

United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

BLM

Environmental Assessment - DOI-BLM-ID-B010-2013-0039-EA

November 20, 2013

**Proposed Right-of-Way Amendment for access Road Realignment
BLM Serial #: IDI-34451**

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**Environmental Assessment # DOI-BLM-ID-B010-2013-0039-EA
Dolven Road Realignment EA**

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Dolven Road Realignment EA

1.0 Introduction

Mr. and Mrs. Dolven have applied for an amendment to the existing right-of-way (RoW) (Application #ID1-34451) granted to by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in 2003 (Appendix A). The grade of the current access road is in excess of 12% for a long stretch. In order to address these deficiencies, Mr. Dolven is requesting an amendment to the current RoW and has retained Holladay Engineering Company (Payette, Idaho) to develop an engineered road plan to reduce the road grade for accessing his property (Appendix B). An amendment to the access RoW is needed because the construction envelope required to comply with Payette County road standards would fall outside the current approved RoW.

1.1 Need for and Purpose of Action

The need for the federal action is established by BLM's responsibility under Section 501(a)(4) the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976, as amended [43 U.S.C. 1761], which provides authority for the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, to grant rights-of-way on lands under its jurisdiction according to federal regulation found at 43 C.F.R. § 2802.10.

The purpose of this action would be to determine if amending the applicant's RoW per their request would be compatible with the other environmental factors that BLM has responsibility to consider in making a federal decision.

1.2 Decision to be Made

The BLM must review the Proposed Action and analysis in order to determine the level of significance (context and intensity) of the action relative to its effect on the human environment. If it is determined that the Proposed Action would have a significant effect on the human environment, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be developed prior to the issuance of a RoW amendment. If the BLM determines that there are no significant impacts to the human environment then a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) would be documented and submitted as part of the record of decision, and an amended RoW could be issued.

1.3 Summary of Proposed Action

The proponent is requesting an amendment to the existing RoW in order to address existing road deficiencies and to meet Payette County road engineering standards. The proposed construction and road realignment (Appendix B) is needed to reduce the slope and increase the turning radius to meet minimal road engineering standards and erosion control designs. The proposed action would increase road surface stability, reduce surface erosion, and create adequate turn outs for EMS vehicles. All Idaho Department of Transportation (IDT) standard operating procedures (SOP) and best management practices (BMP) for rural roads would be implemented, and all disturbed areas associated with cut and fill slopes would be seeded with a site specific native seed mix to reestablish native vegetation, reduce slope erosion potential, and limit visual impacts. The total area affected would be approximately 97,000 sf. or 2.3 acres.

1.4 Location and Setting

The project area is located in Township 8-North, Range 3-West, Section 32 (NW¹/₄SW¹/₄). Access to the proposed project area is via Gulch Road, a Payette County maintained road (Maps 1 and 2).

1.5 Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plan

The proposed action is in conformance with the following land use plans, policies, and regional assessments:

- The BLM's *Cascade Resource Management Plan* (1988):

Per the 1988 Record of Decision, "Rights of Way, under Title V of FLPMA, will be considered in the Cascade Resource Area except where specifically identified in the RMP for avoidance. Future locations for ROWs will be encouraged within or adjacent to existing ROWs as much as possible" (BLM 1988). The area associated with the proposed action does not fall within any identified avoidance areas.

1.6 Relationship to Statutes, Regulations, and Other Requirements

The following is a summary of the major laws and executive orders that apply to the Proposed Action.

National Environmental Policy Act

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and subsequent implementing regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality, any action conducted on federally-administered lands or action that utilizes Federal dollars, must be evaluated to determine if the Proposed Action might have significant economic, social, or environmental effects. The assessment must explore a reasonable range of alternatives and the associated potential environmental effects of the proposed actions. If there are no significant impacts, a FONSI can be signed to complete NEPA compliance. If potentially significant effects are identified, the Agency (BLM) must consider these, including potential for avoidance or mitigation in issuing its Record of Decision.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act

FLPMA mandates the BLM manage for multiple uses of Federal public lands. FLPMA requires the BLM to execute its management powers under a land use planning process that is based on multiple use and sustained yield principles. FLPMA provides for, but is not limited to, grazing on public lands, land sales, withdrawals, acquisitions, and exchanges.

Endangered Species Act

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires all Federal agencies to ensure their actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA, the representative (ECS Inc.) for the proponent of the project (Mr. Dolven), in coordination with the BLM, requested relevant species lists from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Executive Order 12898—Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 (February 11, 1994) provides that each Federal agency, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low income populations.

Executive Order 13186—Migratory Birds

Executive Order 13186 (January 10, 2001) directs Federal land management agencies to ensure management actions conserve and protect migratory birds consistent with existing migratory bird conventions; the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703–711); the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668–668d); the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661–666c), the ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531–1544); and NEPA of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347).

