

KINGMAN FIELD OFFICE SCOPING FORM

Proposal:

DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2013-0027-CX      RR17/V      S:/BLMshare\nepa\lea\_eis\Recreation\2013 0027-CX- Ramada Kiosks  
 NEPA Document Number      RMP Implementation No.      Document Location

Land Description: Kiosk Installation: T20N, R20W, Section 1; T29N R16W, Section 35  
 Kiosk Replacement: T14N, R11W, Section 33; T21N R20W, Section 20; T20N R15W, Section 32

Applicant:  
 Authorization:

INVOLVEMENT: Indicate in the left column which disciplines need to provide information into the EA.

Needed Input (X)	Discipline	Signature
	Lands	
	Minerals	
	Range	
	Wild Horse and Burro	
X	General Recreation	/s/ Matthew Driscoll 05/14/2013 /s/ Leonard Marceau 06/19/2013
X	Cultural and Paleontological Resources	/s/ Tim Watkins 03/18/2013
X	Wilderness	/s/ Ramone McCoy 06/19/2013
	Soils	
	Surface and Groundwater Quality/Water Rights	
	Air Quality	
X	Wildlife	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 05/07/2013
X	Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 05/07/2013
X	Migratory Birds	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 05/07/2013
	Surface Protection	
	Hazardous Materials	
	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	
X	Visual Resources	/s/ Leonard A. Marceau 06/19/2013
	Socio-Economics/Environmental Justice	
	General Botany/Noxious Weeds	
	Energy Policy	

Writer: /s/ Matthew Driscoll      Date: 05/01/2013

Environmental Coordinator: /s/ Ramone B. McCoy      Date: 05/07/2013

Field Manager: /s/ Don McClure      Date: 05/07/2013

# Categorical Exclusion Documentation Format for Actions Other Than Hazardous Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Actions

## Project Name

NEPA Number DOI- BLM-AZ-C010-2013-0027-CX

### A. Background

BLM Office: Kingman Field Office                      Lease/Serial/Case File No.:

Proposed Action Title/Type: 2013 Ramada Kiosk Installation and Replacement

Location of Proposed Action:

- Secret Pass Mount Nutt Wilderness Boundary - T. 20 N., R. 20 W., Section 1;
- Area of Critical Environmental Concern (Meadview) - T. 29 N., R. 16 W., Section 19; T. 29 W., R. 17 W., Sections 26 & 35;
- 17 Mile Road - T. 14 N., R. 11 W., Section 33;
- Highway 68 Mile Post 8 - T. 21 N., R. 20 W., Section 20;
- Ridge Rd. - T. 20 N., R. 15 W., Section 32

Description of Proposed Action:

Ramada Kiosks constructed of steel would be installed in two new locations and replace existing wooden kiosks in three other locations. A new Ramada Kiosk would be installed at one of three proposed locations (**see attached maps**) within an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and on the boundary of a National Natural Landmark (NNL). Installation of the other Ramada Kiosk would be near the northern boundary of Mount Nutt Wilderness (**see attached maps**) where motorized vehicle intrusions are common. These Ramada Kiosks would be used to educate Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) users on the importance of such things as Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly! Principles, area specific maps, and other various educational interpretive materials. Steel Ramada Kiosks at three OHV locations (**see attached maps**) would replace Wooden Kiosks in the exact location of the current interpretive site. Additionally, the Ramada Kiosk to be replaced at T 21 N. R 20 W., Section 20, would be accompanied by a Desert Bighorn Sheep interpretive sign measuring twenty eight (28) inches by forty two (42) inches. The colors of the kiosks and interpretive signs, either brown, green or tan would blend in with the five local environments.

Installation of the Ramada Kiosk within the ACEC and at the NNL boundary would be performed by the Friends of the Joshua Tree group with supervision by a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) staff member as needed for cultural or biological concerns. The remaining four Ramada Kiosks would be installed and replaced by BLM maintenance workers with cultural or biological supervision as needed. Minimal disturbance of the locations is expected as three of the five sites already contain an interpretive kiosk. Periodic maintenance of these kiosks would be a recurring activity at these locations.

