

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District Office

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Project Creator: Erik Pignata, Realty Specialist

Field Office: Stillwater

Lead Office: Stillwater

Case File/Project Number: NVN 089531 (reserializing of NVN 017580)

Applicable Categorical Exclusion:

516 DM 11.5; Appendix 4 – 151, E. Realty, #9. “Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.”

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-2012-C010-0030-CX

Project Name: Pilot Peak Communications Facility Renewal

Project Description:

Nevada Division of State Lands has applied for a renewal of their communications facilities on Pilot Peak (Mineral County, NV; east of Sodaville up Telephone Canyon). No new disturbance will be required, nor is anything new to be authorized. This is a standard FLPMA renewal for 30 years for their existing grant. Through amendments over the years, various structures have been authorized – this renewal will capture existing, authorized facilities, both on the original grant, and through the grant amendments. Their facilities consist of a tower with an automatic repeater, an ice bridge for cables, a second transmitter, solar panels both free standing and on roof tops, a battery building, a generator building, propane tanks and two equipment sheds. Communications uses are mostly mobile radio. Their right-of-way (communications lease) is for a 100 foot by 100 foot area on Pilot Peak, and also allows for an access road of 49,076 feet by 50 feet (total case acreage is 56.33 acres).

The original grant holder was the State Communications Board. A name change was recognized on May 10, 1989, to Nevada Division of State Lands. Although Nevada Department of Transportation as well as Nevada Division of Information Services (now known as Nevada Department of Information Technology) have both been agents of correspondence dealing with this case - and it appears that NDIT is the operator - the authorized holder remains Nevada Division of State Lands.

Applicant Name: Nevada Division of State Lands

Project Location:

Mount Diablo Meridian

T. 5 N., R. 35 E.,
sec. 2, lots 3 and 4;
sec. 3, lots 1 to 4, inclusive.

T. 6 N., R. 35 E.,
sec. 25, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
sec. 32, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
sec. 33, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
sec. 34, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
sec. 35, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
sec. 36, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 6 N., R. 36 E.,
sec. 28, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, unsurveyed;
sec. 29, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, unsurveyed;
sec. 30, S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$, unsurveyed;
sec. 32, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, unsurveyed.

BLM Acres for the Project Area: 56.33

Land Use Plan Conformance:

LND-7, #6: "Exchanges and minor non-Bureau initiated realty proposals will be considered where analysis indicates they are beneficial to the public."

Name of Plan: Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001)

Special Stipulation:

a. The holder shall contact the BLM and obtain approval from the authorized officer before beginning any activity that is a substantial deviation from this grant or that will cause new surface disturbance.

Topo Quads:

Eddyville 7.5 minute Topo, 1980

Sodaville 7.5 minute Topo, 1967

Screening of Extraordinary Circumstances: The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (43 CFR 46.215). The BLM has considered the following criteria: (Specialist review: initial in appropriate box)

<i>If any question is answered 'yes' an EA or EIS must be prepared.</i>	YES	NO
1. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on public health or safety? (Range-Jill Devaurs)		JLD 8-4-11
2. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (EO 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas? (Archeology, Recreation, Wilderness, Wildlife, Range by allotment, Water Quality)		SMC 7/25/11 JLD 7-27-11 JLD 7-25-11
3. Would the Proposed Action have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA 102(2)(E)]? (PEC)		JLD 7/25/11
4. Would the Proposed Action have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? (PEC)		JLD 7/25/11
5. Would the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects? (PEC)		JLD 7/25/11
6. Would the Proposed Action have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects? (PEC)		JLD 7/25/11
7. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the NRHP as determined by the bureau or office? (Archeology)		SMC 7/25/11
8. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the list of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species? (Wildlife)		JLD 7-27-11
9. Would the Proposed Action violate federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? (PEC and Archeology)		JLD 7/25/11 SMC
10. Would the Proposed Action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EA 12898)? ((PEC)		JLD 7/25/11
11. Would the Proposed Action limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)? (Archeology)		SMC 7/25/11
12. Would the Proposed Action contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112)? (Range-Jill Devaurs)		JLD 8-4-11

SPECIALISTS' REVIEW:

During ID Team review of the above Proposed Action and extraordinary circumstances, the following specialists reviewed this CX:

Planning Environmental Coordinator, Steve Kramer: *SKM 7/25/11*
Public Health and Safety/Grazing/Noxious Weeds, Jill Devaurs:
Recreation/Wilderness/VRM/LWC, Dan Westermeyer: *DW 7-25-11*
Wildlife/T&E (BLM Sensitive Species), John Wilson: *JW 7-27-11*
Archeology, Susan McCabe: *SM 7/25/11 SPA App C 7+10*
Water Quality, Gabe Venegas: *GV 7/25/11*
Soils, Jill Devaurs/Linda Appel/Chelsy Simerson:

CONCLUSION: Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS. A categorical exclusion is not subject to protest or appeal.

