

2002

Southern Nevada Interagency Science & Research Program

Public Lands Institute

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Public Lands Institute (2002). Southern Nevada Interagency Science & Research Program. 1-32.
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Southern Nevada Interagency Science & Research Program



The Resource

Seven million acres of Federal lands managed by four Federal partners in the fastest-growing area in the United States:

BLM • NPS • USFS • USFWS



Southern Nevada Public Lands

15 ACECs

2 NCAs & 2 NRAs

18 Wilderness Areas

78 Covered Species

4 National Wildlife Refuges

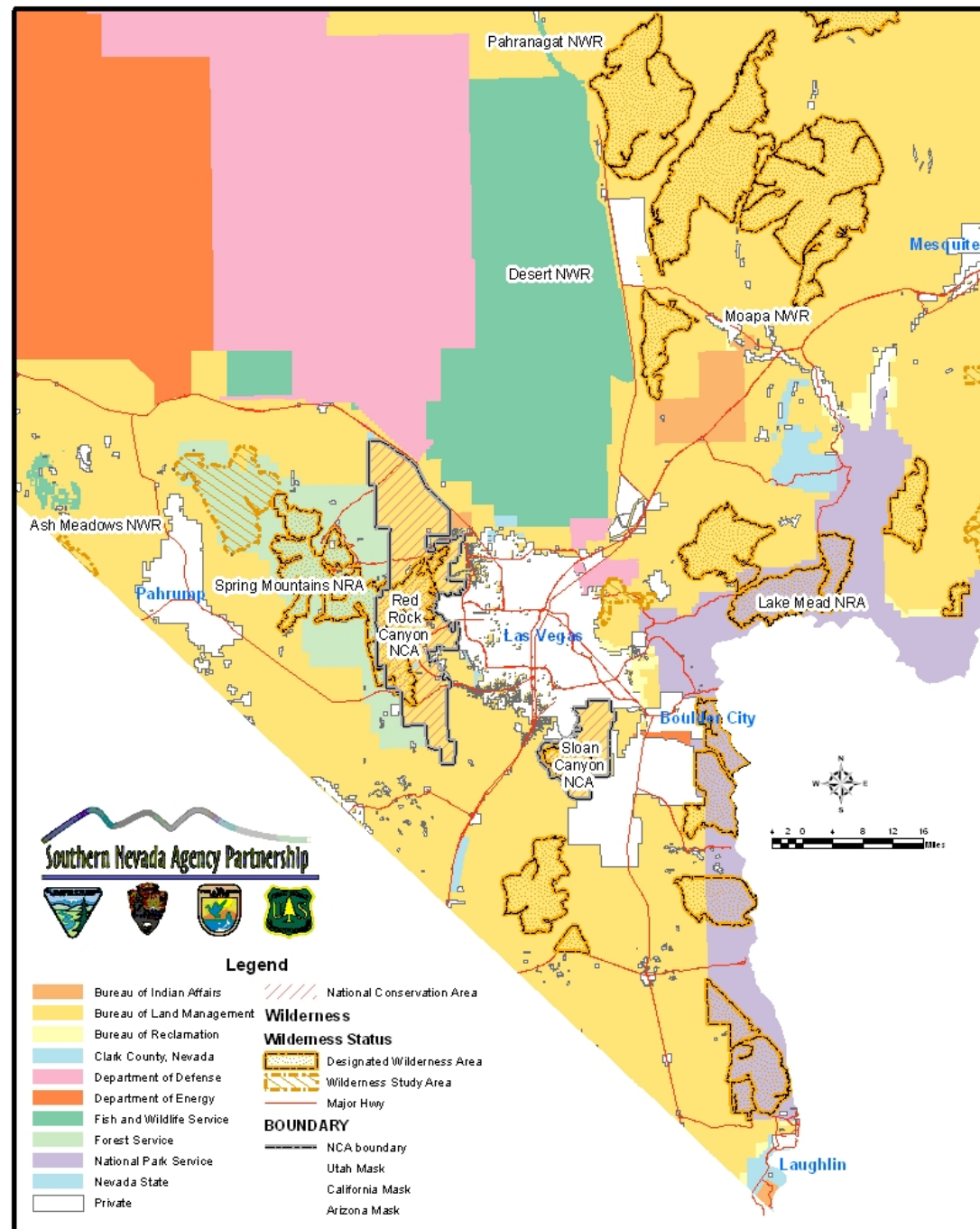
15 Species with Designated Critical Habitat



