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STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State acquires federal land in White Pine County

CARSON CITY, Nev. – The Nevada Division of State Lands has completed the acquisition of 2,980 acres of federal land in eastern Nevada, formerly administered by the U.S. Forest Service. The land transfer is the first of three proposed acquisitions by the State identified and directed by the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2006. The lands acquired from the U.S. Forest Service surround Cave Lake State Park near Ely, in Eastern Nevada.

“Nevada's State Parks are an integral part of the economy in our rural communities and to our state's overall tourism sector. They offer unrivaled opportunities for residents and visitors alike to experience the rich scenery, history, and culture of our beautiful state. This significant acquisition will benefit our parks system and eventually provided enhanced recreational opportunities for the many Nevadans and tourists who visit Cave Lake,” said Governor Brian Sandoval.

The undeveloped, acquired lands will be added to Cave Lake State Park, nearly tripling the size of the Park, which offers camping, hiking and fishing. Administrator of the Nevada Division of State Parks Eric Johnson said, “The area is ideal for additional trail development in this scenic part of rural Nevada, allowing State Parks to further enhance recreational opportunities in White Pine County.” The Park also hosts several special events each year, including the Bathtub Races in June and the Fire & Ice Festival in January.

“My staff and the U.S. Forest Service staff have worked hard to complete all the necessary surveys and studies required to make this acquisition a reality for the State,” said Division of State Lands Administrator Charlie Donohue.

The two remaining acquisitions involve Bureau of Land Management administered lands. Both will provide excellent additions to the Steptoe Wildlife Management Area and Ward Charcoal Ovens State Park in White Pine County. Donohue expects those acquisitions to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

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The **Nevada Division of State Lands** coordinates the Nevada Tahoe Resource Team, a multiagency team responsible for implementing the Environmental Improvement Program in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

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