Section 313 of the Clean Water Act

Section 313 of the Clean Water Act of 1972 requires that “each department, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal Government having jurisdiction over any property or facility, or engaged in any activity resulting, or which may result, in the discharge or runoff of pollutants shall be subject to, and comply with, all Federal, State, interstate, and local requirements, administrative authority, and process and sanctions in a like manner as any non-governmental entity.” The BLM is therefore required to comply with all Federal, State, interstate, and local requirements, administrative authority, and process and sanctions with respect to the control and abatement of water pollution. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act in Idaho and has promulgated State water quality rules to meet this responsibility in IDAPA 58.01.02. Waters are designated as impaired when there is a violation of water quality criteria and are placed on the §303(d) list. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires states to develop water quality improvement plans, referred to as TMDLs, for water bodies that are not meeting their beneficial uses. A TMDL is only required when a pollutant can be identified and in some way quantified. The purpose of a TMDL is to set limits on pollutant levels, correct water quality impairments, and achieve beneficial uses of water bodies through attainment of water quality standards.

Cultural Resource Laws and Executive Orders

BLM is required to consult with Native American tribes to “help assure (1) that federally recognized tribal governments and Native American individuals, whose traditional uses of public land might be affected by a proposed action, will have sufficient opportunity to contribute to the decision, and (2) that the decision maker will give tribal concerns proper consideration” (U.S. Department of the Interior, BLM Manual Handbook H-8120-1). Tribal coordination and consultation responsibilities are implemented under laws and executive orders that are specific to cultural resources which are referred to as “cultural resource authorities,” and under regulations that are not specific which are termed “general authorities.” Cultural resource authorities include: the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA); the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA); and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, as amended (NAGPRA). General authorities include: the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1979 (AIRFA); the National Environmental

Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA); and Executive Order 13007-Indian Sacred Sites. The proposed action is in compliance with the aforementioned authorities.

Southwest Idaho is the homeland of two culturally and linguistically related tribes: the Northern Shoshone and the Northern Paiute. In the latter half of the 19th century, a reservation was established at Duck Valley on the Nevada/Idaho border west of the Bruneau River. The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes residing on the Duck Valley Reservation today actively practice their culture and retain aboriginal rights and/or interests in this area. The Shoshone-Paiute Tribes assert aboriginal rights to their traditional homelands as their treaties with the United States, the Boise Valley Treaty of 1864 and the Bruneau Valley Treaty of 1866, which would have extinguished aboriginal title to the lands now federally administered, were never ratified.

Other tribes that have ties to southwest Idaho include the Bannock Tribe and the Nez Perce Tribe. Southeast Idaho is the homeland of the Northern Shoshone Tribe and the Bannock Tribe. In 1867 a reservation was established at Fort Hall in southeastern Idaho. The Fort Bridger Treaty of 1868 applies to BLM's relationship with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. The northern part of the BLM's Boise District was also inhabited by the Nez Perce Tribe. The Nez Perce signed treaties in 1855, 1863 and 1868. BLM considers off-reservation treaty-reserved fishing, hunting, gathering, and similar rights of access and resource use on the public lands it administers for all tribes that may be affected by a proposed action.

1.7 Scoping and Development of Issues

Based on the project type, location, extent, and incorporation of construction BMPs and SOPs, resources or uses affected to a degree that compel the exploration of a means to avoid the impact identified were limited to water/hydrology, soils, vegetation, wildlife, and socio-economics. Specifically, construction impacts from the proposed project would affect the erosion potential (soils/hydrology) of the site, existing vegetation conditions, and forage/cover availability for wildlife species. Socio-economic affects are associated with construction costs and input into the local economy. All other resources and resources uses were either not impacted, or the impact so minimal as to be immeasurable and were therefore not included in this analysis.

Water/Hydrology

Significance Criteria: Any action resulting in a regulatory trigger for water quality standards, per the Clean Water Act, would be considered significant.

The only surface water associated with the project area is temporary runoff from snow melt, accumulated rainwater, and some irrigation from the home site. Average annual precipitation in Payette County is 11.1 inches (U.S. Climate Data 2013). The closest perennial water body is 1.2 miles south of the project area. This is a constructed irrigation channel of the Main Stem of the Payette River which falls within Lower Big Willow Hydrologic Unit Code (#17050122050), and is within the Lower Payette River TMDL project area (IDEQ 2013, IDEQ 1999). This area was listed as "water quality limited" in 1994 and placed on the 303(d) list in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act (IDHW 1994). Water quality monitoring determined that nutrients, bacteria and temperature exceed water quality standards. For the lower Payette River system,

sediment levels did not exceed water quality standards, but were identified a major transport mechanism for the pollutants of concern for the river.

