Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: Winnemucca District Office

TRACKING NUMBER: DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2013-0034-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: STA-22

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Orovada Fire Station / Administrative Facility

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Orovada, NV: T.43 N, R.37 E, sec.34, S2SENESE

APPLICANT (if any): BLM

A. Description of the Proposed Action with attached map(s) and any applicable mitigation measures.

Proposed Action:

The BLM requests a right-of-way for the construction of a BLM fire station on public lands located within T.43N., R.37E., MDM, section 34, S2SENESE within the county of Humboldt, Nevada (see location maps attached). The proposed action encompasses 5 acres within the parcel in public ownership described above. The location would be adjacent Kunkel Lane in Orovada, NV. The BLM would obtain an encroachment permit to use Kunkel Lane, a county-maintained road within Humboldt County, to access the proposed fire station site. Humboldt County currently has a 30' easement from the BLM on the north end of Kunkel Lane along the BLM parcel. Approximately 3 acres would be needed to enclose a crew barracks, an office, covered or enclosed engine bays with shop area, and associated infrastructure / utilities to include; tie in to existing municipal water supply, tie in to existing sewer lines, buried or overhead electrical and phone lines, concrete pads in front of shop and engine bays, concrete walkways, paved or graveled drive and parking, lighting, landscaping and perimeter fencing. An additional 2 acres would be reserved and fenced for future expansion of facilities. Currently proposed within this 2 acres are additional bays and storage. A helipad is desired in the future which would require a separate evaluation under NEPA when proposed for implementation. No antennae towers are proposed.

The project implementation would likely be phased over 3 years. Heavy equipment would likely need to be used for site preparation. Short-term facilities may be employed until the permanent facilities are built. Construction would take place during any time of the year, weather permitting. The right-of-way would encumber 5 acres and be issued in perpetuity pending any future administrative withdrawal of the site by BLM.

Table 1: Rights-of-way, Permits and Easements associated with the Proposed Facility

Purpose:	Type:	Issued to:	Description:	Acres:
Surface Protection	ROW	BLM	T.30 N, R.33 E, sec.16, S2SENESE	5
8” buried waterline	ROW	Orovada General Improvement District	50’ wide x 660’	.76
8” buried sewerline	ROW	Orovada General Improvement District	50’ wide x 660’	.76
Buried or Overhead Power Line*	ROW	NV Energy	20’ wide x 400’	.184
Buried phone line / fiber or overhead phone*	ROW	AT&T	20’ wide x 450’	.21
Access to the site	Easement	BLM	Kunkel Rd - 60’ wide x 1,320’	1.82

*Final engineering studies will determine buried or overhead option

Mitigation Measures / Design Features:

In order to minimize any potential effects to resources, an isolated parcel surrounded by developed private land was chosen for the site. This accompanied by easy access to residential power, water and sewer was the basis for site location. The site chosen has a low potential for encountering cultural resources.

Cultural Resources: Respect for all cultural resources would be maintained. Any BLM personnel or contractors working on all aspects of the project would be informed about the need to protect cultural resources and the penalties involved in the collection or deliberate destruction of historic and prehistoric artifacts and features. Any cultural resource discovered on public or private lands that are part of the federal undertaking by any employee, contractor, sub-contractors or any person working on their behalf would be left in place and immediately reported to the BLM. In the case of human remains that might be inadvertently discovered in the process of conducting the proposed project, all appropriate Federal laws would be followed. If discovered human remains were encountered, construction near the location of the finds would be halted and consultation with Native American tribes in the area would be initiated. The contractor would suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery of human remains or cultural resources until written authorization to proceed were issued by the BLM. An evaluation of the discovery would be made by the BLM to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural values.

Invasive Species: All construction vehicles would be required to be fully washed, including the undercarriages, prior to entry into the project area to remove seeds of undesirable plants. The station site would be inspected on a regular basis for the presence of noxious weeds and/or invasive non-native species. Approved control and eradication methods would be used if any are found.

Soils: Suitable topsoil removed in conjunction with clearing and stripping would be conserved in stockpiles at appropriate locations within the right-of-way reservation. Topsoil would be uniformly spread over unoccupied disturbed areas, particularly in areas of landscaping.

Air Quality: During all phases of road construction a water truck would be on site to mitigate and reduce fugitive dust.

Wildlife – Migratory Birds: For any proposed actions that are not performed outside of the migratory bird breeding season (March 1 — August 31), a migratory bird nesting survey would be conducted in potential habitat areas no more than 10 days and no less than 3 days prior to initiation of disturbance. If active nests are located, a minimum 260 ft. protective buffer will be established or activities delayed until the birds have completed nesting and brood-rearing activities.