Tortoise handling guidelines would be handed out to all volunteers and BLM maintenance workers prior to project activities to increase awareness of proper tortoise handling etiquette and to prevent tortoise injury in case of tortoise encounters during the project work. (Exhibit 1)

## **B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plan Name: *Kingman Resource Management Plan/EIS*

Date Approved/Amended: March 1995

The proposed action is in conformance with the *Kingman Resource Management Plan* because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

- **Kingman RMP, Decision # RR17/V** – “Recreation sites, interpretive sites, trails and roads will be maintained and developed where needed to enhance recreation opportunities and allow public use.” (Page 26)

The proposed action is in conformance with the *Black Mountain Ecosystem Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, April 1996* because it is specifically provided for in the following management objective:

- **BMEMP & EA, Recreation Objective – Management Action #4** - “Install signs at strategic ecosystem entry points to inform the public about off-highway vehicle restrictions, wilderness areas, regulations, and other pertinent information about the area being entered.” (Page 41)

## **C. Compliance with NEPA:**

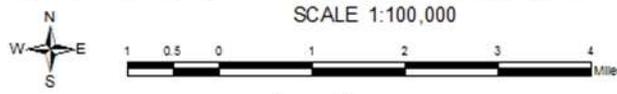
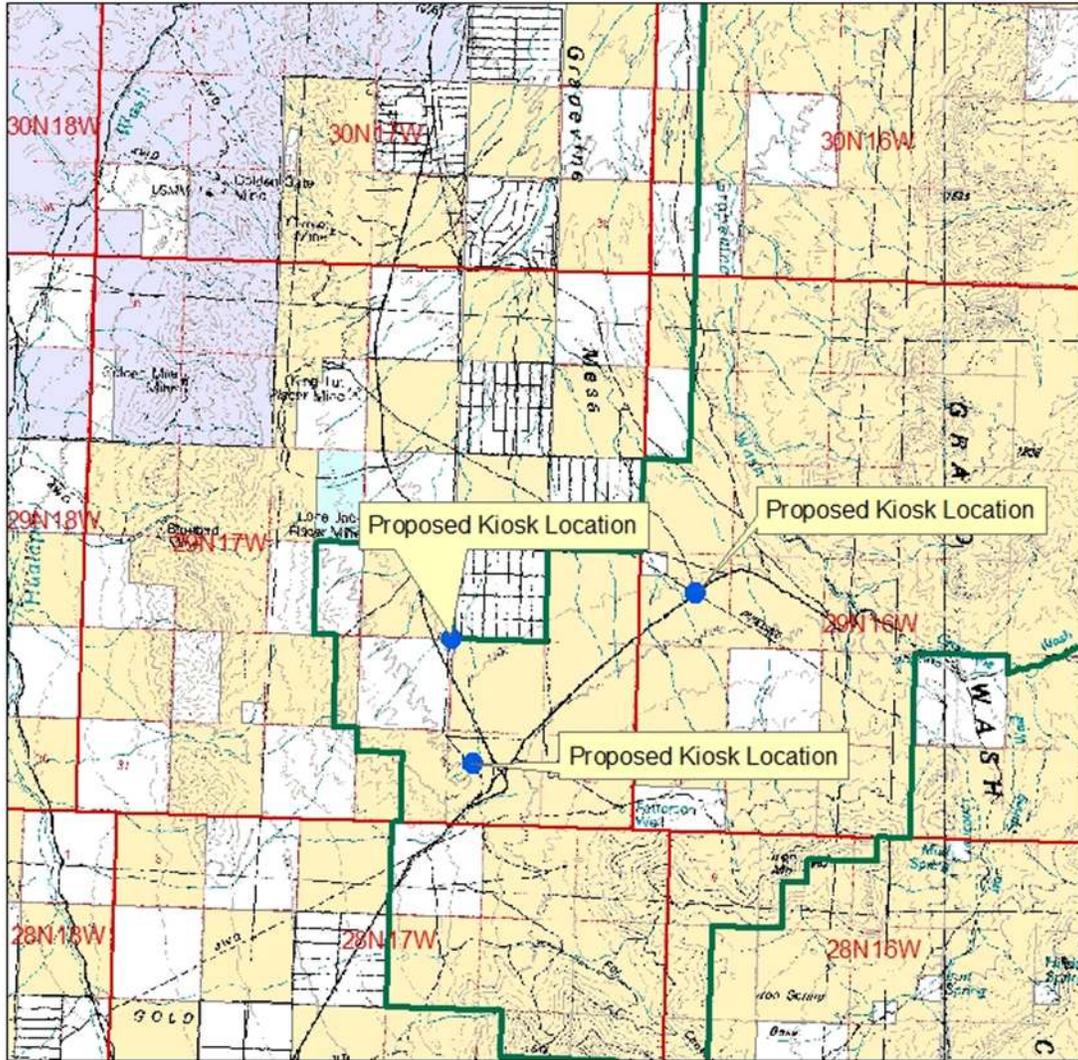
The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9,

G. Transportation 4: “*Placement of recreational, special designation, or information signs, visitor registers, kiosks, and portable sanitation devices.*”

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 (See Attachment 1), and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

I considered the proposal to install and replace Ramada Kiosks at five documented locations. The requirements and guidelines that are identified in the document would eliminate any potential for significant impacts to the environment.