The existing access road has an 18-inch deep borrow-pit on both sides of the road running the entire length. These accumulate surface water and empty into a drainage basin that parallels Gulch Road on the west, running north and south. However, there is currently no culvert under any part of the access road, including where it intersects with Gulch Road. This creates a barrier for any accumulated surface water originating north of the Gulch/access road intersection. There have been no recorded events in the last 10 years where accumulated surface water crested or breached the existing access road from the north (Pers. Comm. Creig Dolven 2013).

While the north channel of the Gulch Road drainage is not currently connected to the Payette River, the south channel is approximately 4,800 feet away from a 24 inch culvert under the intersection of Gulch and Bluff Roads (Map 3). The drainage basin drains into an irrigation channel of the Payette Rive 1,400 feet to the south of the intersection.

Based on the slope and design of the existing access road, surface flow patterns would continue to erode and/or channelize the access road resulting in gullies and rills. These changes would funnel surface water into a smaller area, continually intensifying the effects of velocity and flow on soils (see soils). These water erosion effects would continue to reduce the stability and structure of the access road resulting in greater loss of soil and accumulation of sediment in the Gulch Road drainage over time (see soils).

While annual maintenance can re-contour the road and move/replace surface materials to reduce the effects of water erosion, these are temporary and unsustainable measures. In the long-term, erodible and accumulated soils from the Gulch Road accumulation point has the potential to reach the Payette River. While this would have no localized effects relative to regulated water quality, it could increase the amount of sediments entering the Payette River. Sediment levels have not been exceeded in the Lower Payette, but increasing the amount of sediment to the Payette River could measurably increase nutrients, bacteria, and water temperature. However, based on historic precipitation levels and the distance between the project area and Payette River, the amount of sediment originating from the project area and entering the Payette River would continue to be negligible.

The current access road does affect the quantity of water in the sub-basin and Payette River. As there are no culverts connecting the north and south sections of the Gulch drainage, all surface water collected above (north) the access road is blocked from the Payette River (Map 3). Based on the amount of precipitation in the area, coupled with the fact that the constrained surface water has not crested the road, the short and long-term impact to water quantity is negligible relative to the Big Willow sub-basin.

Due to the proposed re-alignment for the access road, there would be localized short-term impacts including potential increases in the amount of erodible soils exposed during and after construction activities. As a design-feature of the proposed action, erosion control measures would limit this short term erosion. Long-term term direct and indirect effects on reduced water quality (local and landscape) would be reduced. By reducing the slope of the access road,

changing the road surface materials, and channeling surface water through armored culverts, the energy (velocity and flow) of the surface runoff would be dispersed. Reducing water erosion effects to soils on the access road would decrease the amount and accumulation rate of sediments that could make their way to the Payette River.

Developing a culvert under the access road at the Gulch Road intersection would connect the north and south drainages. This connection would allow accumulated surface water from sites to the north of the access road to reach the Payette River. However, based on the amount of precipitation in the area and distance to the Payette River, the increased quantity would be negligible.

Soils

Significance Criteria: Any action resulting in a regulatory trigger for water quality, per the Clean Water Act, would be considered significant.

The existing road is 8 to 10 feet between the shoulders, exceeds 10 percent slope on roughly 380 of the 954 feet of road, and the entire surface is exposed parent material, i.e. compacted native soil with no added surface materials. On average, 3-5 cubic yards of soils originating from the access road are excavated from the Gulch Road drainage basin at the base of the access road and placed back on the road to fill gullies and rills (Pers. Comm. Creig Dolven 2013).

Soils in the project area consist of Payette coarse sandy loam (PAF), which makes up 80% of project area, and Power-Elijah silt loam (PeC) makes up the residual 20% (Map 4) (NRCS 2013). The surface profile for PAF (0-20 inches) is a well-drained coarse sandy loam with a very high erosion hazard. The ecological site description is a north-slope granitic 12-16 (ARTR/FEID). The surface profile (0-60 inches) for PeC is a well-drained silt loam with a moderate erosion hazard. The ecological site description is loamy 8-12 (ARTRW8/PSSPS-ACTH7) (NRCS 2013). There is considerable erosion in the form of gullies and rills associated with the road surface and shoulders on the upper portion of the access road. This is attributed primarily to the current slope and limited erosion control features of the road surface.

Vegetation

Significance Criteria: Any action adversely affecting a recorded special status plant species population or resulting in a species becoming listed would be considered significant.

See Appendix C for the full specialist report.