Visual Resources: Building materials and colors would be considered for permanent structures that would be compatible with the surrounding environment. Construction of all facilities would utilize screening on proposed stationary lights and light plants. Lighting would be directed onto the pertinent site only and away from adjacent areas not in use. Safety and proper lighting of the active work areas would be the primary goal. Lighting fixtures would be hooded and shielded as appropriate. Light pollution would be minimized by utilizing "Dark Sky" practices.

Exterior Design Considerations: Exterior design considerations would include screening of the warehouse-storage yard area with fence materials that reduce visibility; use of natural surfaces for parking areas and driveways. Xeriscape landscaping would be incorporated into the station's landscaping with native shrubs and herbaceous vegetation.

Green Building Technologies: The project is required to be Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) certified and meet the requirements of Executive Order 13423, January 24, 2007, which stipulated that Federal buildings shall exceed the requirements of ASHRAE 90.1 by 30%. This is also in keeping with BLM directives that energy conservation and sustainable design be incorporated into all new buildings.

Hazardous Materials: Spill kits would be maintained onsite to provide prompt response to accidental leaks or spills of chemicals and petroleum products. Bulk fuel storage and vehicle maintenance activities (i.e., oil changes) would not be conducted at the facility. Water and sewer services would be provided by the local municipality. As a result, an onsite septic system and water-supply well would not be necessary.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name*_Paradise – Denio MFP Date Approved: 1982

*List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management, or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto)

The proposed action in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for the following LUP decisions:

The proposed action in is conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objective, terms, and conditions):

OBJECTIVE: To minimize wildfire damage to life, property and resources.

District Manager's Decision F-1.2 – Improve legal access into areas of high fire occurrence and/or of high resource value. Arrange for easements or rights-of-way across private property.

Rationale – Improved access reduces travel time for suppression personnel. Earlier initial attack helps to reduce fire damage to resource values.

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

Midas Fire Station Environmental Assessment
(BLM/EK/PL-2002/016) March, 2002. FONSI 4/9/2002, DR 4/9/2002

Black Rock NCA Administrative Facility Environmental Assessment
(DOI-BLM-W030-2010-002-EA)Dec. 2009. FONSI 12/31/09, DR 12/31/09

McDermitt Fire Station Environmental Assessment
(NV-020-EA-90-31)Aug. 1990. FONSI 8/23/1990, DR 8/23/1990

Orovada Fire Station Environmental Assessment
(NV-020 – EA-80-28)Jun. 1980. FONSI 7/11/1980, DR 7/11/1980

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA documents(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Yes. The Proposed Action is essentially similar to the Midas Fire Station and the Black Rock Administrative Facility, having the same or similar features in design, layout, footprint, and utilities. The Proposed Action is within sufficiently similar geographic areas (Basin and Range – valley-bench location – elevation within 500' difference) and similar resource conditions previously analyzed in the 2002 Midas Fire Station EA. There are no potentially substantial differences between the current proposal and the alternatives analyzed in either EA.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA documents(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Yes. Both EA's examined an appropriate range of alternatives including the no action alternative. In this case, the Orovada Fire Station proposal intends to utilize a small parcel of public land within existing developed areas in Orovada. The proposed location is surrounded by cultivated fields and dispersed housing. Interests are similar in that the public largely supports a wildland fire station in proximity to resource values to include the nearby and adjacent Wildland-urban Interface and surrounding critical habitats to include LCT and greater sage grouse.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Yes. At the present time, there is no new information or changed circumstances that would substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action. This proposed action is sensitive to greater sage grouse concerns as its footprint will not affect critical habitats such as PPH or PGH. It will however aid in the protection of critical habitats by shortening response times to these areas, increasing the percentage of fires controlled during initial attack.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Yes. At the present time, there is no new information or changed circumstances that would substantially change the direct, indirect and cumulative effect of the new proposed action. The effects of the Proposed Action would be similar for both locations due to the similarities of the sites. If anything, the likelihood of improved response times due to a more centrally located fire station in the north would allow for better resource protection from wildfire occurrence along US95 and improved access to critical resource areas in the northern half of the District.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation (Is it normal to scope a DNA?)

Yes. Public scoping (30 days), web site posting and press releases are planned as an additional level of public communication. This is above the standard required of a DNA. The above scoping strategy is being employed to promote transparency and pulse-check the public.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

See Attached Section E for Review Signatures and Conclusion