Congressionally Designated Areas Surround Las Vegas

- Spring Mountains NRA
- Desert NWR
- Pahrnagat NWR
- Ash Meadows NWR
- Moapa NWR
- Lake Mead NRA
- Red Rock Canyon NCA
- Sloan Canyon NCA
- 18 Wilderness Areas

...plus BLM Public Lands



Lake Mead

National Recreation Area

National Park Service



- The oldest and largest NRA in the U.S.
- Fifth most visited park in the National Park System.
- 8 million visitors per year.
- 1.5 million acres, of which only 13% is water.



Current Stressors/Threats

National Park Service

Current Stressors/Threats

National Park Service

- Urbanization along our boundaries.
- Exotic plant species invasions.
- Drought / Potential climate impacts.
- Direct surface disturbances.

Spring Mountains

National Recreation Area

U.S. Forest Service



- Third largest NRA in the National Forest System.
- 1.9 million visitors per year.
- 6 life zones from the valley floor to Mt. Charleston peak.
- Nearly 200 springs & riparian areas and 57 rare and endemic species.

Current Stressors/Threats

U.S. Forest Service

Current Stressors/Threats

U.S. Forest Service

- Encroaching urbanization along our boundaries.
- Increased human use.
- Soil productivity.
- Ungulate use.
- Unauthorized use.

Bureau Of Land Management

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area



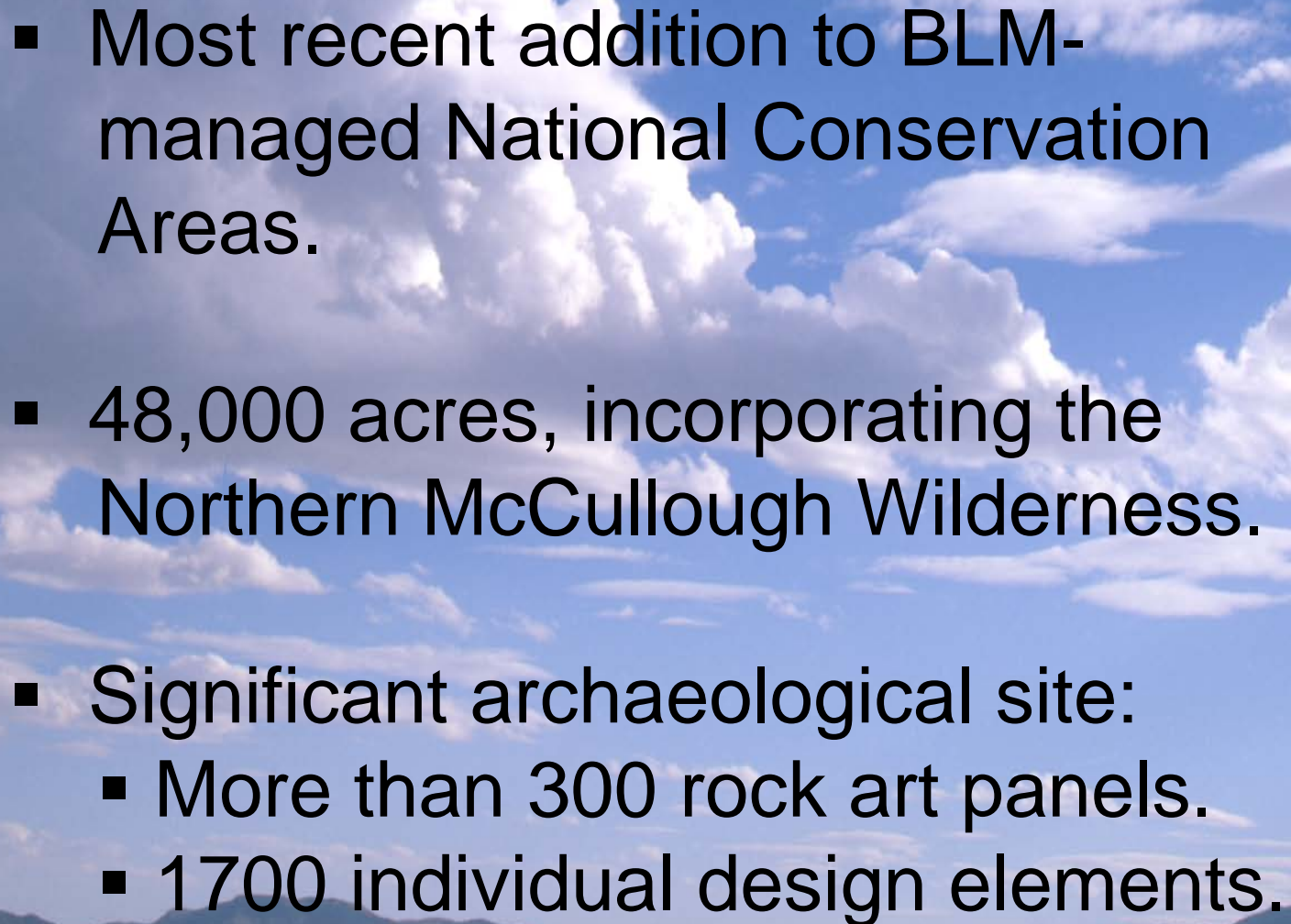
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- First National Conservation Area created in the BLM system.
 - 197,000 acres, including three wilderness areas.
 - More than 1 million visitors per year.
 - Recognized internationally for unique geological features and recreational opportunities.