The project area has been substantially altered by historic wildfires, earthwork, and post-fire rehabilitation. It is currently dominated by invasive annual grass species, primarily cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and medusa-head wildrye (*Taeniatherium asperum*). In much of the area, medusa-head wildrye has developed a restrictive matt that impedes the growth of other plant species and forms a highly combustible, dense fuel load. There are some residual natives, including mosses present in the understory, but these are generally confined to small isolated patches. The one native species present in greater than trace amounts was purple three-awn. A full list of flora species by estimated percentage cover is found in Appendix C.

Wildlife/Special Status Animals

Significance Criteria: Any action that jeopardizes special status wildlife species or their habitat would be considered significant. See Appendix C for the full specialist report.

Based on the current habitat conditions of the site (see vegetation), the amount and diversity of wildlife species are limited. However, the region supports a number of wildlife species normally associated with sage/grass steppe of the Great Basin, including but not limited to: big game, game birds and waterfowl, migratory birds and other nongame species, coyotes, badgers, burrowing rodents, reptiles and amphibians, and several regionally identified special status species.

The special status species listed by the BLM, IDFG, or USFWS are associated with habitat types found within Payette County. Special status species are those species identified by the USFWS as threatened, endangered, proposed for listing, or candidate species, as well as those species identified by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and BLM as species of concern. The BLM, IDFG, and USFWS were consulted for a list of recorded occurrences and/or potential for occurrence of special status species based on existing habitat type (Appendix C).

Review of the information from these agencies resulted in four federally listed wildlife species and 12 species of concern that have been identified as potentially occurring in or near the project area (Tables 4 and 5, Appendix C).

Table 4. Federally Listed Species Identified in Payette County, Idaho.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	USFWS Status
Birds	Greater sage grouse	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	Candidate
Mammals	Southern ID ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus brunneus endemicus</i>	Candidate
Fish	Bull Trout	<i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>	Threatened
Mollusks	Snake River physa	<i>Haitia (physa) natricina</i>	Endangered

Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Species Report html: www.fws.gov/idaho/species/IdahoSpeciesList.pdf

Table 5. Identified BLM, Four Rivers Field Office Sensitive Species

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	BLM Type
Birds	Greater sage grouse	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	2
	Prairie falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	3
	Ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	3
	Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	3
	Brewer's sparrow	<i>Spizella breweri</i>	3
	Sage sparrow	<i>Amphispiza belli</i>	3
Mammals	Pygmy rabbit	<i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i>	2
	Fringed myotis	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	3
	Spotted bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	3
	Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	3

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	BLM Type
Reptiles	Mojave black-collared lizard	<i>Crotaphytus bicinctores</i>)	3
	Longnosed snake	<i>Rhinocheilus lecontei</i>	3
	Western ground snake	<i>Sonora semiannulata</i>	3
<p>BLM, Type 1: Federally listed, proposed and candidate species (see federally listed species above). BLM, Type 2: Range wide/Globally imperiled: species that are experiencing significant declines throughout their range with a high likelihood of being listed in the foreseeable future due to their rarity and/or significant endangerment factors. BLM, Type 3: Regional/ State imperiled: species that are experiencing significant declines in population or habitat and are in danger of regional or local extinctions in Idaho in the foreseeable future if factors contributing to their decline continues.</p>			

Short and long-term direct and indirect impacts (local and landscape) would continue to be negligible. Historic use of the area by humans has resulted in species displacement and habitat fragmentation/loss. However, the area has already been affected and there would be no foreseeable changes in habitat or associated uses by wildlife species.

There would be no direct or indirect impact to the identified special status species (Appendix C).

Socio-Economic

Significance Criteria: Any action that would substantially alter the economics of a group, community or region would be considered significant.

The proposed project covers an area of low population density in rural Payette County, Idaho. According to the U.S. Census Bureau (2013) the total population of Payette County was estimated to be 22,639 in 2012, and the vast majority of the population lives in Fruitland, Payette, and New Plymouth. The median household income from 2007-2011 was \$44,943, with a per capita income of \$14,900.

Socio-economic impacts would be negligible because the alternatives would not substantially affect a group, community or region.

Air Quality

Significance Criteria: An action that would result in a pro-longed increase in dust within the local air-shed would be considered significant.

The proposed project would be in an area of low population density in rural Payette County, Idaho. Air quality is generally excellent year-round with minor amounts of fugitive dust from limited unpaved road traffic.

Impacts to air quality from the alternatives would be unsubstantial. Intermittent maintenance to repair the road surface creates minor fugitive dust for a short duration.

Upon review of the identified potential issues, it has been determined that there are no appreciable impacts to: water/hydrology, soils, vegetation, wildlife/special status animals, and

socio-economics and air quality. Therefore, these resources will not be carried forward for further detailed analysis.