# ACEC/NNL Proposed Kiosk Locations



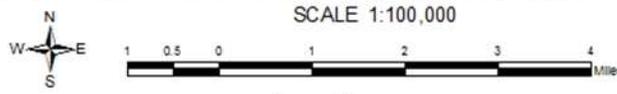
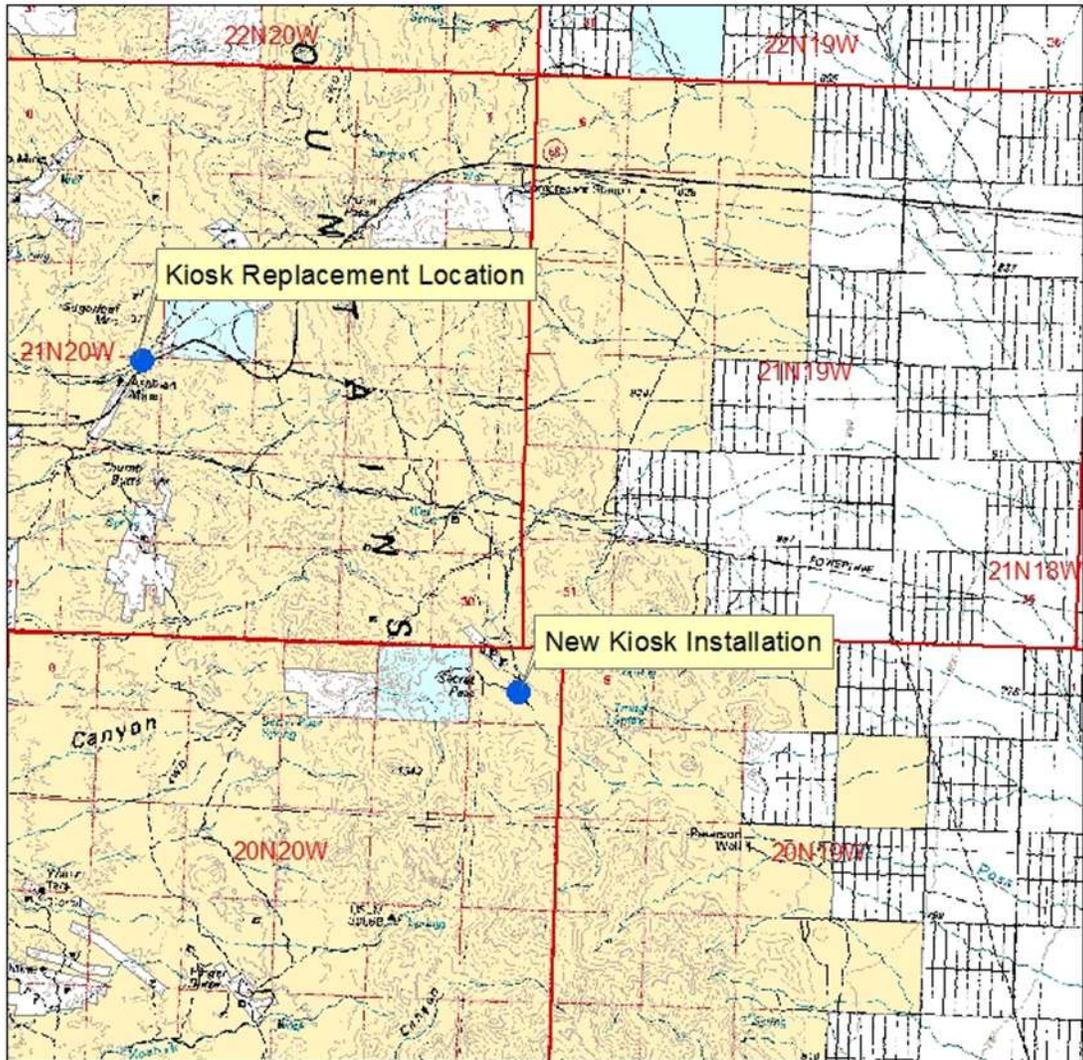
**Legend**