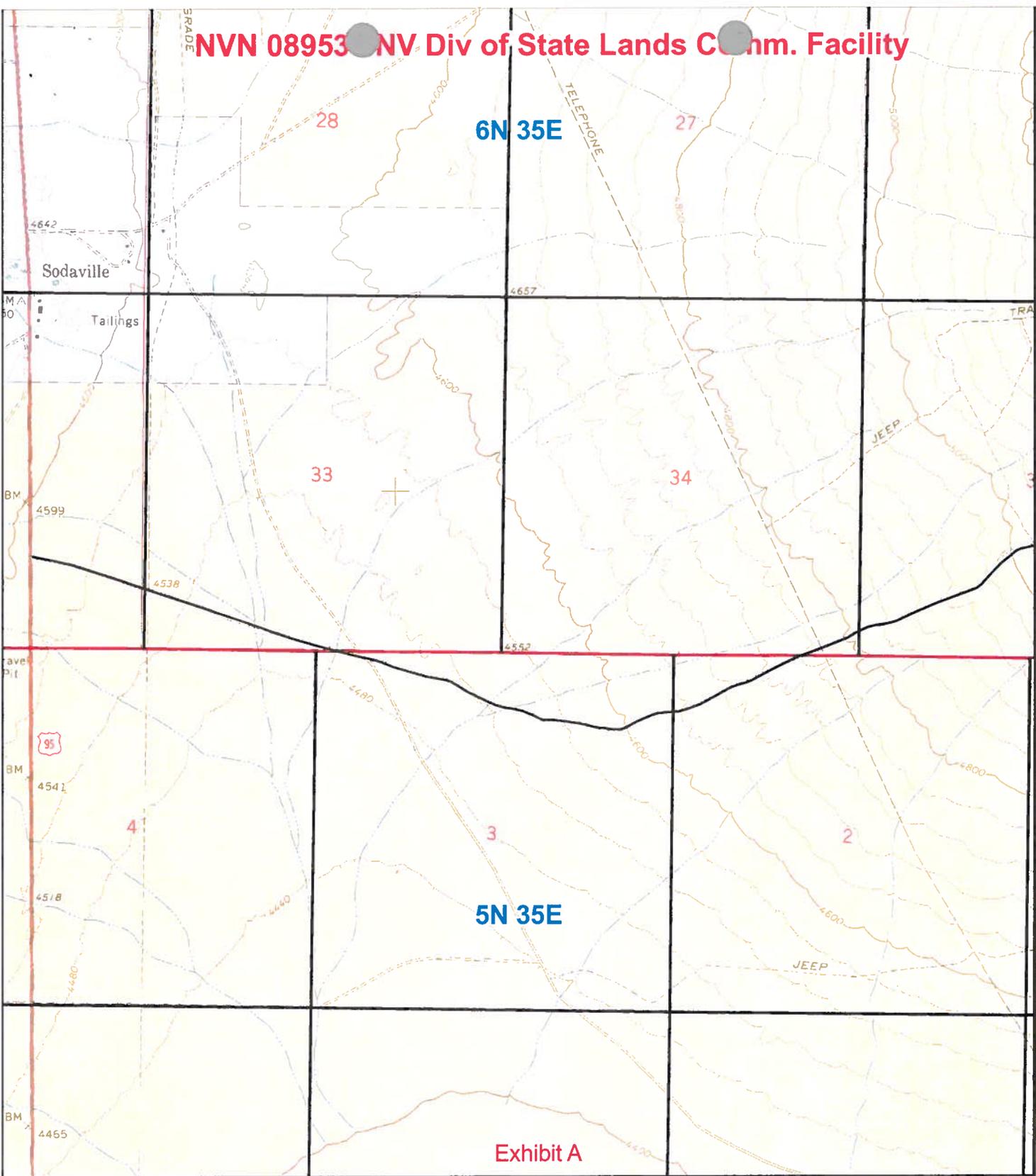
Approved by:

Teresa J. Knutson
Teresa J. Knutson
Field Manager
Stillwater Field Office

08/23/2011

(date)

