

Beaverhead Endurance Run

*Special Recreation Permit # ID-I040-RE-14-01
EA # DOI-BLM-ID-I010-2014-0009-EA*

INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The BLM has received a request from Goldstone Ultra Running to organize a competitive endurance run on the Salmon Field Office BLM-managed lands along the Continental Divide Trail (CDT). A Special Recreation Permits (SRP) would need to be issued in order for a competitive event to occur. SRPs are issued as a means to manage visitor use, protect recreational and natural resource, provide recreation opportunities, and provide for the health and safety of visitors.

By issuing Goldstone Ultra Running a permit for this one day endurance run, they would be in conformance with BLM regulations regarding SPRs and would provide benefits to the participating general public seeking competition and challenge.

Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plan

This proposal is in conformance with The Lemhi Resource Management Plan (April 1987, as amended). The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Recreation Opportunities (Pg. 44.): A broad range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided for all segments of the public, depending on demand.

Relationship to Statutes, Regulations or Other Plans

The Proposed Action is in accordance with Title II of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 as amended (43 U.S.C. 1712).

The 1868 Fort Bridger Treaty, between the United States and the Shoshone and Bannock Tribes, reserves the Tribes right to hunt, fish, gather, and exercise other traditional uses and practices on unoccupied federal lands. In addition to these rights, the Shoshone Bannock have the right to graze tribal livestock and cut timber for tribal use on those lands of the original Fort Hall Reservation that were ceded to the federal government under the Agreement of February 5, 1898, ratified by the Act of June 6, 1900. Under this treaty and those agreements, the federal government has a unique trust relationship with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. BLM has a responsibility and obligation to consider and consult on potential effects to natural resources related to the Tribes treaty rights or cultural use.

Scoping, Issues, and Decision to be Made

Scoping

Project information for EA # DOI-BLM-ID-I010-2014-0009-EA was made available to the public on the BLM's ePlanning website at:

[BLM.Gov - ePlanning - NEPA register](#)

No scoping comments were received.

Issues

Issues identified and discussed in this EA include: wildlife and their habitat. Brief rationale is provided in **Table 1 Resources considered in impact analysis** for resources that are present, but not impacted.

Decision to be Made

The decision to be made is to approve or deny the SRP application.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative A (Proposed Action)

Endurance Run

This endurance run incorporates a 100K and a 50K running race along the CDT. The 100K begins at Bannock Pass and the 50K begins at Lemhi Pass. Both of the starting points have parking areas that can accommodate the vehicles. None of the parking areas are located on BLM-managed lands. Although the race would take one day to complete, the race organizers would spend three days before the race making sure the trail is marked accordingly, as well as, discuss safety logistics with Lemhi County Search and Rescue.

The race is primarily located on US Forest Service-managed portions of the CDT. Land ownership breakdown for the endurance run course is: BLM manages 10 miles, US Forest Service manages 45 miles, the State of Idaho manages two miles, and private landowners own three miles. The portion of the race on BLM-managed land is broken down as follows: 7.5 miles on the CDT, approximately 2 miles on two-track in the Bohannon Creek drainage, ½ mile of well-established livestock trail from the Bohannon Creek drainage to private property in the Geertson Creek drainage area.

Action

Issue an SRP for a one-day competitive endurance run along portions of the CDT (see attached map). At the end of the race, the course would follow a BLM-managed two-track road for two miles within the Bohannon drainage. The route then follows a well-established cattle trail on BLM-managed lands for an additional ½ mile, north of the fence line separating the privately owned Eagle Valley Ranch and BLM-managed lands. Upon course completion, the cattle trail connects with private property in the Geertson Creek drainage area. There would be one small aid station set-up along the BLM-managed portion of the CDT to attend to possible injuries and pass out water. Stipulations would address trash removal, safety/emergency protocols, advertising event so the non-participating public is aware, etc.

Alternative B (No Action)

Under this Alternative, no SRP would be issued for this proposed endurance run on the CDT.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT and ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This chapter describes the present conditions within the proposed project area that would be affected by the alternatives. The information in this section serves as a general baseline for determining the impacts of the alternatives. Enough detail has been given to determine if implementation of any of the alternatives would cause impacts to the environment.

