



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Sierra Front Field Office
5665 Morgan Mill Rd
Carson City, NV 89701
<http://www.blm.gov/nv>

In Reply Refer To:
2800 (LLNVC02000)
NVN 091237

MAR 28 2013

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Sierra Front Field Office in Carson City, Nevada has published a *Scoping Report* for the American Flat Road/Lucerne Access Right-of-Way project. Between January 16 and February 19, 2013, the BLM initiated public scoping as a part of a public involvement and outreach effort in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.

Notification was provided to 112 individuals, organizations, and agencies on the project mailing list, in addition to notification to various regional media outlets. During this period, two workshops were held in Carson City and in Virginia City. Seventy-three people attended these workshops, and 41 comments were received by mail, email or fax.

The *Scoping Report* provides information on the scoping process, how comments have been categorized, and copies of all comments received by the BLM. This report is available on-line at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field/blm_information/nepa.html.

Project update – on February 13, 2013 the BLM Nevada State Office accepted a Class I Color of Title Claim by Comstock Mining for an area known as “Lot 51.” During the intervening period and until a patent is issued on “Lot 51,” the BLM and Comstock Mining reached an agreement for use of the Lucerne haul road that crosses through “Lot 51.” The agreement is available on-line. The agreement does not alleviate the need for the right-of-way (ROW) amendment that was initiated. During this interim period Comstock Mining is not authorized to construct an exclusive use haul road, nor can Comstock Mining modify the existing haul road by activities such as widening or berm construction.

Also, on February 8, 2013 the BLM initiated consultation with the National Park Service, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Storey County Certified Local Government, the Yerington Paiute Tribe, and Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The BLM also provided early information to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Consultation is on-going.

Analysis of the project and its alternatives continues. The draft environmental assessment may be available for public review during the summer 2013. You will be notified when this occurs. Should you have any questions on the *Scoping Report* contact: Brian Buttazoni, Project Manager, by email at LucerneROW2012@blm.gov or call 775-885-6004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leon Thomas', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leon Thomas
Field Manager
Sierra Front Field Office