2.0 Description of the Alternatives

2.1 Alternative Development Process

Alternative development was limited to the no action and proposed reconstruction of the existing road based on: RoW guidelines outline in the 1988 Cascade RMP; Payette County road engineering standards; the location of the private parcels relative to the BLM lands; the limited access paths available (Gulch Road); and economic feasibility. No other alternatives were available that would meet the purpose and need and still comply with these parameters.

2.2 Description of Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.2.1 Alternative A - No Action/Continue Present Management

The no action alternative would limit any construction or maintenance activities to the existing RoW. Improvements to the access road to address existing deficiencies would be limited to continuation of surface grading and/or changes in the road surface materials, not include paving. Construction alterations to meet Payette road standards and address the identified road deficiencies would not be done.

The current access road is 954 linear feet (ft.), of which 400 feet fall within BLM ownership and 554 feet are within private ownership (Table 1). The current RoW allows for a 400 feet long, 40 foot wide (up to 20 feet to either side of the road center) access road containing 0.36 acres of BLM lands, more or less.

2.2.2 Alternative B - Proposed Action

The proposed construction plan (Appendix B) would increase the total road distance to 1,238 feet, of which 970 feet would be on BLM lands (Table 1). In addition, the width of the RoW would need to be increased from 40 feet to 100 feet to allow for equipment and temporary construction impacts associated with the road realignment and slope alternation. Therefore, the proposed action would require an amendment to the RoW allowing for a permanent increase in length from 400 feet to 970 feet, and a temporary (5 years) increase in width from 40 feet to 100 feet. The increased distance and width is attributed to slope reduction and increased turning radius to meet minimal road engineering standards and erosion control designs.

The proposed construction plan is based on Payette County road design standards and incorporates Idaho rural road construction and maintenance standards identified in the ITD's BMP Handbook (Smith 2005). This includes construction related SOPs and BMPs to increase road surface stability, reduce surface erosion, and create adequate turn outs for EMS vehicles (Appendix B). Specific examples include: reduced slope grades, maintained culverts with rocked outlets, straw waddles, soil tackifiers, and aggregate road surface material.

In addition, all disturbed areas associated with cut and fill slopes would be seeded with a site specific seed mix (Table 2) to reestablish native vegetation, reduce slope erosion potential, and limit visual impacts. This list emphasizes native species but incorporates desirable non-native

species for increased erosion control. The total area affected would be approximately 68,500 sf. or 1.56 acres.

Table 1. Project Summary

Land Owner	No Action Alternative		Proposed Alternative		Construction Area*	
	Linear Feet	Percent	Linear Feet	Percent	Acres	Percent
BLM	400	41%	970	79%	2.3 acres	89%
Private	554	59%	268	21%	0.6 acres	11%
Total	954	100%	1238	100%	2.9 Acres	100%

* There would be no construction impacts to the no-action alternative.

Table 2. Proposed Seed Mix

Common Name	Percent of Mix	Seeding Rate (PLS/acre)
Wyoming big sage	18.75%	0.50
Rabbitbrush	6.25%	0.20
	25.00%	
globemallow	2.00%	0.10
yarrow	2.00%	0.10
lewis fax	2.00%	0.05
alfalfa	4.00%	0.30
	10.00%	
sandberg's bluegrass	22.75%	2.00
sheep fescue	22.75%	2.50
bottlebrush squirreltail	13.00%	1.10
great basin wildrye	6.50%	0.75
	65.00%	
		6.3375

3.0 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

The affected environmental resources related to the proposed action along with potential risk of environmental consequences were discussed in section 1.7 of this environmental analysis. Because no resources were anticipated to have appreciable environmental consequences, no further analysis was carried forward to this section for further detailed analysis.

3.1 Cumulative Impacts

Based on the isolated location and short duration of potential resource impacts from the proposed action the interdisciplinary team determined that a 1 mile buffer would be adequate to address cumulative impacts. Within the identified buffer area the current road that was developed almost 10 years ago will be slightly re-aligned. The portion of existing road that is no

longer utilized will be completely reclaimed and therefore would eliminate any cumulative impact from past actions. Currently, there exists only one other road across public lands in the vicinity which is Gulch Road. This road has existed for over 50 years and is anticipated to remain for the indefinite future. No foreseeable future actions are anticipated within the region on BLM lands. Since no appreciable effects would result from the proposed action alternatives there can be no cumulative effects to past, present or foreseeable actions.

4.0 Consultation and Coordination

The land use and management plans identified in section 1.5, as well as management representatives from the BLM were used as the primary source for consultation and coordination in producing this document. Based on the location, type, and extent of the proposed project, informal consultation was conducted with FWS using their 90 list for special status species occurring by county. A statement of effect was included in the specialist report. This document represents an effort to join federal, state, and private cooperators who have the technical expertise and capability to develop and implement a plan that meets the purpose and need of the project.