Private Lands	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	BLM Wilderness Area	BLM National Monument
State Lands	National Forest Lands (USFS)	Forest Service Wilderness Area	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
State Wildlife Area	National Park Service (NPS)	NPS Wilderness Area	Military Reservations/Corps of Engineers
City, State, County Parks	USFW Service, National Wildlife Refuges	USFW Service Wilderness Area	Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
County Lands	Indian Lands or Reservations		


 United States Department of the Interior  
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 Arizona State Office  
 Land Status updated as of November 2012  
 Map Prepared: 4/25/2013

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# Black Mountains Kiosk Locations



### Legend

- |                           |   |                                |  |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Private Lands             | Bureau of Land Management (BLM)         | BLM Wilderness Area            | BLM National Monument                    |
| State Lands               | National Forest Lands (USFS)            | Forest Service Wilderness Area | National Conservation Area               |
| State Wildlife Area       | National Park Service (NPS)             | NPS Wilderness Area            | Military Reservations/Corps of Engineers |
| City, State, County Parks | USFW Service, National Wildlife Refuges | USFW Service Wilderness Area   | Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)              |
| County Lands              | Indian Lands or Reservations            |                                |  |

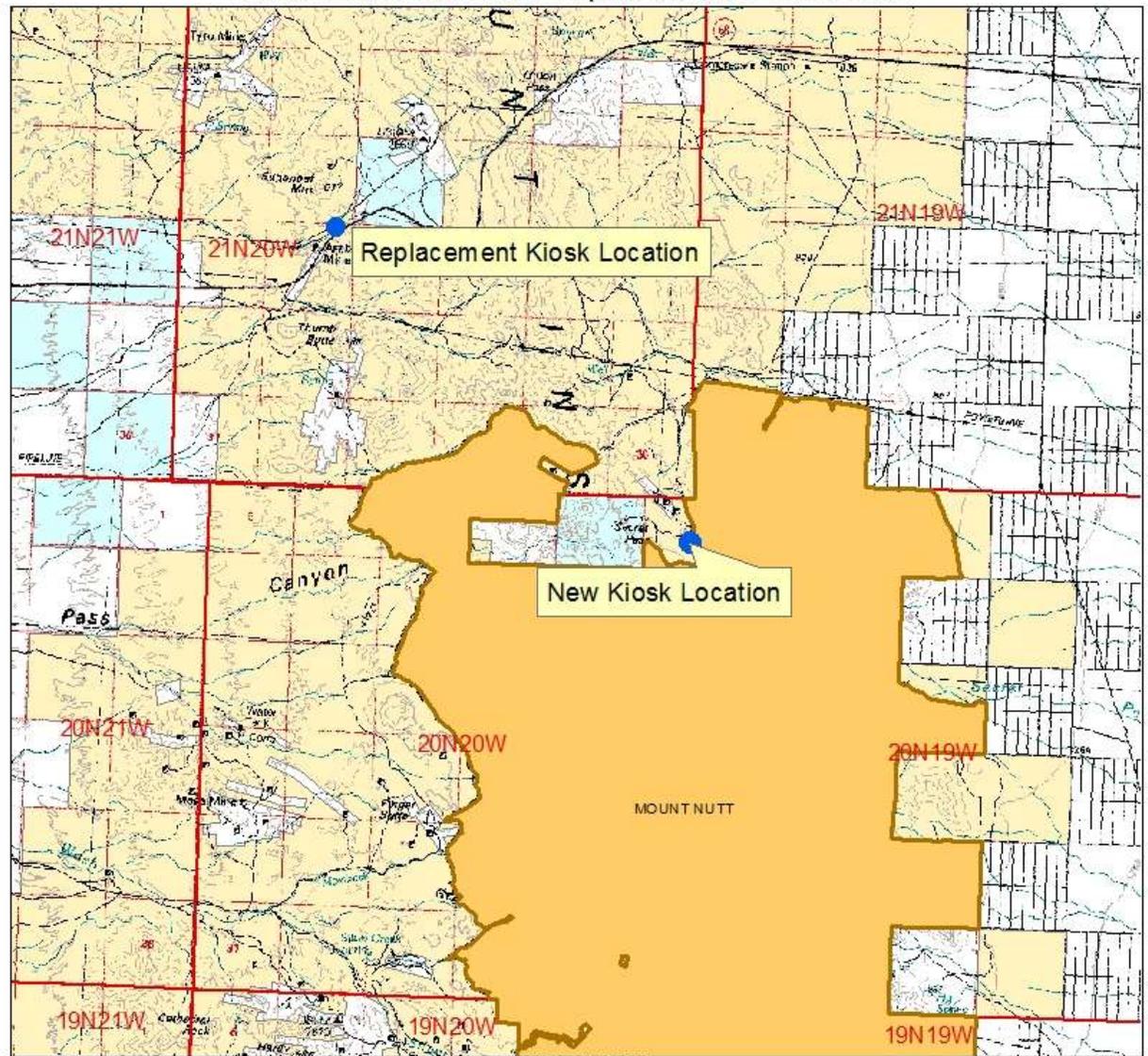


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# Black Mountains Kiosk Replacement & Installation



