

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 090181 (reserializing of NVN 024250)

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-C010-2012-0074-CX

Project Name: Nye County Sheriff Pilot Peak Communications Facility Renewal

Project Description:

Nye County Sheriff’s Department has applied for a renewal of their existing facilities (radio communications equipment, etc.) within the Nevada Division of State Lands communications facility on Pilot Peak; as well as a portion of the access road for that facility – the portion that comes up from the floor of Telephone Canyon. The application was received in this office on August 31, 2011, however, the original lease expired on September 17, 2009. In addition, current regulation does not allow for communications uses to be renewed. Thus, the original use serial number NVN 024250 has been superceded by NVN 090181. Upon approval, we would issue a new lease for this authorization, lease NVN 090181, under current regulations and policy as well as the addition of the special stipulation below.

No new construction is requested; the only change to the authorization is the serial number and bringing the authorization under current regulations. This is a continuation of the rights to the current facility. The use consists of a 100’ x 100’ area for an equipment shed and shared antenna space on existing towers. The Pilot Peak Communications Site is located on Pilot Peak, east of Sodaville. Access is by an unnamed gravel road maintained by the state that rises up Telephone Canyon, then, begins its ascent up the mountain face via switchbacks.

As mentioned, the Sheriff's right-of-way includes a portion of the access road where it begins to make the ascent up the mountain face, terminating at the facilities and small parking area found at the peak. This access road portion is 13,305.6' x 50' feet.

Applicant Name: Nye County Sheriff's Department

Project Location:

Mount Diablo Meridian

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, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, unsurveyed;
sec. 32, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, unsurveyed.

BLM Acres for the Project Area: 15.5

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 Quad:

Eddyville 7.5 minute Topo, 1980

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)		gd
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)		gd CS TJW
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)		Maz
4. Would the Proposed Action have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? (PEC)		Maz
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)		Maz
6. Would the Proposed Action have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects? (PEC)		Maz
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)		Jew
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)		gd
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)		Maz
10. Would the Proposed Action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EA 12898)? ((PEC)		Maz
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)		Jew
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)		gd

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: *SK* 10/11/2011
- Public Health and Safety/Grazing/Noxious Weeds, Jill Devaurs: *JD* 10-11-11
- Recreation/Wilderness/VRM/LWC, Dan Westermeyer: *DW* 10/21/11
- Wildlife/T&E (BLM Sensitive Species), John Wilson: *JW* 10-11-11
- Archeology, ~~Susan McCabe~~: *JASON WENIGAT* *JW* 11-16-11
- Water Quality, Gabe Venegas: *GV* 11/16/11
- Soils, Jill Devaurs/Linda Appel/Chelsy Simerson: *JD* 10-11-11
LA 10-11-11

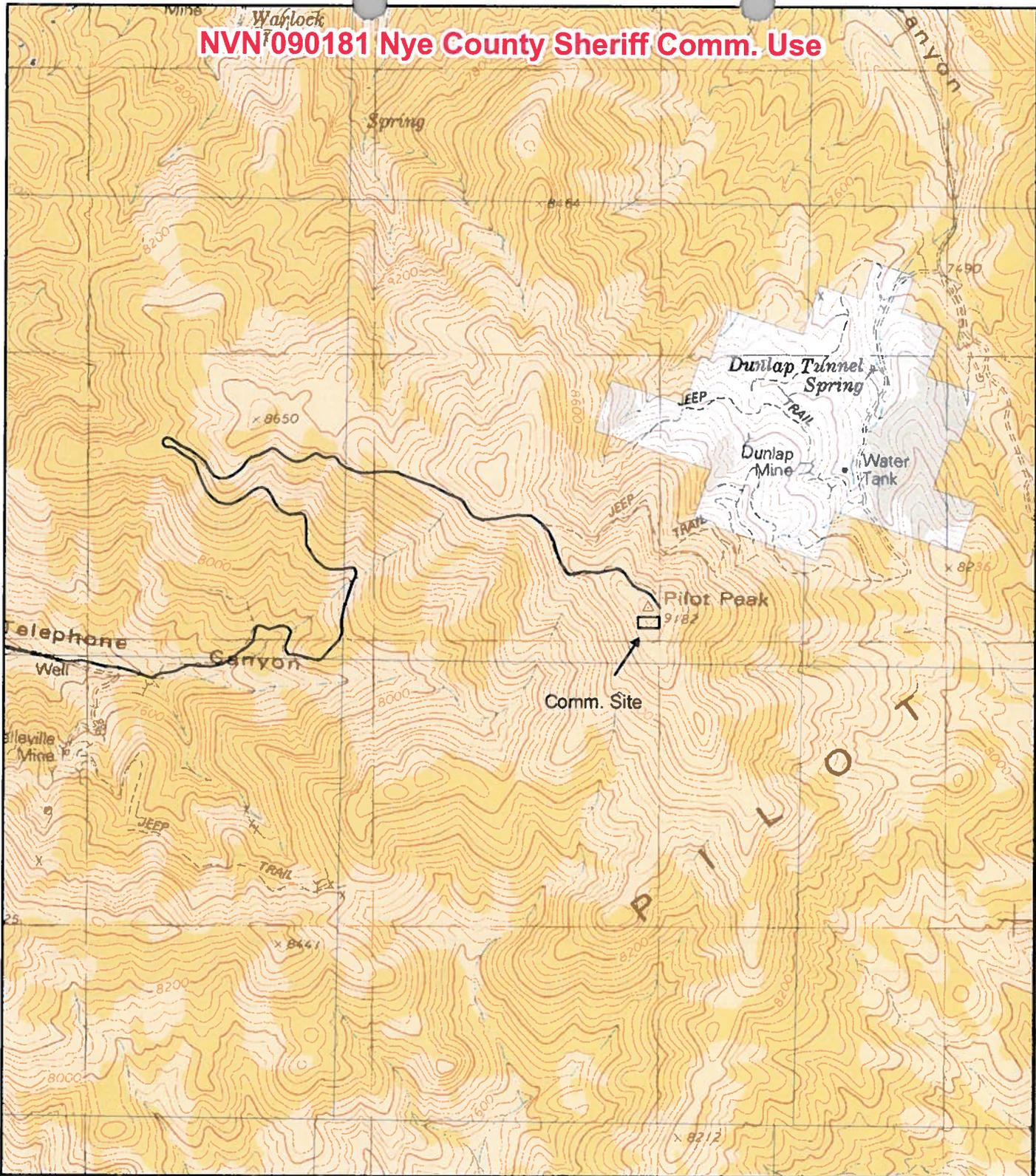
CONCLUSION: Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS. A categorical exclusion is not subject to protest or appeal.

Approved by:

Teresa J. Knutson 12/16/2011
Teresa J. Knutson (date)
Field Manager
Stillwater Field Office

NVN 090181 Nye County Sheriff Comm. Use

BLM



Carson City District Office



Exhibit A



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District Office
5665 Morgan Mill Rd.
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 885-6000

Map Produced by: Erik Pignata
09/15/2011ADD

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

Legend

NVN 090181 Nye Only	Private
Bureau of Land Management	Water

