

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
STATE OF IDAHO  
TWIN FALLS DISTRICT  
SHOSHONE FIELD OFFICE  
400 West F Street  
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INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS RECORD CHECKLIST

NEPA #: DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2012-0033-CX

**Project Name:** Colorado Gulch Area Abandoned Mine Closures

**Applicant:** N/A

**Project/Case File Number (if appropriate):**

**Lead Specialist:** Tom Askew – Physical Scientist

**Legal Descriptions:**

**Site Name:** Liberty Gem Mine

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Mahoney Butte

**UTM Coord:** 4814692 North 707241 East; Zone 11

T2N R17E Section 33 SW/SW

Boise Meridian

Blaine County, Idaho

**Site Name:** Mineral Hill District #63

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Hailey

**UTM Coord:** 4817993 North 716588 East; Zone 11

T2N R18E Section 28 NE/NW

Boise Meridian

Blaine County, Idaho

**Site Name:** Mineral Hill District #64

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Hailey

**UTM Coord:** 4818122 North 716733 East; Zone 11

T2N R18E Section 21 SW/SW

Boise Meridian

Blaine County, Idaho

**Site Name:** Mineral Hill District #60

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Hailey

**UTM Coord:** 4818431 North 715973 East; Zone 11

T2N R18E Section 20 SE/SE

Boise Meridian

Blaine County, Idaho

**Site Name:** Snoose Mine (Upper) A1 and A2 portals

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Hailey

**UTM Coord:** 4818482 North 716621 East; Zone 11  
T2N R18E Section 21 NW/NW  
Boise Meridian  
Blaine County, Idaho

**Site Name:** Mineral Hill District #57

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Hailey

**UTM Coord:** 4817968 North 715636 East; Zone 11  
T2N R18E Section 29 NW/NE  
Boise Meridian  
Blaine County, Idaho

**Site Name:** Misty Peak Mine (formerly the Edres Mine)

**USGS Quad 7.5 Minute Map:** Bellevue

**UTM Coord:** 4813788 North 715997 East; Zone 11  
T1N R18E Section 4 NE/NW  
Boise Meridian  
Blaine County, Idaho

**Total Area of Impact:** Cumulative Total >0.75 acres **County:** Blaine

**Description of Proposed Action:** Closure of an open abandoned mine decline with an engineered plugging material and on site rock dump materials.

**USGS 7 ½ minute Quad Name(s):** Hailey, Bellevue, and Mahoney

**Grazing Allotment:** Croy Creek, West Bellevue, and Upper Rock Creek

**Date when project area will be flagged or delineated:** May 2013

**Construction Date:** July 2013

**Requested by:** Tom Askew

**Date Requested:** April 29, 2013

**DETERMINATION:** (Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected or effects cannot be meaningfully analyzed

PI = present with potential for impact analyzed in detail in the NEPA document, or identified in a DNA as requiring further analysis

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents

NA = Not Applicable

Determination	Element	Rationale for Determination	Initials	Date	Estimated Time
NI	Air Quality (Clean Air Act)	The proposed projects would have no or minimal impact concerning air quality.	TEA	4-29-13	0

Determination	Element	Rationale for Determination	Initials	Date	Estimated Time
NI	Cultural Resources (National Historic Preservation Act) (Cresswell)	Cultural resource assessment has been done for the historic structures on site and the project has been designed to preserve and stabilize those structures. There will be no adverse effect to cultural resources.	LTC	5/31/13	40
NP	Fish Habitat (Wright)	The project site contains no suitable aquatic habitat for native or introduced fishes.	GW	7/17/13	0
PI	Migratory Birds (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, E.O. 13186) (Wright)	Habitat on the proposed project area and adjacent lands likely provides habitat for five bird species of conservation concern that are not listed as BLM Sensitive species. The five migratory landbird species are: golden eagle; mountain bluebird; western tanager; lesser goldfinch; sage thrasher.	GW	7/17/13	4
NP	Native American Religious Concerns (American Indian Religious Freedom Act) (Cresswell)	The proposed project would not limit Tribal access in any way to public lands. There should be no effect to sacred sites or religious concerns.	LTC	5/31/13	0
NP	Threatened or Endangered Plant Species (Endangered Species Act) (Nance)	The project site contains no threatened or endangered plant species.	JD	11/18/13	0
PI	Threatened or Endangered Animal Species (Endangered Species Act) (Wright)	The listed, proposed or candidate species that may occur in the proposed project area is the wolverine and greater sage-grouse. The wolverine is currently proposed to be listed as Threatened animal species and the greater sage-grouse is a Candidate species. The wolverine is a habitat generalist that may occur on occasion in the project area. The proposed project occurs in sage-grouse preliminary priority habitat.	GW	7/17/13	8
NP	Threatened or Endangered Aquatic Species (Endangered Species Act) (Wright)	The project site contains no suitable aquatic habitat for currently listed Threatened, Endangered or Candidate aquatic animal species.	GW	7/17/13	0
NI	Wastes (hazardous or solid) (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act) (Askew)	Waste Rock dumps located on site determined not to be hazardous waste, but would be considered solid waste under the Bevill Amendment to 40 CFR 261.4(b)(7) .	TEA	4/29/13	0
NI	Water Quality (drinking/ground) (Safe Drinking Water Act, Clean Water Act) (Askew)	There are no conditions at this site that would affect either groundwater or municipal/domestic drinking water systems. The majority of these sites are located on an ephemeral to intermittent stream tributary of Colorado Gulch which flows into the Big Wood River of which both are 303d listed for sediment impairment and has a developed TMDL (Big Wood River Basin). There are no concerns for this project to impact surface waters due to the minimal disturbance from the plugging activities.  The Liberty Gem Mine site is an ephemeral tributary to Croy Creek which flows into the Big Wood River of which both are 303d listed for sediment impairment and has a developed TMDL (Big Wood River Basin). There are no concerns for this project to impact surface waters due to the minimal disturbance from the plugging activities.  The Misty Peak Mine (formerly Edres Mine) site is an ephemeral tributary to Diebenow Gulch which flows into the Big Wood River of which is 303d listed for sediment impairment and has a developed TMDL (Big Wood River Basin). There are no concerns for this project to impact surface waters due to the minimal disturbance from the plugging activities.	TEA	4/29/13	0
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) (Freiberg)	No Wild and Scenic in or near the project areas.	DF	11/07/13	0
NP	Wilderness (Wilderness Act, Federal Land Policy and Management Act) (Freiberg)	No Wilderness in or near the project areas.	DF	11/07/13	0
NI	Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898) (Askew)	This proposal would not disproportionately affect low income or minority populations because those portions of populations will still have access to all public lands.	TEA	11/12/13	0