Bureau Of Land Management

Sloan Canyon

National Conservation Area



- 
- Most recent addition to BLM-managed National Conservation Areas.
 - 48,000 acres, incorporating the Northern McCullough Wilderness.
 - Significant archaeological site:
 - More than 300 rock art panels.
 - 1700 individual design elements.

Bureau Of Land Management

- 20 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern protecting approximately 1 million acres.



Bureau Of Land Management

- Designated critical habitat for desert tortoise, southwestern willow flycatcher, Virgin River chub, woundfin, and the Ash Meadows species.
- 11 additional wilderness areas.

Bureau Of Land Management

- Over 200,000 acres of Traditional Lifeway Areas and Traditional Cultural Properties.
- Thousands of cultural and paleontological sites.



Current Stressors/Threats

Bureau of Land Management

Current Stressors/Threats

Bureau of Land Management

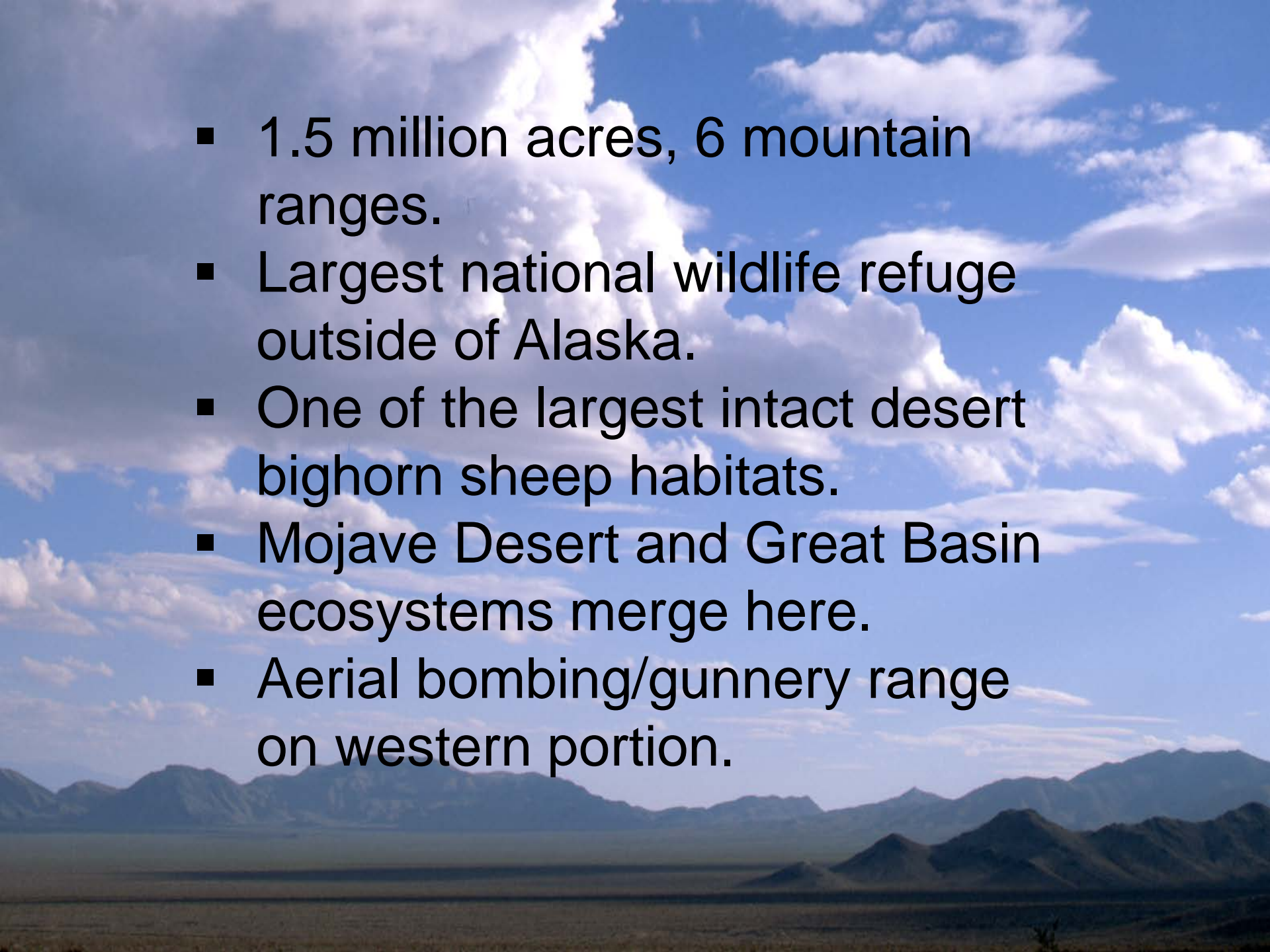
- Urban growth.
- Increased use of resources.
- Increased human use.
- Unauthorized resource damage.
- Fire.
- Noxious and invasive weeds.

Desert National Wildlife Refuge

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



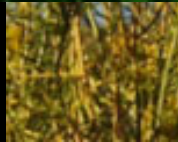
- 1.5 million acres, 6 mountain ranges.
- Largest national wildlife refuge outside of Alaska.
- One of the largest intact desert bighorn sheep habitats.
- Mojave Desert and Great Basin ecosystems merge here.
- Aerial bombing/gunnery range on western portion.