## Surface Management & Project Area

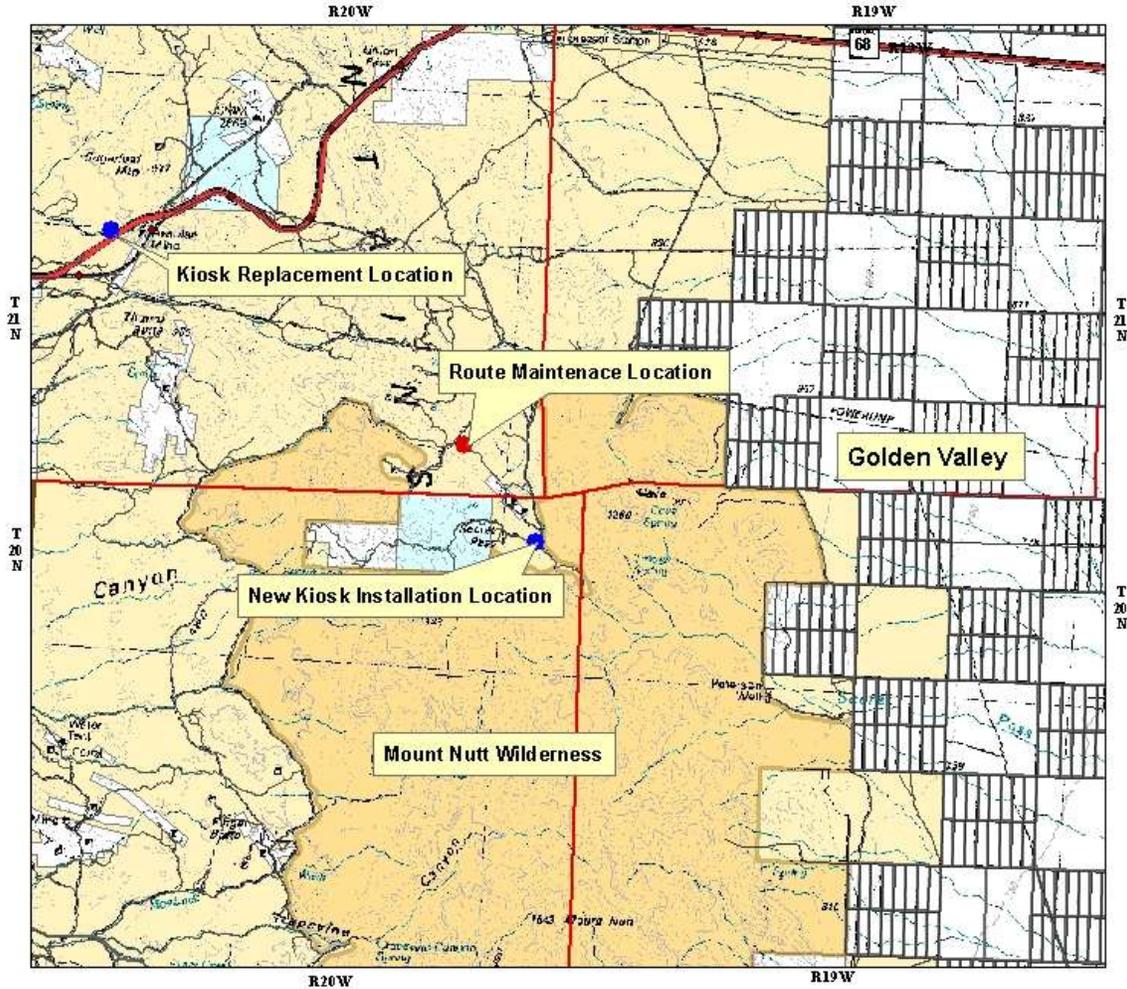
- Private Lands
- State Lands
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- BLM Wilderness Area
- Proposed Kiosk Replacement & Installation



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 Land Status updated as of November 2012  
 Map Prepared: 5/2/2013