Determination	Element	Rationale for Determination	Initials	Date	Estimated Time
NP	Farmlands, Prime and Unique (ESM 94-7) (Askew)	No Farmlands, Prime and Unique will be impacted by the projects proposed.	TEA	11/12/13	0
NI	Floodplains (E.O. 11988) (Askew)	No project areas exist in any designated floodplains.	TEA	11/12/13	0
NI	Wetlands/Riparian Zones (E.O. 11990) (Askew)	No designated wetlands/ riparian areas will be impacted by the proposed projects.	TEA	11/12/13	0
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, E.O. 13112) (Nance)	Potential for invasive, non-native species but would be minimal to no effect.	JB	11/18/13	0
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) (Askew)	No designated ACECs exist in the areas of the proposed projects.	TEA	11/12/13	0
NP	Cave Resources (Freiberg)	No known cave resources located in or near the project area.	DF	11/07/13	0
	Engineering (N/A)				0
	Fuels / Fire Management (N/A)				0
PI	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production (Garth)	We are processing a Notice of Intent (IDI-37169) for diamond core drilling activity by Joan Damask in NENE Section 29, Township 2 North, Range 18 East in Colorado Gulch. There may be as many as 18 drill pad sites and associated access roads connecting with the main access road that runs thru Colorado Gulch.  We have a claimant who is conducting casual use activities without the use of power equipment on his mining claim at the Misty Peak Mine.  We have an active Notice of Intent (IDI-36602) for exploration activity at the Liberty Gem Mine in S2SESW Section 33, Township 2 North, Range 17 East by Carla J. Barnes and Guy E. Matthews.	JSG	11/15/13	1 hrs
NI	Lands / Access (Prestwich)	I have reviewed the project description and it does not include removing or limiting use of any access roads that have an approved authorization or application for an authorization. Blaine County (IDI-35903) and Idaho Department of Lands ( IDI-34492) do hold rights-of-way in the Colorado Gulch area, if the project changes and requires limiting the use of these access roads the right-of-way holder will need to be informed.	Kcp	5/30/13	0 hrs.
NI	Livestock Grazing	The proposed projects would have no or minimal impact on livestock activities.	JB	11/18/13	0
NP	Paleontology (Cresswell)	There are no known high potential, fossil bearing geologic units in the project area. There would be no effect to paleontological resources.	LTC	5/31/13	0
NI	Rangeland Health Standards & Guidelines	The proposed projects would have no or minimal impact on rangeland health standards and guidelines.	JB	11/18/13	0
NI	Recreation (Kurtz)	The project falls within an Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). ERMAs are identified areas where recreation is planned for and actively managed on an interdisciplinary-basis in concert with other resources/resource programs. ERMAs offer recreation opportunities that facilitate visitors' freedom to pursue a variety of outdoor recreation activities and attain a variety of outcomes. Based on field observations and professional knowledge hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, driving for pleasure and hunting are the primary activities that occurs or may occur within the project area. This proposal allows those recreation opportunities to continue to be available. There are also no known use/user conflicts or recreation related impacts on cultural and natural resources however there are visitor health and safety issues associated with open abandoned mines. Making them not available to the public reduces the primary safety issues.	JK	11/18/13	0
NI	Socio-economics (Askew)	The proposed projects would have no or minimal impact on activities that support socio-economic functions.	TEA	11/12/13	0

Determination	Element	Rationale for Determination	Initials	Date	Estimated Time
NI	Soils (Askew)	The projects as propose will result in minimal soil disturbance. The disturbed areas will be reseeded with an appropriate seed mix in order to stabilize and reduce any long term potential erosion impacts.	TEA	11/12/13	0
NI	Vegetation including Special Status Plant Species (Nance)	The proposed projects would have no or minimal impact on vegetation including special status plant species.	JB	11/18/13	0
NI	Visual Resources (Freiberg)	Project meets VRM objectives.	DF	11/07/13	0
NI	Water Rights (Askew)	Water rights are not applicable to the proposed projects as written.	TEA	11/12/13	
NP	Wilderness Study Areas and/or lands with wilderness characteristics (Freiberg)	Constructed and maintained road and trails throughout the project area do not meet the criteria for naturalness required to have wilderness characteristics. No WSA within or near the project area.	DF	11/07/13	0
PI	Wildlife Including Special Status Species (Wright)	Habitat on the proposed project area and adjacent lands may provide habitat for: gray wolf; Townsend's big-eared bat; fringed myotis; prairie falcon; Lewis' woodpecker; willow flycatcher; calliope hummingbird; Brewer's sparrow.	GW	7/17/13	6

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
NEPA / Environmental Coordinator	/s/ Lisa Cresswell	11/19/13	none
Authorized Officer	/s/ Elizabeth Maclean	11/20/13	none