

DECISION RECORD

AUTHORITIES:

I have reviewed Sagebrush Restoration Project (DOI-BLM-ID-B011-2014-0001-CX)

Background and Project Description:

The IDARNG intends to plant 6,000 sagebrush plants (supercells) that the IDARNG grew from locally collect seed. There will be three full plots, each plot divided into a fenced and unfenced section with 4 sub sections (supplemental irrigation and VAM, VAM alone, supplemental irrigation alone, no irrigation or VAM). See attached graphic and map. The fence will be a single strand electrical fence with solar charger. There will no animal control measures other than the fence used to protect the plants from foraging wildlife or livestock. Each site will be broadcast seeded with a mix of native grass, shrubs, and forbs prior to planting. A total of 6,000 plants, with 2,000 per plot and 1,000 plants per fenced/unfenced site will be planted in late fall. All plants will be watered and placed on roughly 36 inch centers. Supplemental irrigation will happen in early summer (June/July) depending on precipitation patterns

TERMS/CONDITIONS/STIPULATIONS:

The following protective measures would be applied during project implementation to reduce the probability of residual impacts and the need for subsequent mitigation. It is my decision to implement the project with the mitigation measures identified below.

1. If previously undiscovered surface or subsurface cultural resources are found during project implementation, implementation would be stopped and the Four Rivers Field Office Archaeologist notified.
2. Vehicular access to the proposed project area would occur on an existing road/vehicle track.
3. All vehicles, tools, and material used during project implementation would be pressure-washed prior to transport to the project site, to avoid the spread of noxious weeds.
4. All improvements required for project implementation would be limited to the least intensive method required to meet project objectives.

PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CONSISTENCY

I have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA Resource Management Plan (2008). This plan has been

reviewed, and the proposed action conforms to the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5.

I have determined that the proposed action, with the project implementation requirements described above, meets the Determination of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy Requirements, and that there would be no negative effect on threatened or endangered species as a result of the action.

Rationale for the Decision

This project meets the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA RMP decisions focusing on shrub habitat restoration and increasing the number and scope of research studies focusing on such topics efficacy of restoration treatments.

Protest and Appeal Language

The decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. Public notification of this decision will be considered to have occurred on 11/26/13. Within 30 days of this decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer: Patricia Roller, Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey Nat'l Conservation Area, Four Rivers Field Office, 3948 Development Ave., Boise, Idaho 83705.

If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

If you wish to file a petition for stay, pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(b), the petition for stay should accompany your notice of appeal and shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
3. The likelihood of irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and with the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons, and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and on the Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of

the Interior, 960 Broadway Avenue, Suite 400, Boise, Idaho 83706, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.

Authorized Official:

/s/ Patricia Roller

Patricia Roller, Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey, NCA Manager

Date: 11/20/13