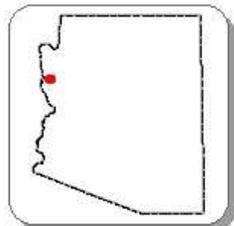
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# Black Mountains Kiosk Locations and Route Maintenance

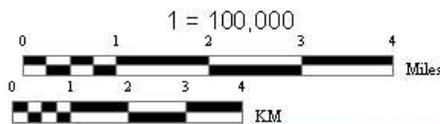


## Legend

- |                           |   |                                |  |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Private Lands             | Bureau of Land Management (BLM)           | BLM Wilderness Area            | BLM National Monument                    |
| State Lands               | National Forest Lands (USFS)              | Forest Service Wilderness Area | National Conservation Area               |
| State Wildlife Area       | National Park Service (NPS)               | NPS Wilderness Area            | Military Reservations/Corps of Engineers |
| City, State, County Parks | US FWS Service, National Wildlife Refuges | US FWS Service Wilderness Area | Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)              |
| County Lands              | Indian Lands or Reservations              |                                |  |

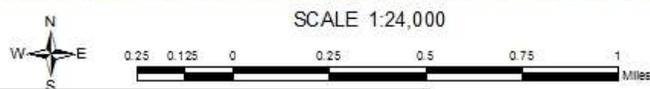
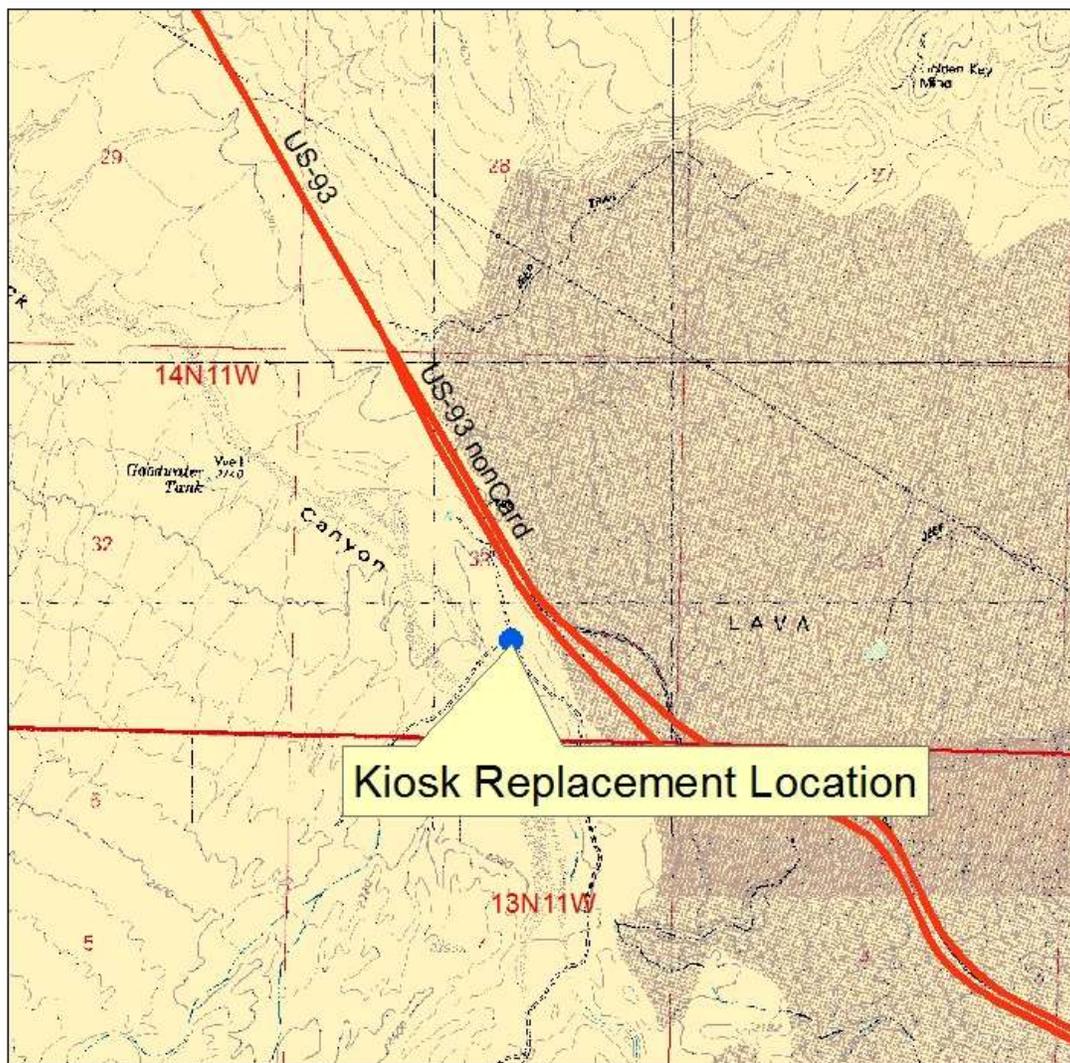