This EA was prepared by a third-party contractor (ECS Inc., Boise, Idaho), with BLM (Boise District, Four Rivers Field Office, Boise, Idaho) as the lead agency providing associated data, guidance, input, participation, and independent review and evaluation. The BLM, in accordance with CFR Title 40, subpart 1506.5(a) and (b), is in agreement with this analysis and has adopted it; thereby taking responsibility for the scope and content of this analysis.

4.1 List of Preparers

ECS Resource Team	
Staff	Responsibility
Charlie Baun	Project Manager, Visual Resources, Socio-Economic, Water/Hydrology, Soils, and Vegetation
Jake Fruhlinger	Cultural Resources
Kevin Warner	Wildlife and Vegetation
Brandt Elwell (TRS Range Services)	GIS Analyst and Soils
Elwin Butler P.E. (Holladay Eng.)	Professional Engineer

BLM Resource Team	
Staff	Responsibility
Terry Humphrey	Four Rivers Field Manager
Jeremy Bluma	Realty Specialist
Seth Flanigan	NEPA Specialist
Dean Shaw	Archaeologist
Joseph Weldon	Wildlife Biologist

Mark Steiger	Botanist
Daylon Dubkowski	Supervising Civil Engineer

4.2 List of Agencies, Organizations, and Individuals Consulted

- Bureau of Land Management
- State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

5.0 Literature Cited

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6.0 Appendices

Appendix A- Existing BLM Right of Way and Payette County Access Agreement

Appendix B- Site Engineering Plan and Letter

Appendix C- Specialist Report (Biological)

Appendix A
Existing BLM Right of Way and
Payette County Access Agreement

Appendix B

Site Engineering Plan and Letter

Appendix C

Specialist Report (Biological)