NVN 08953 NV Div of State Lands Comm. Facility



Carson City District Office

Exhibit A

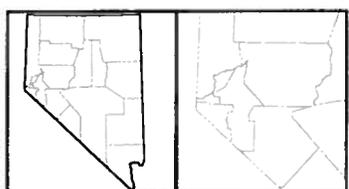


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 (775) 885-6000

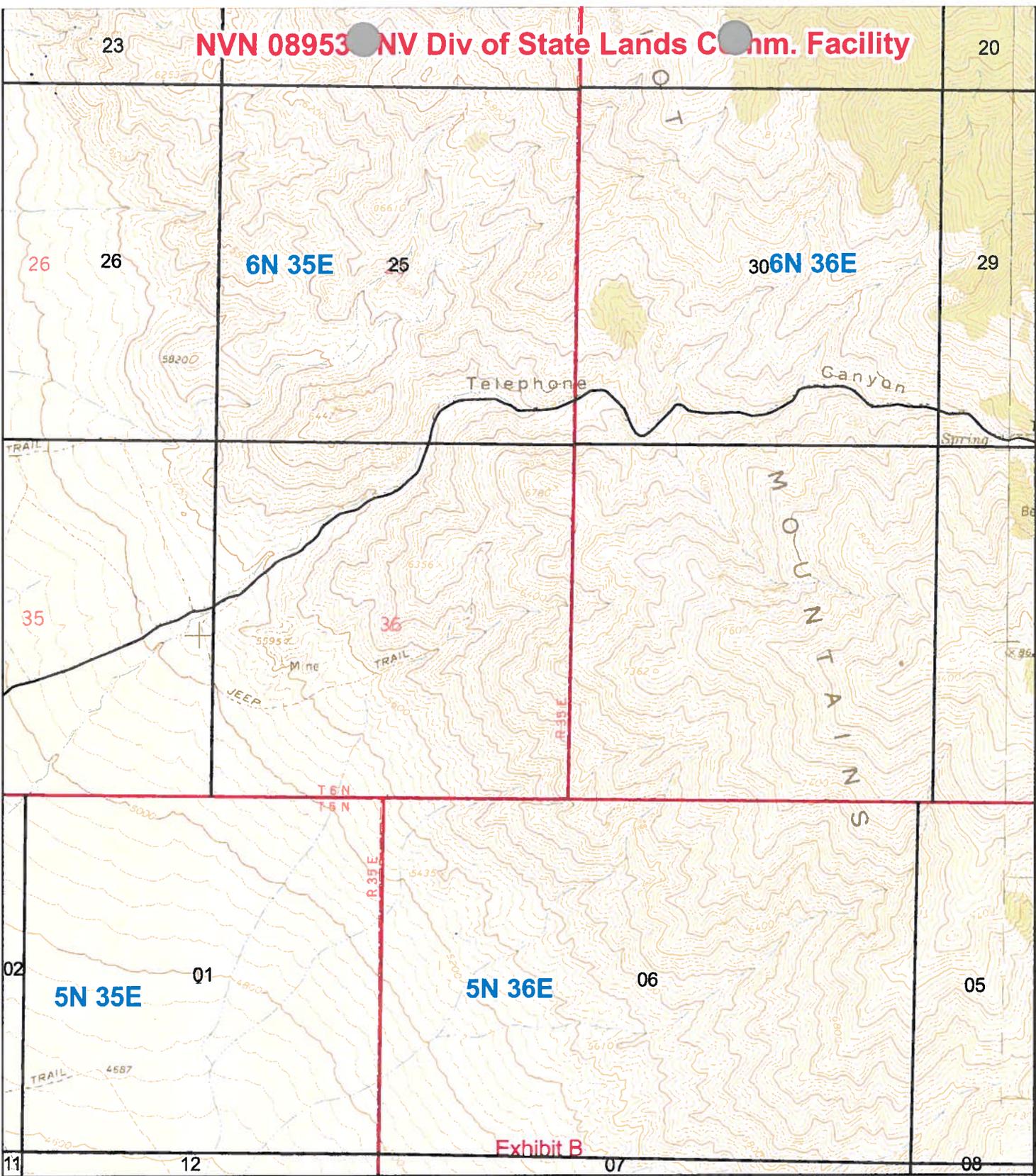
Map Produced by: Erik Pignata
 07/13/2011ADD

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

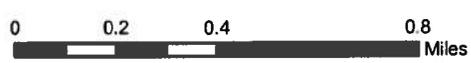
Legend	
	NVN 089531 Pilot Peak State Comm renewal 2011
	Bureau of Land Management
	Water
	Private



NVN 08953 NV Div of State Lands Comm. Facility



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Legend	
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	Bureau of Land Management
	Water