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# 17 Mile Rd Kiosk Replacement

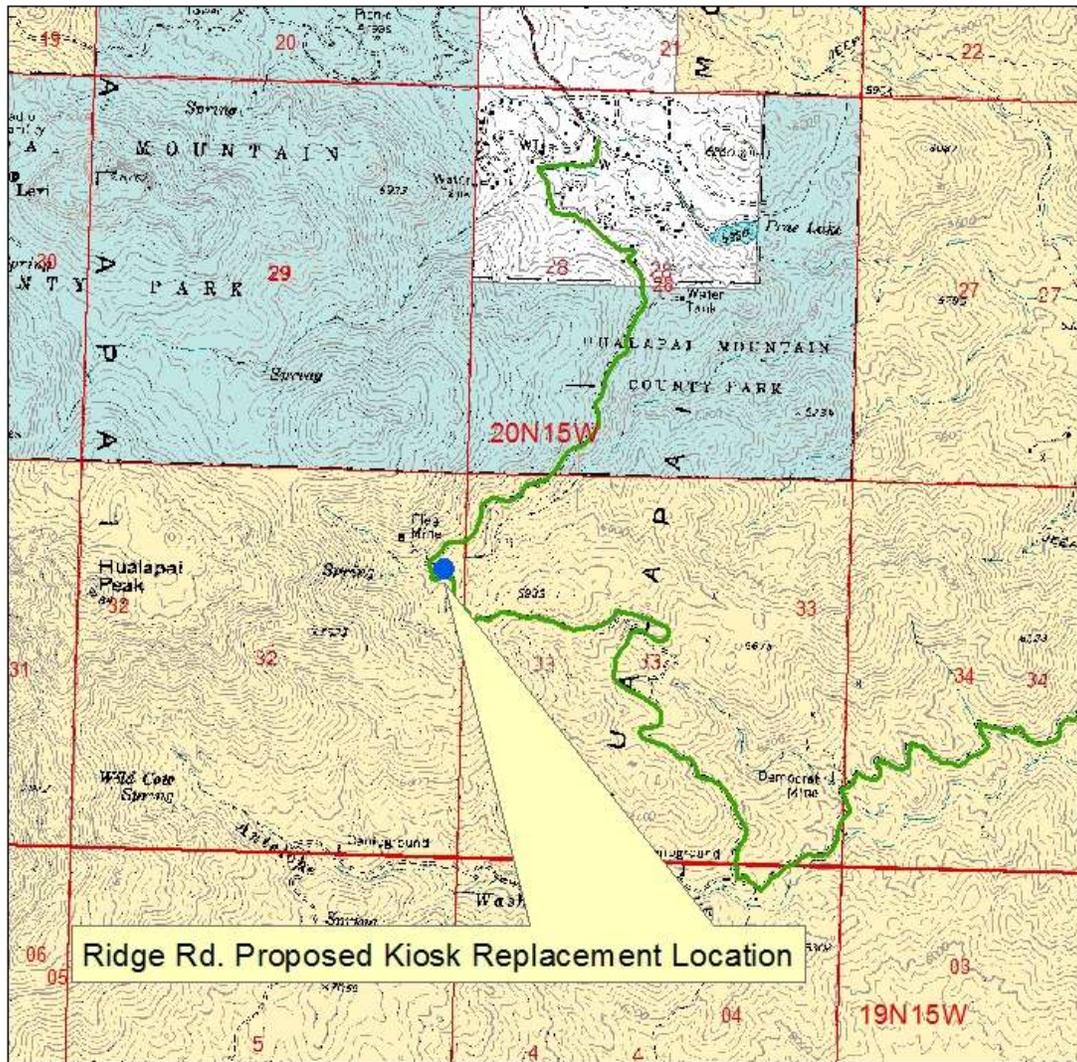


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 Land Status updated as of November 2012  
 Map Prepared: 6/4/2013

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# Ridge Rd. Kiosk Replacement Location