7.0 Maps

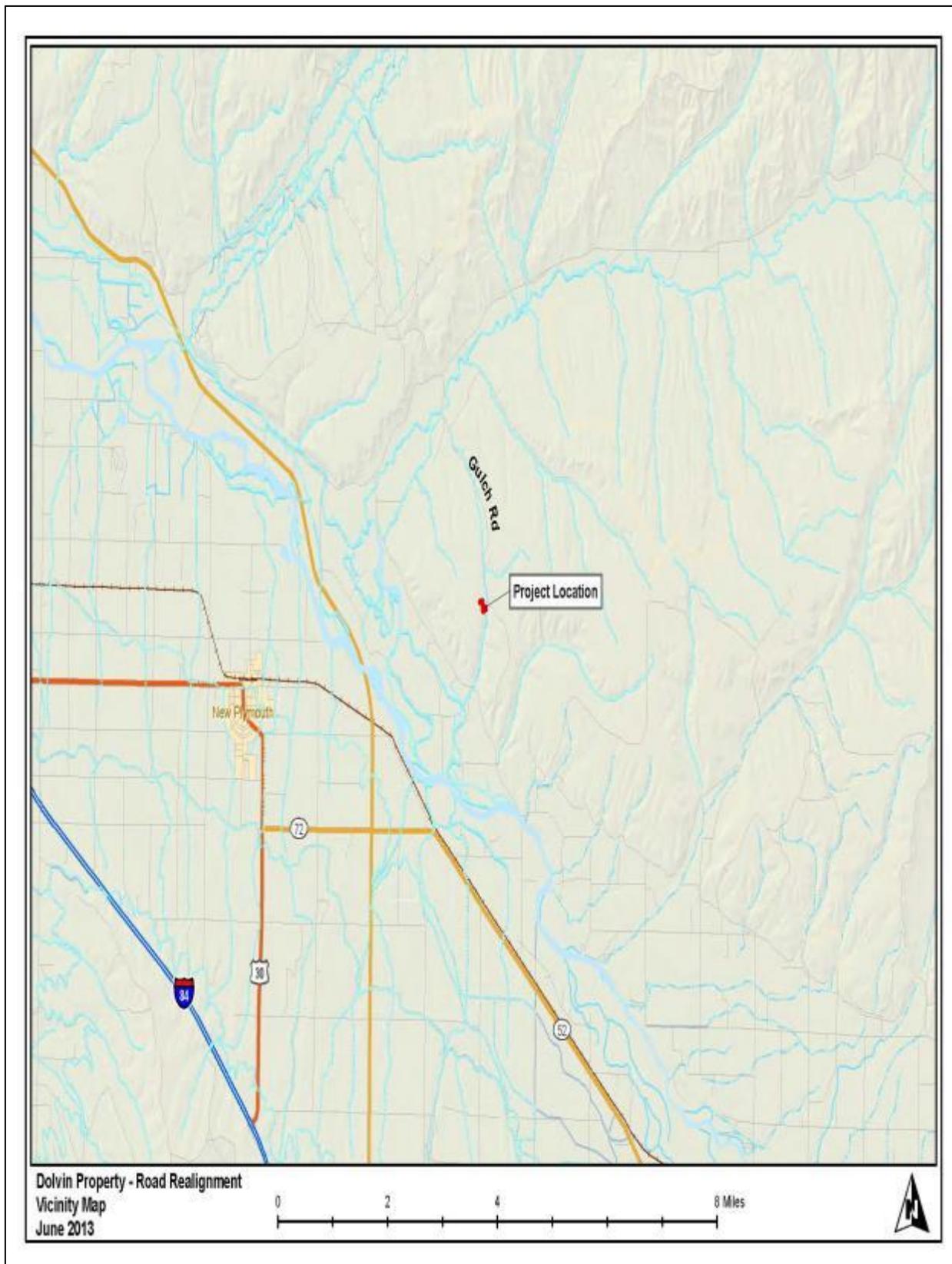
Map 1- Project Vicinity Map

Map 2- Project Area Map (Ownership)

Map 3- Hydrology Map

Map 4- Soils Map

Map 5- Special Status Species Map (IDFG-CDC)