Pahranagat

National Wildlife Refuge

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



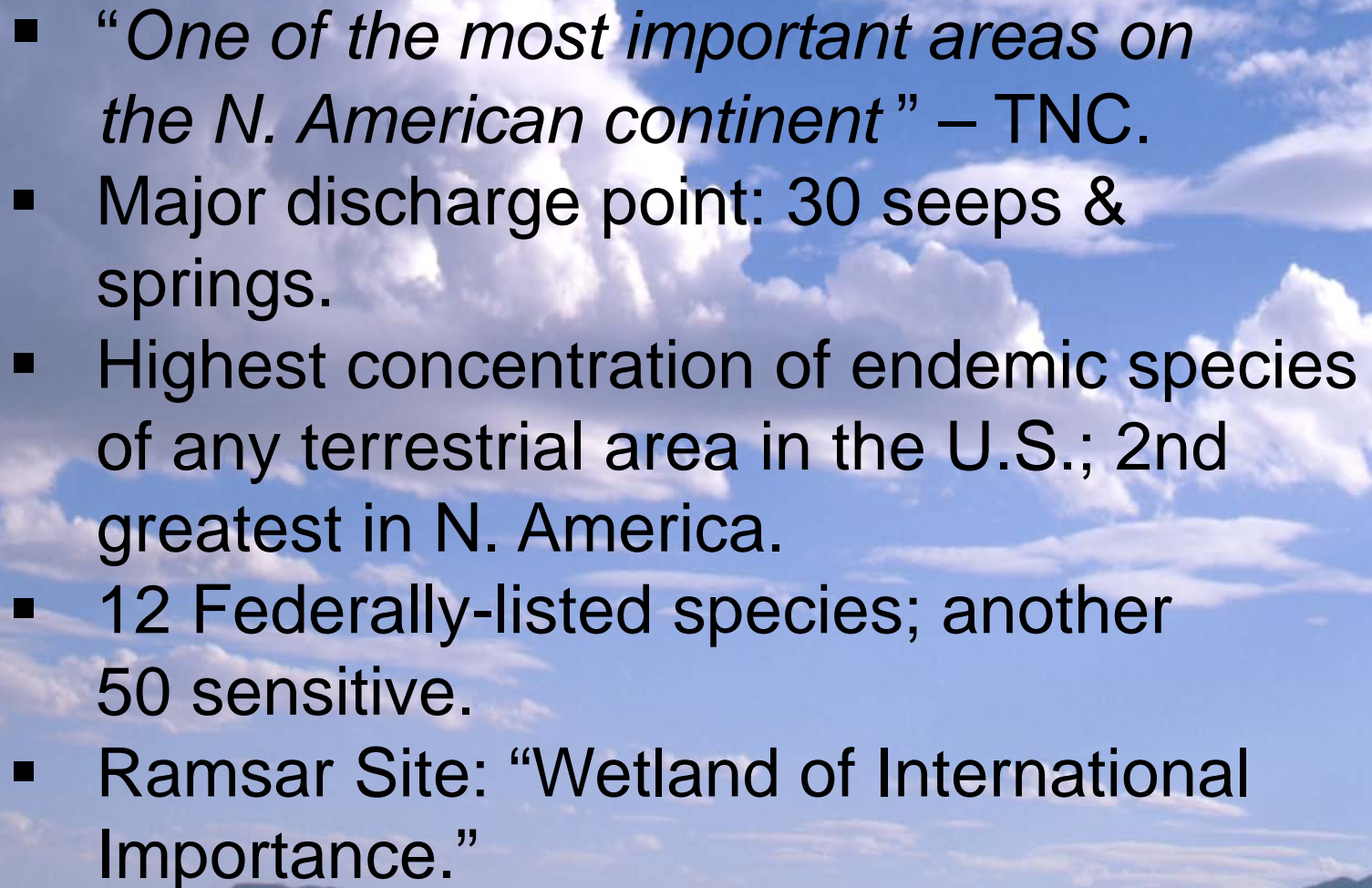
- Paiute for “valley of shining water.”
- 5,380 acres of lakes and marshes.
- Critical resting area on Pacific Flyway.
- Highest number of breeding pairs of southwestern willow flycatchers in NV/CA.
- Rich in archaeological history.