Ridge Rd. Proposed Kiosk Replacement Location



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 Bureau of Land Management  
 Arizona State Office  
 Land Status updated as of November 2012  
 Map Prepared: 6/4/2013

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**D. Signature**

Authorizing Official: /s/ Ruben A. Sánchez Date: 06/19/2013  
(Signature)

Name: Ruben Sanchez  
Title: Field Manager

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Matthew Driscoll  
Park Ranger  
Kingman Field Office  
2755 Mission Blvd.  
Kingman, AZ 86401  
(928)718-3736

**Note:** A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX. See Attachment 2.

## Attachment 1: Extraordinary Circumstances Review

Extraordinary Circumstances	Comment ( <b>Yes or No with supporting Rationale</b> )
1. Have significant effects on public health or safety.	No. The installation of a Ramada Kiosk will improve public knowledge and ultimately public safety.
2. 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 (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988) national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No. See mitigation measures for cultural and biological resources
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	No. See mitigation measures for biological resources
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No. None expected.
5. Establishes a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about future actions with significant environmental effects.	No. The action does not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions.
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No. The project requires periodic maintenance of the Ramada Kiosks. However, this action related to the proposed project is insignificant and would not have any adverse environmental effects.
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.	No. There are no properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at any of the proposed kiosk installation or replacement locations.
8. 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.	No. There is no effect to Threatened and Endangered species or to the habitat present at Ramada Kiosk locations.
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No. See mitigation measures for cultural and biological resources
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No. The action would have no impact on low income or minority populations.
11. 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 (Executive Order 13007).	No. There have been permitted recreational activities within the project area in the past and there were no known sacred sites.
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive 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 Executive Order 13112).	No. All the participants with the project are Locals from the immediate area. Vehicle travel would be restricted to roads, trails and navigable Washes.



expected as three of the five sites already contain an interpretive kiosk. Periodic maintenance of these kiosks would be a recurring activity at these locations.

Tortoise handling guidelines would be handed out to all volunteers and BLM maintenance workers prior to project activities to increase awareness of proper tortoise handling etiquette and to prevent tortoise injury in case of tortoise encounters during the project work. (Exhibit 1)

**Decision:** Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

**Approved By:**                     /s/ Ruben A. Sánchez                          **Date:**     06/19/2013      
**Ruben Sanchez**  
**Field Manager, Kingman Field Office**

**Exhibits:**

1) **Stipulations:**

- No off-road driving to retrieve any items for disposal unless a qualified site steward or BLM trained Para-archaeologist is available to monitor such activity. (A qualified site steward is a person currently active in the Arizona Site Steward program and is able to recognize an archaeological site in the field).
- If there is a question concerning the age of an item that may be considered “recent trash” or a historic artifact; please consult with a Para-archaeologist or qualified site steward.
- If an area of interest (a potential archaeological site) is discovered that may need further investigation, please note the location and give it to BLM archaeologist.
- In the event human remains are encountered during any activities associated with the project, a BLM archaeologist would be contacted immediately. Any additional questions can be directed to: Timothy Watkins BLM/KFO Archaeologist at; 928-718-3757. It may be necessary to contact Field Manager or acting prior to contacting archaeologist.
- Hand out tortoise handling guidelines (attached) to all workers the day of the project and advise on handling procedures.
- In the event hazardous materials are encountered during any activities associated with the project, all activities would cease with the hazardous material and a BLM Law Enforcement Ranger would be contacted immediately.

EXHIBIT 1

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Kingman Field Office  
2755 Mission Boulevard  
Kingman, Arizona 86401  
www.az.blm.gov



**GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING DESERT TORTOISE, ROSY BOA AND CHUCKWALLA ENCOUNTERED ON ROADS AND VEHICLE WAYS**

1. Stop your vehicle and allow the tortoise, rosy boa or chuckwalla to move off the road or if possible, drive around the tortoise or other animal.
  2. If the tortoise is not moving, gently\*\* pick up the tortoise and move it approximately 200 feet off the road to a shaded location.
    - a. Do **not** turn the tortoise over.
    - b. Move the tortoise in the direction it was traveling. If it was crossing the road, move it in the direction it was crossing.
    - c. Keep the tortoise within 12-18 inches of the ground, move slowly so as not to cause it to become alarmed.
    - d. Release the tortoise under the shade of a bush or rock.
- \*\* Tortoise store water in their bladder. If a tortoise becomes alarmed its defense is to void its bladder onto the captor. This could lead to dehydration of the tortoise and potentially to death.
3. Prior to moving any parked vehicles or equipment at the project site, check for tortoise under the vehicles.

