos at intersection and points of interest to support route assessment data

1,175 route points recording incoming routes at each intersection to track additional routes to inventory

Linear route data available for viewing online in [Google Maps](#) or on the desktop with [Google Earth](#)

Chosen tools and benefits

Data collection tools

Trimble mobile devices were used to GPS-capture point, line and polygon features and attributes in accordance with the established NV BLM route inventory standard. Each intersection and route segments of particular interest was recorded with a Ricoh GPS-camer

Communication tools

There is **NO** need to download any additional software or files to view the data online. [Google Earth](#) on the desktop offers a much richer experience with many more capabilities. For example, routes of interest can be traced or created anew, each with added. This mark-up is exported to a KMZ file and distributed by email. The KMZ file is imported into the recipient's copy of Google Earth to review marked proposals, reply to comments and make their own additions or changes. Other features such as its direct use with GPS, laptops or cell phone in the field make this a truly integrated solution for communicating spatial data.

Google mapping tools were chosen for the following reasons

1. Popularity

Many are now very familiar with Google mapping tools

2. File size

Google offers imagery, labels, roads and many reference layers that no longer needed to be delivered with route data. Therefore, file sizes were much decreased compared to the previous

[GeoPDF](#)

and

[ArcReader](#)

formats we had chosen to deliver route data.

3. Online viewing

Routes can be viewed in Google Maps online directly within a browser. It is not necessary to download or install additional tools or programs to view route data with Google Maps. The optional [Google Earth browser plug-in](#) allows for viewing of the 3D data online, a truly unique and informative perspective on the data!

4. Google Earth's many capabilities

[Google Earth](#) requires installation on the desktop computer. This step is necessary to create new locations and comments for the route data. Google Earth offers many, many capabilities such as transfer data to and from a GPS receiver, ESRI ArcGIS, 3D imagery, virtual driving tours and more. For more on these capabilities, click [here](#)