

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Twin Falls District
Shoshone Field Office
400 West F Street
Shoshone, ID 83352

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format When Using Categorical Exclusions Not
Established by Statute**

NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0016-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: Shoshone Field Office. Lease/Serial/Case File No.: N/A

Proposed Action Title/Type: Timmerman Hills Cattle Guards.

Location of Proposed Action: T.2S, R. 20E, Section 31, SW4SW4; T.3S, R. 20E, Section 9, NE4SW4.

Description of Proposed Action: Install two cattle guards on BLM maintained roads, in existing pasture boundary fences. The installation would require the digging of a shallow pit in the existing road bed and placing metal grates on precast concrete bases. In most cases the area disturbed during installation would be less than .01 acre per cattle guard. The project would also incorporate an additional gate to one side where livestock, wide loads and metal tracked equipment could pass. Occasionally, minor additional excavation would be needed to provide for adequate drainage and maintenance.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Shoshone Grazing Environmental Statement. Date Approved/Amended: 1979.

_____ The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

__yes_ 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 decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): The proposed action is in conformance with the Proposed Range Improvements, Section 1-25. The Shoshone Grazing Environmental Statement states; "Construction or installation of nine different types of range facilities would be required to implement the proposal." Cattle guards are included in this list. Section 1-33 of the plan states, "These cattle guards are considered essential to maintain convenient public access on roads which would be intersected by proposed allotment or pasture fences." The proposed cattle guards are not only essential to maintain convenient public access but also serve the public safety and maintain the integrity of grazing management plans.

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, G #2, Appendix 4-153. “Installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, water-bars, gates, or **cattle guards** on/or adjacent to roads and trails identified in any land use or transportation plan, or eligible for incorporation in such plan.”

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply. Attached is the Categorical Exclusion Review Sheet, Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances.

D. Signature

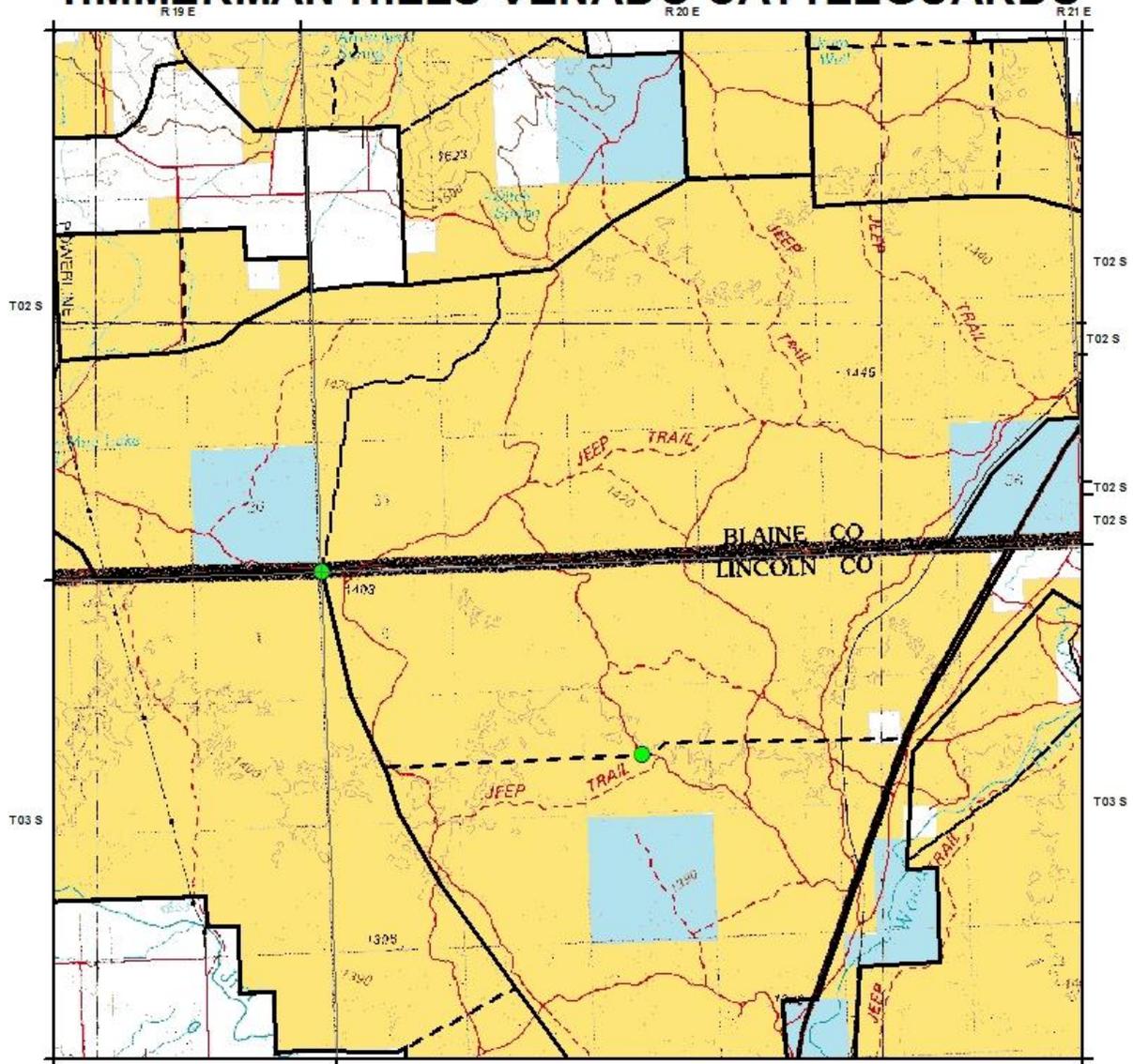
Authorizing Official: /s/ Brandon Brown Date: April 18, 2013

Title: Acting Shoshone Field Office Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Ray Pease, Rangeland Management Specialist, (208) 732-7266 at address listed in heading.

TIMMERMAN HILLS-VENADO CATTLEGUARDS



US Dept. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Twin Falls District, Idaho

Legend

- Venado Cattleguards
- Range Allotment
- Pasture
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private; other
- State

R 20 E



0 0.45 0.9 1.35 1.8 Miles

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Map Created on: November 20, 2012
Data Displayed in NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_11N Projection
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Author: jpsae