Ash Meadows

National Wildlife Refuge

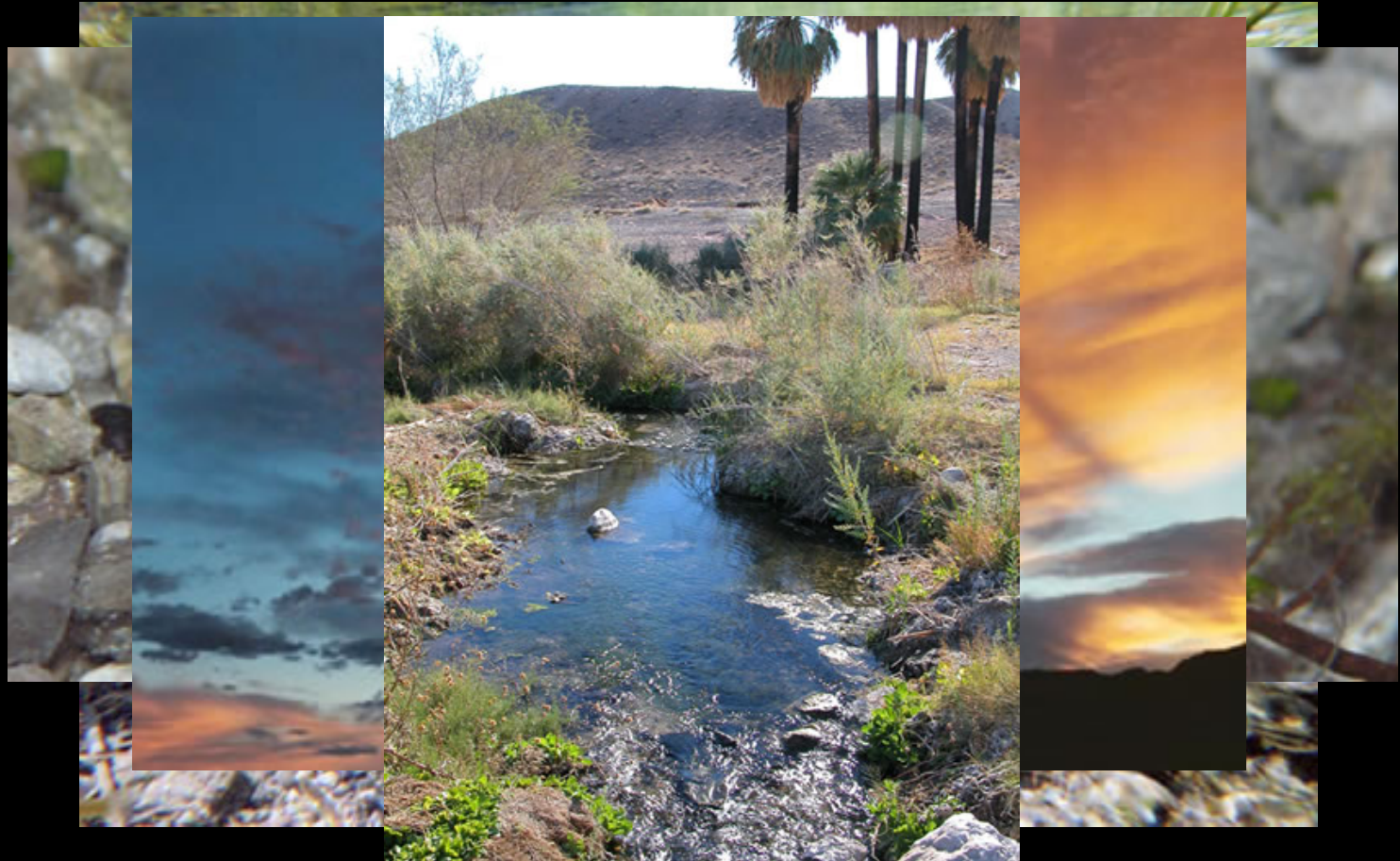
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