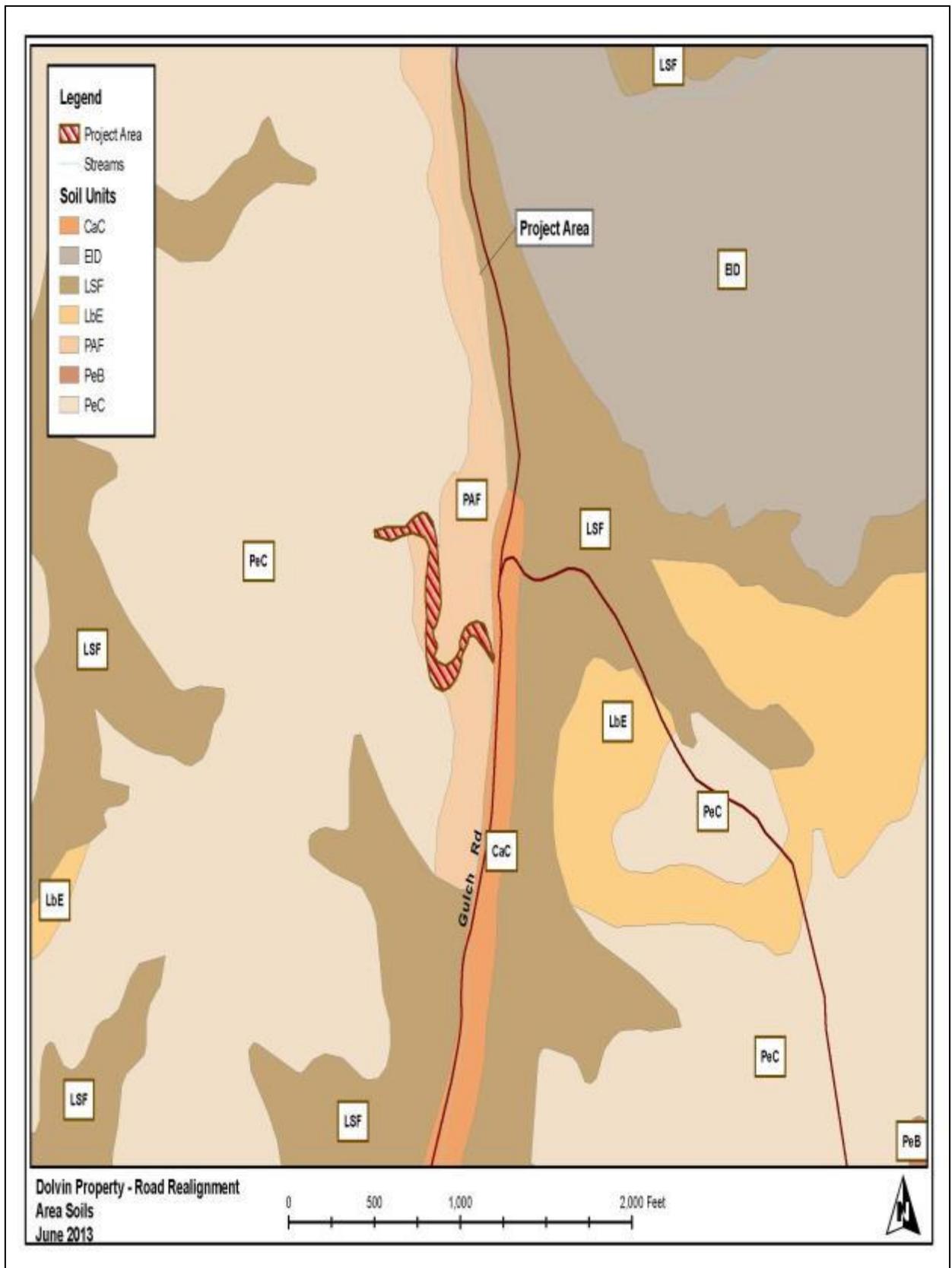
Map 1 - Project Vicinity Map



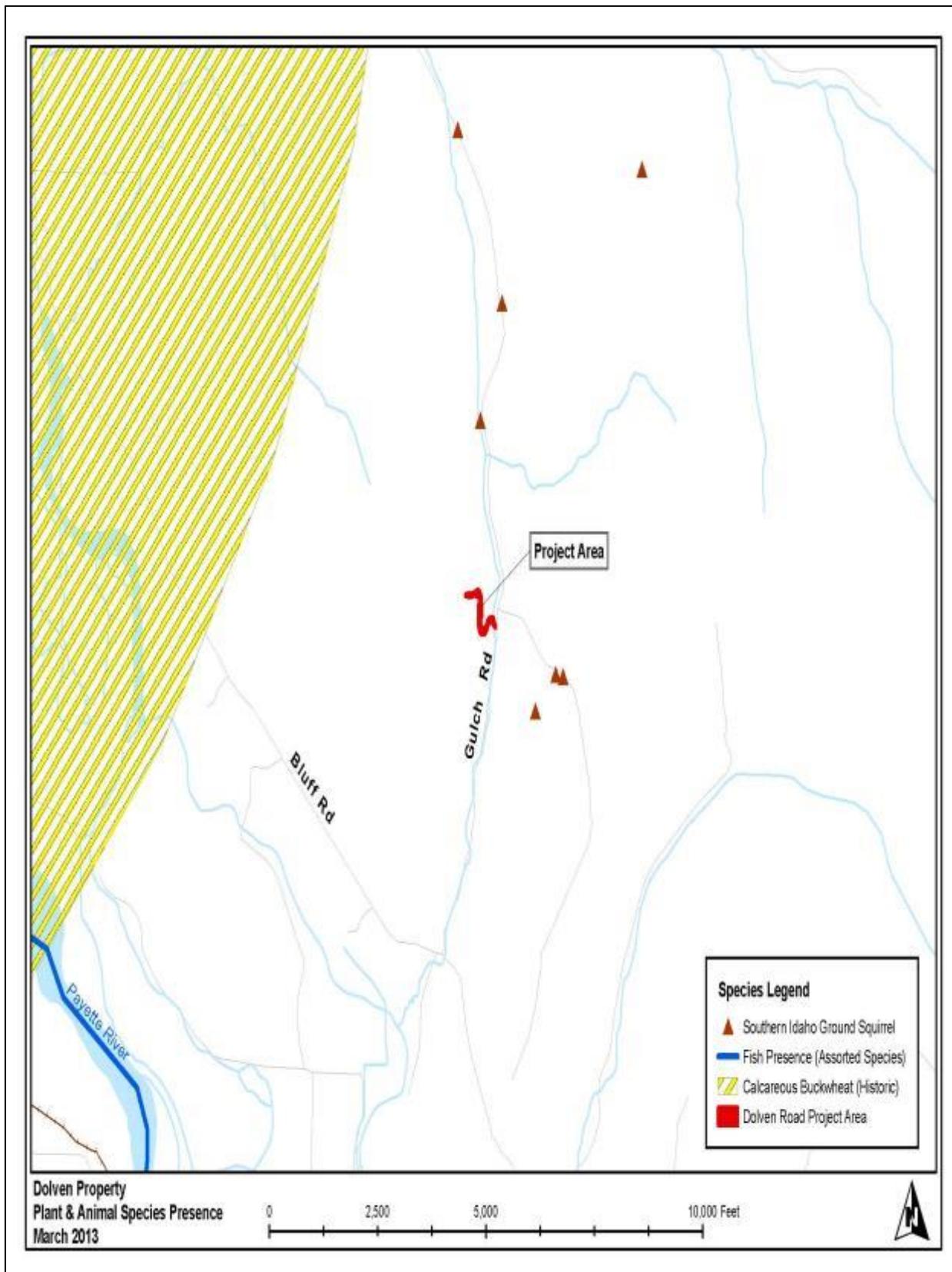
Map 2 - Project Area Map (Ownership)



Map 3 - Hydrology Map



Map 4 - Soils



Map 5 - Special Status Species (IDFG-CDC)