The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest offers a setting of classic Western beauty and is known for its many recreational opportunities, scenic vistas, and wild places where visitors can still find solitude. The Forest does not resemble most other National Forests in that it has numerous fairly large but non-contiguous sections scattered across most of the state of Nevada and a portion of eastern California.

**FOREST LANDSCAPE**

The Forest’s landscapes range from towering snow-capped peaks to wide-open sage steppes. Elevation varies from a low of 4,100 feet to a high of 12,374 feet, providing a great diversity of habitats. The vegetation changes from wide open desert with cactus and scrub to ponderosa pine forests, which in turn give way to spruce and aspen then lodgepole pine and alpine tundra. Wet and dry meadows, as well as numerous water bodies including streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands add to the variety of habitats that support the over 350 wildlife species found on the Forest.

**COMMUNITIES**

Serving as a backyard for many communities in Nevada and eastern California, the Forest lies in 13 counties in Nevada and six in eastern California. The counties with the largest amount of National Forest System lands are Nye, Elko, and White Pine in Nevada, and Mono County in California. Forest offices are located in Austin, Carson City, Elko, Ely, Las Vegas, Sparks, Tonopah, Wells, and Winnemucca in Nevada and Bridgeport in California.

**VISITORS**

Over four million visitors come to the Forest each year to enjoy a variety of summer and winter recreation activities such as biking, camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, riding off-highway vehicles, picnicking, cross country skiing, downhill skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. This provides economic benefits to local communities throughout Nevada and eastern California. Visitors contribute approximately $200 million annually to local economies.
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
The Forest strives to use an all-lands, landscape-scale conservation approach in forest management. There are a broad array of resource programs on the Forest including engineering, fire management, fuels reduction, fisheries, forestry, heritage, hydrology, lands, minerals, range, recreation, sage-grouse, wilderness and wildlife. The goal is to collaborate with communities and other partners to manage the Forest so that it is resilient to catastrophic impacts and continues to provide sustainable benefits.

RANGELAND
The Forest has one of the largest Range Programs in the Forest Service with 150 grazing permits and 257 active allotments covering around 4.6 million acres. The Forest also manages 17 Wild Horse & Burro Territories on 1.1 million acres, representing 50 percent of the agency’s territories. Rangelands are managed to provide clean water, improve important wildlife habitat, and supply sustainable forage for the production of food and fiber that supports local economies.

SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM
Sagebrush is the most widespread vegetation on the Forest, but sagebrush is also one of the most imperiled ecosystems in North America due to continued degradation and lack of protection. The Greater and Bi-State sage-grouse are the spotlight species of this ecosystem. The Forest is working collaboratively to manage and enhance an estimated 2.8 million acres of sage-grouse habitat.

WILDERNESS
The Forest manages 24 designated wilderness areas, which encompass about 1.3 million acres. These wilderness areas are as diverse as the Forest itself and make up nearly one-fourth of the Forest’s acreage. Managing the wilderness resource is part of the Forest’s multiple use mission to ensure these areas remain unimpaired for future use and enjoyment.

MINERALS
The Forest has the largest locatable minerals (such as gold, silver, barite and lithium) program and hosts the largest gold mine on National Forest System lands. Currently, about 439 active exploration and mine plans are managed by Forest geologists to ensure resource protection. The mining community works closely with the Forest to design projects that minimize impacts to resources and provide reclamation for future land use.