

Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

FIELD OFFICE: Sierra Front Field Office

NEPA NUMBER: DOI-BLM-NV-C020-2011-0505-DNA

CASEFILE PROJECT NUMBER: N-84570

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Ann Mason Project, Plan of Operations Amendment

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sections 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 23, and 24, Township 13 North, Range 24 East, (T13N, R24E), Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDB&M).

APPLICANT (if any): Entrée Gold Corp.

A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures

Entrée Gold Corp. (EG) is submitting a Revision to Ann Mason Exploration Project Plan of Operations N-84570 (Plan). The existing Environmental Assessment (EA), serialized DOI-BLM-NV-C020-2010-0002, was completed and the Decision Record and Finding of No Significant Impacts was signed on January 19, 2010. EG has redefined their exploration drilling targets since the approval of the existing (Plan) of Operations. With the subject Plan of Operations Amendment EG has expanded the project area from 2,220 acres to 2,380 acres adding a 160 acre portion adjacent to the original project area evaluated in the EA.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name*: CCFO Consolidated Resource Management. Plan (CRMP).

Date Approved: 05/09/2001

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

The proposed action (Plan of Operations Amendment) is shown in MIN-1 of the CRMP to be in an area open to mineral entry. The following Standard Operating Procedures would apply to locatable minerals operations on lands open to locations within the Carson City District according to the CRMP:

- Pursuant to the mining laws, BLM lands are available for mineral entry, location, exploration, and operations which will not cause undue or unnecessary degradation of the public lands.

- Where cumulative surface disturbance of a project area is greater than five acres, a Plan of Operations and a Reclamation Plan are required of the operator. These plans will be reviewed in conjunction with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Reclamation and Regulation to ensure that all state permits are obtained and all state regulations are followed. Plans of Operation may be revised to ensure that federal and state regulations are complied with to prevent undue or unnecessary degradation.
- Plans of Operation will require adequate bonding to guarantee that reclamation will be accomplished at mine closure or project completion.
- Reclamation is required of all levels of activity so as not to cause undue and unnecessary degradation.
- All mineral exploration roads on cut and fill slopes will be reclaimed by recontouring unless they are within or part of a pre-1981 mining disturbance.
- All levels of activity, casual use, notice, or plan of operation, will comply with federal and state regulations regarding air quality, water quality, solid wastes, wildlife and its habitat, archaeological and paleontological resources.

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-NV-C020-2010-0002-EA

Entrée Gold Corp.
ANN MASON EXPLORATION PROJECT
LYON COUNTY, NEVADA

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

Ann Mason Exploration Project Class III Cultural Survey Report (2008) and supplemental Report (2011).

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar

to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. The new proposed action (Plan of Operations Amendment) involves exploration drilling for locatable minerals which is a feature of the existing EA. This amendment proposes disturbance just outside the analysis area. The amount of disturbance associated with this amendment would be the same as previously projected in the EA. This amendment proposes to eliminate roads drill holes and replace them with alternative roads and drill holes in the new area to keep the total disturbance amount minimal.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. This amendment constitutes a feature of the existing EA/FONSI and Decision Record that was prepared and approved. The proposed amendment lies just outside the same project area and the area of disturbance has not significantly risen. Hence, the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document should still be valid.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, range- land health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, and updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. BLM has accepted the cultural resources survey completed on the expanded project area and has completed consultation with the Yerington Paiute tribe on May 27, 2011. No new information or circumstances have arisen from these surveys and consultations since the original NEPA document was completed and it was determined that the impacts associated with the proposed action would be non-significant. Hence, this amendment would not require a revision of the existing EA.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. This amendment proposes to expand the project area boundary adjacent to the already approved area therefore the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts would be similar.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes. This amendment is a feature of the proposed action approved in the existing EA, and the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing EA/FONSI employed appropriate public and agency reviews. Due to the remote location of the initially proposed action, no public scoping or public comment was sought in association with the existing EA. The Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP) was a coordinating agency in association with preparation of the existing EA. No new Native American concerns additional to those already identified in the existing EA have been identified.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency Represented</u>
Dan Erbes	Geologist	BLM
Joel Hartmann	Geologist	BLM
Rachel Crews	Archeologist	BLM
Brian Buttazoni	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	BLM

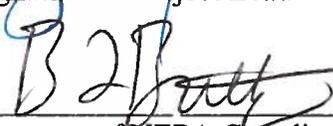
Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and will constitute BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.



Signature of Project Lead



Signature of NEPA Coordinator



Signature of Responsible Official

Date 6/14/11

Note: The signed conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.