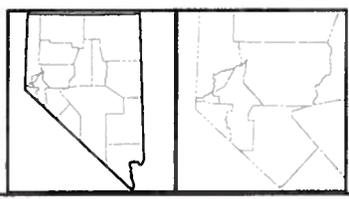
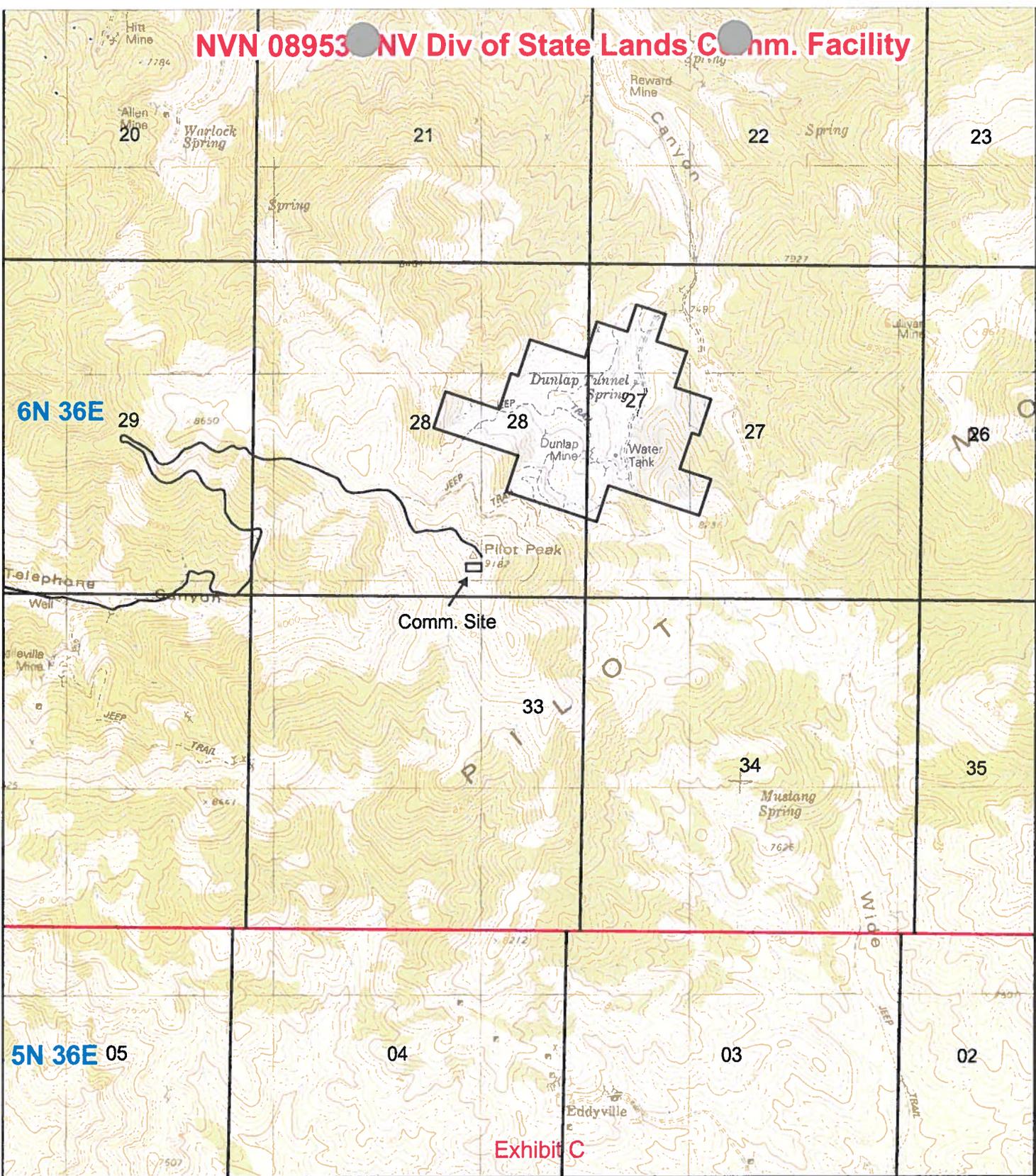


Exhibit B

NVN 08953 NV Div of State Lands Comm. Facility

BLM



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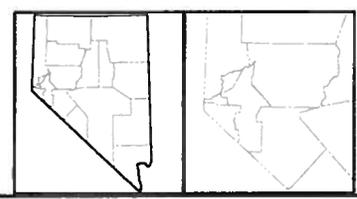


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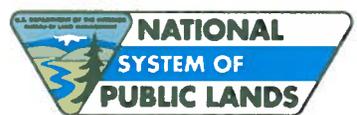
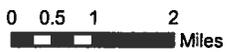
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NVN 089531 NDSL Renewal Overview Map



Exhibit D
4N 35E



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