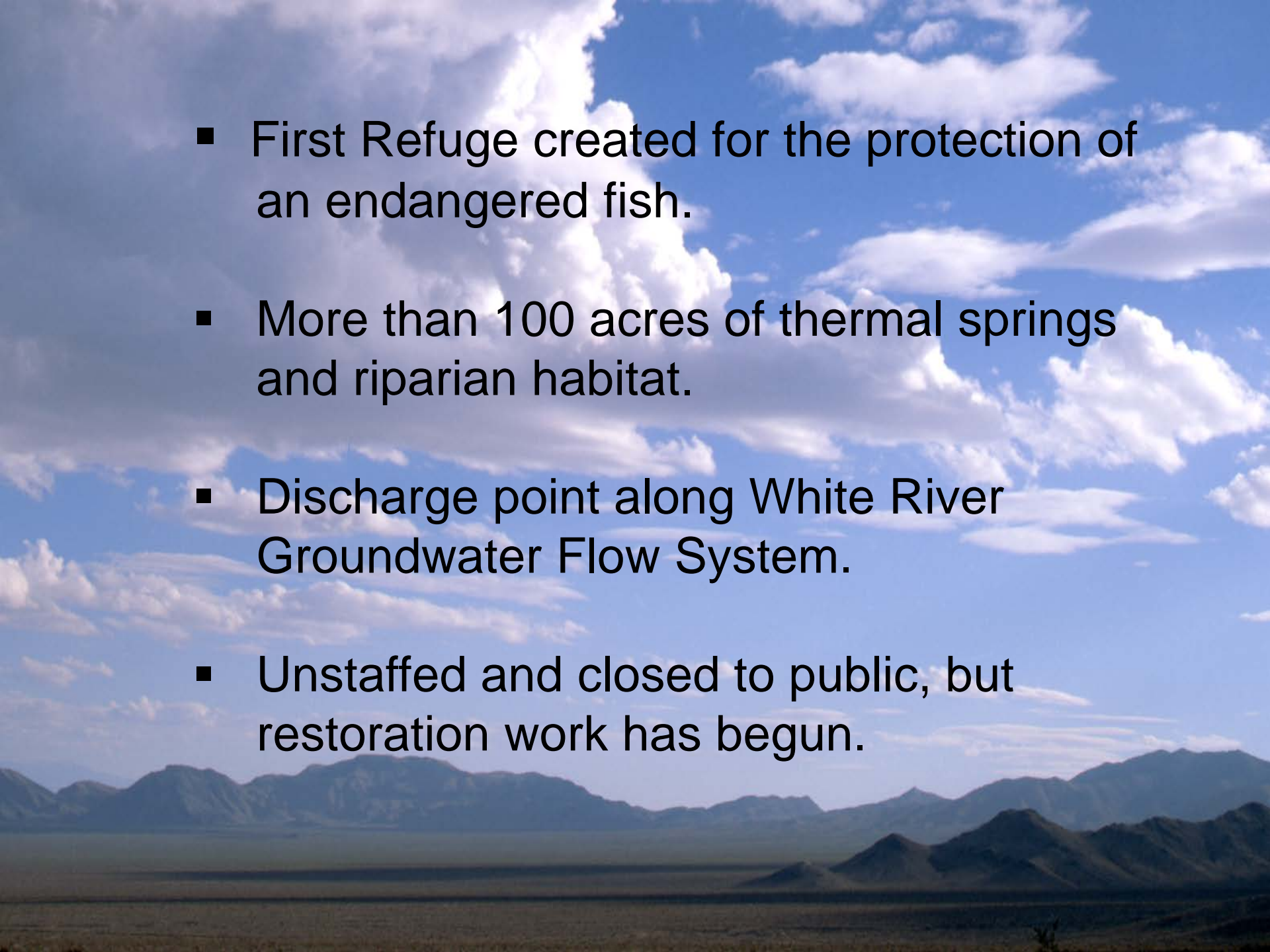
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- *“One of the most important areas on the N. American continent” – TNC.*
 - Major discharge point: 30 seeps & springs.
 - Highest concentration of endemic species of any terrestrial area in the U.S.; 2nd greatest in N. America.
 - 12 Federally-listed species; another 50 sensitive.
 - Ramsar Site: “Wetland of International Importance.”

Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



- First Refuge created for the protection of an endangered fish.
- More than 100 acres of thermal springs and riparian habitat.
- Discharge point along White River Groundwater Flow System.
- Unstaffed and closed to public, but restoration work has begun.



Current Stressors/Threats

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Current Stressors/Threats

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- Urban growth.
- Groundwater development.
- Invasive plant and aquatic animal species.
- Encroaching urbanization along our boundaries.

Southern Nevada Agency Partnership

