Transporting Low-Level Waste to the Nevada Test Site

U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office Environmental Management Program

Safety is the first priority for the Nevada Site Office. We have also committed to making every effort to consider the concerns of neighboring areas as we coordinate low-level waste shipments to the Nevada Test Site. These efforts include:

- Avoiding heavily populated/congested areas in the state of Nevada
- Avoiding Hoover Dam (I-40, US-93) and Davis Dam (AZ-68, NV-163)
- Using the Nevada Site Office identified preferred routes (see map on reverse side)
- Completing the driver routing questionnaire

The Nevada Site Office recognizes that although generators cannot direct the specific routes taken by carriers, they can suggest preferred routes. The Nevada Site Office may consider suspension of a generator's shipments if waste is transported through the above mentioned sensitive areas which also includes I-215 (Las Vegas Beltway).

The Nevada Site Office also strives to accommodate a request by the state of California to limit the number of shipments that travel along CA-127 due to extremely limited and remote emergency response capabilities.

During summer months (May - October) it is preferred that carriers use the northern route, I-80 (see map on reverse side for blue highlighted route). California's preferred alternative during winter months (November - April) is to divide shipments between CA-127 and NV-160 (see map on reverse side for pink highlighted routes).

CA-127 BLACK-OUT DATES

Avoid transporting low-level waste shipments on CA-127 during the following time periods:

July 1 - 6, 2004
October 29 - 31, 2004
November 6 -16, 2004
November 22 - 28, 2004
December 20, 2004 - January 3, 2005

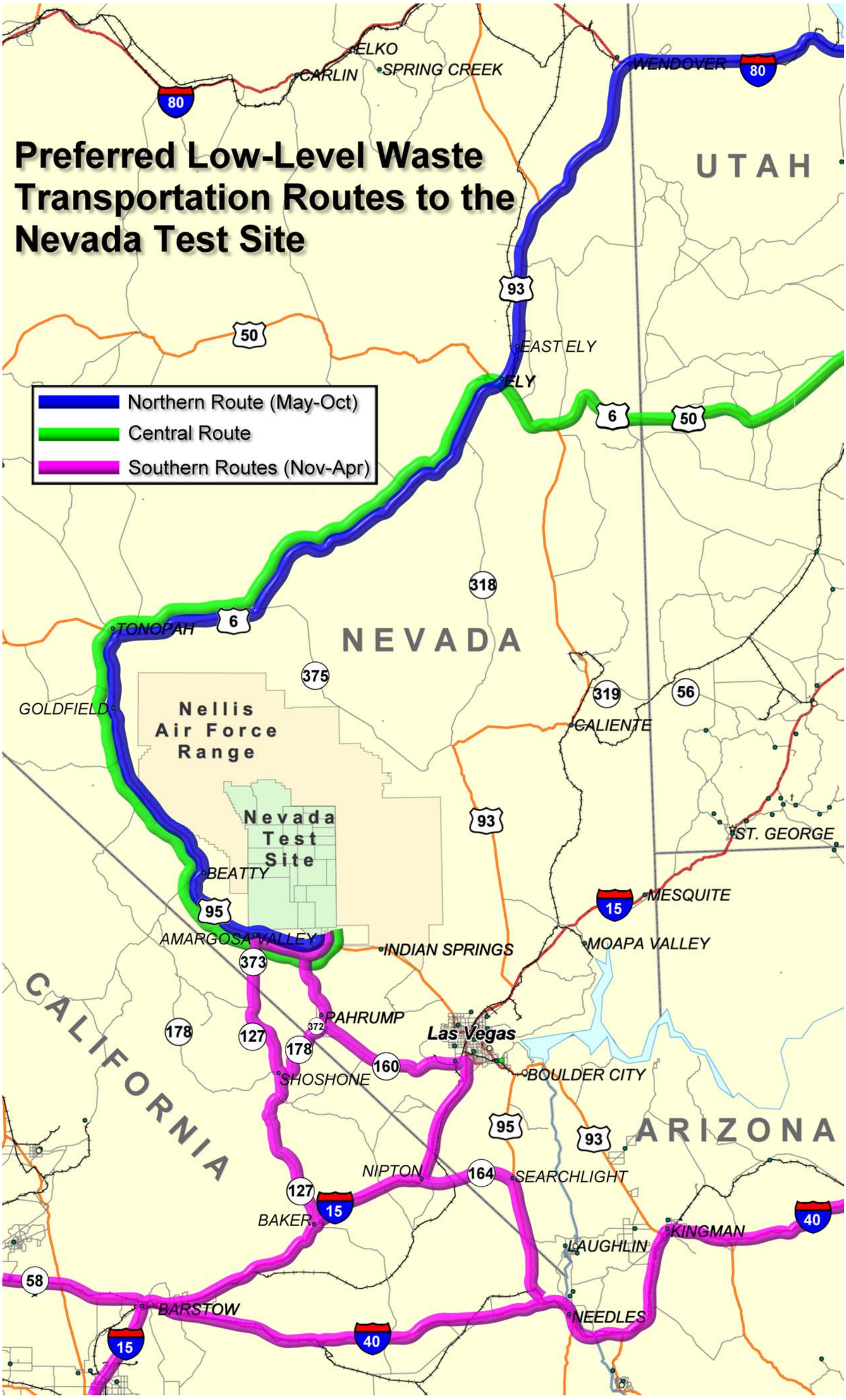
Flash Flood Risk from Amargosa River
June - September

Two weeks prior to a requested black-out period, the Nevada Site Office sends a "reminder" e-mail to all generators.

Overweight and/or overwidth shipments may require a state issued permit prior to being transported through Nevada or one of the four entry states. Permits are obtained through each states Department of Transportation, not the Highway Patrol. Generators are to ensure that these and other types of permitted shipments are not routed through the Las Vegas Valley. Overwidth shipments cannot be transported on NV-160. Information pertaining to overwidth/overweight permits and routing may be obtained at the following state sponsored web sites:

Arizona http://www.dot.state.az.us/mvd/commercialenforcement/OversizeOverweight.htm
California http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/permits/ Idaho http://www.itd.idaho.gov/dmv/Poe/overlegalpermits.htm
Nevada - http://www.nevadadot.com/business/trucker/ Utah - http://www.udot.utah.gov/index.php/m=c/tid=401

DOE/NV--990
July 2004


Preferred Low-Level Waste Transportation Routes to the Nevada Test Site
Northern Route (May-Oct)
Central Route
Southern Routes (Nov-Apr)
UTAH
NEVADA
CALIFORNIA
ARIZONA
ELKO
CARLIN
SPRING CREEK
WENDOVER
EAST ELY
ELY
TONOPAH
GOLDFIELD
Nellis Air Force Range
Nevada Test Site
BEATTY
AMARGOSA VALLEY
INDIAN SPRINGS
CALIENTE
ST. GEORGE
MESQUITE
MOAPA VALLEY
PAHRUMP
Las Vegas
BOULDER CITY
SHOSHONE
NIPTON
SEARCHLIGHT
BAKER
KINGMAN
LAUGHLIN
BARSTOW
NEEDLES
80
93
50
6
318
375
319
56
95
373
178
127
372
160
164
15
40
58