

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**LAKE HAVASU FIELD OFFICE
Sundance RV Resort Recreation Commercial Lease
Parker Strip, California
DOI-BLM-AZ-C030-2013-0021-EA**

On the basis of the information contained in the Sundance RV Resort Commercial Recreation Lease Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-AZ-C030-2013-0021-EA), I have determined that the Proposed Action does not constitute a federal action having a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required.

This finding is based on my consideration of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) criteria for significance (40 CFR 1508.27), both with regard to the *context* and *intensity* of the impacts described in the EA.

Context

The Proposal is to issue a commercial recreation lease for the construction and operation of an RV park located on federal lands in the Parker Strip in California. The development would occur in several phases, depending on market demand. At completion the resort would operate a total of 124 new RV sites, with water, electric and sewage hook-ups. The resort would also provide recreation amenities to include a swimming pool, bocce ball and pickle ball courts, and horseshoe pits. Public access to the swimming beach would be maintained.

Intensity

1) Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.

None of the environmental consequences discussed in detail in the EA are considered significant nor do the consequences exceed any known threshold of significance, either beneficial or adverse. The Proposal consists of issuing a commercial recreation lease for the construction and operation of an RV resort with 124 RV spaces. The Proposal would encompass BLM's Empire Landing Campground and in total affect approximately 24.8 acres. As a result of public comments, offsite mitigation for tent camping would convert BLM's Bullfrog Day Use Area into an overnight tent camping area. The Sundance RV Resort is supported by the local community for its beneficial recreational, tourism, and economic values.

2) The degree to which the Proposed Action affects public health or safety.

The Proposal will not result in any impacts to public health and safety. Surface disturbing activities during construction will be conducted in conformance with all Federal and State requirements to protect health and safety. Potable water that will be provided by the lessee will be required to meet county drinking water quality standards. The operation of the leach field will be required to meet county operations standards.

3) Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

The project area is located on federal lands administered by the Lake Havasu Field Office. No impacts to the Parker Dam Road National Back County Byway are anticipated since the areas are currently developed. There are no unique characteristics of the geographical area in the project area.

4) The degree to which the effects on the quality of human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

The Proposal will not have highly controversial effects on the quality of the human or natural environment. The proposed RV park currently offers RV sites and the new management of the site will not change the cost of those RV sites. The loss of tent camping sites will be mitigated with the construction of new tent sites at Bullfrog. This portion of the Parker Strip currently has several concession developments, therefore the construction of the Sundance RV Resort is consistent with other resorts on this portion of the Colorado River.

5) The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

There are no highly uncertain or unique or unknown risks in implementation of the Proposed Action.

6) The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

The Proposal would not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision about a future consideration. This action does not establish a precedent for the other assessments or authorization of other commercial recreation opportunities. Any future projects within the Proposal area or surrounding areas will be analyzed on their merits and implemented, or not, independently of the acceptance of the subject action.

7) Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

Past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions have been considered in the cumulative impacts analysis within Chapter 3 of the EA. The cumulative effects analysis examined all of the other appropriate actions and determined that the Proposal will not incrementally contribute to significant impacts on any resources that are present and may be affected by the Proposal.

8) The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss of destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

There are no objects listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places within the project area.

9) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.*

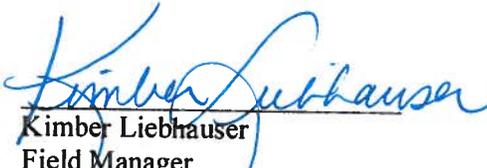
Informal consultation with the USFWS occurred in March and April 2014 with a no effect determination on threatened and endangered species.

10) *Whether the action threatens a violation of federal, state, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.*

The Proposal is in conformance with the Lake Havasu Field Office Resource Management Plan. The action does not violate any known Federal, State, local or Tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. An interdisciplinary team of resource specialists from the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office was involved in the preparation of the EA. All Federal, State, and local laws will be followed under the Proposal.

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I have determined that the Proposed Action with the mitigation measures described below will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. I have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan.


Kimber Liebhauser
Field Manager
Lake Havasu Field Office


Date