Table 1 Resources considered in impact analysis

Resource	Resource Status	Rationale
Mineral Resources	Present, Not Affected	There are no known mineral resources within the project area that would be impacted.
Soil Resources	Present, Not Affected	The soils within the footprint of the proposed action are already part of an established trail system and are generally rated by the Natural Resource and Conservation Service as good to excellent for vehicle traffic (type 1, 1 pass, dry season). An excellent to good rating indicates that the soil will not limit travel and that little or no trail maintenance will be needed. It is assumed that foot-traffic from the endurance run will have similar impacts to that of a single vehicle crossing during the dry season. Based upon this information it was determined that there will be no impact to the soil resource.
Paleontological Resources	Not Present	Paleontological resources are not located within the Proposed Action area.
Floodplains	Not Present	The proposed project is outside of the floodplain areas.
Vegetation	Present, Not Affected	On BLM-managed lands, most (9.5 miles or 95%) of the race route would be on an existing two-track road (7.5 miles of the CDT and 2 miles along the Bohannon Creek drainage). Vegetation along this portion of the route (within the two-track footprint) is sparse to non-existent. Little to no vegetation occurs in the actual road track. A small portion (½ mile or 5%) of the race route occurs along a well-established cattle trail. There is little-to-no vegetation in the trail itself. Impacts from the proposed action along this trail would be difficult to discern.

Resource	Resource Status	Rationale
		One aid station, the 20-mile aid station, would be located on BLM and would be located on the two-track road; less than 1/10 acre would be impacted by trampling associated with the running of the station. Trampling impacts would be difficult to discern because the aid station would be located in the middle of the road. Permanent destruction of vegetation would not occur and any impacts to vegetation would be difficult to discern.
Forest Resources	Present, Not Affected	There are no Forest Resources within the project area that would be impacted due to course location.
Wetland and Riparian Zones	Not Present	There are no wetland/riparian zones within the course location.
Invasive, Non-Native Species	Present, Not Affected	Endurance run participants would run on established routes and cattle trails and would not spread noxious weeds.
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plants	Present, Not Affected	No BLM sensitive plant populations have been documented along the SRP route, although Lemhi Penstemon (<i>Penstemon lemhiensis</i>) has been documented north of the race finish area. Because runners will be limited to existing two-track roads and trails, potential impacts to unknown sensitive plant populations would be unlikely. No federally listed plant species occur on lands managed by the BLM Salmon Field Office.
Air Quality	Present, Not Affected	The implementation of the alternatives would not result in the production of emission or particulate matter above incidental levels.
Water Quality	Not Present	The proposed project would not be located near water bodies; nor would it contribute water to the groundwater aquifer.
Fisheries	Not Present	The proposed action would not be located within a stream corridor.
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Fishes	Not Present	There are no known Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Fish within the project area.

Resource	Resource Status	Rationale
Wildlife Resources	Present, Affected	Impacts are described below under Wildlife Resources including Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Animals and Migratory Birds.
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Animals	Present, Affected	Impacts are described below under Wildlife Resources including Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Animals and Migratory Birds
Migratory Birds	Present, Affected	Impacts are described below under Wildlife Resources including Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Animals and Migratory Birds
Range Resources	Present, Not Affected	Activities and improvements associated with permitted livestock grazing would not be affected.
Economic and Social Values	Present, Not Affected	The alternatives would not affect the area's economic and social values.
Existing and Potential Land Uses	Not Present	The alternatives would not affect the areas existing or potential land uses.
Access	Present, Not Affected	Access is through existing designated routes and points. Neither alternative would result in changes in access to the area.
Prime and Unique Farmlands	Not Present	There are no prime or unique farmlands located within the project area.
Wastes, Hazardous and Solid	Not Present	There are no known Hazardous and/or Solid wastes associated with the proposed action.
Environmental Justice	Present, Not Affected	The alternatives would not affect minority or low income populations residing near the proposed project area.
Cultural Resource	Present, Not Affected	No historic properties are affected.
Tribal Treaty Rights and Interests	Present, Not Affected	The alternatives would have no effect on the tribes' access to use the areas to exercise their treaty rights and would have no known effect on resources they use for traditional purposes.
Native American Religious Concerns	Not Present	The BLM is not aware of specific ceremonial sites or resources associated with ceremonial practices in the proposed project area.
Recreational Use	Present, Not Affected	The proposed endurance run would not impact recreation trail users due to the

Resource	Resource Status	Rationale
		short duration of the event and the fact that the runners would be moving through fast, and would be out of the way of potential hikers in a short time period.
Visual Resources	Present, Not Affected	The proposed project would not incorporate construction measures; therefore, visual resources would not be impacted.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	Not Present	The proposed action is not within an ACEC boundary.
Wilderness/WSA/LWC	Not Present	The proposed action is not within a wilderness/WSA/LWC area.
Wild and Scenic Rivers	Not Present	The proposed action is not within a Wild and Scenic River corridor.
Wild Horse and Burro HMAs	Not Present	There are no wild horse and burro HMAs in the area of the proposed action.

Wildlife Habitat

The wildlife habitats within the area include Forest and Woodland, Semi-Desert Shrubland and Grassland, Mesic Shrubland and Grassland, High Montane Vegetation, and Sparse Vegetation and Natural Barren Areas.

Wildlife Species

There is one threatened mammal species listed under the ESA in the area, the Canada lynx. In addition the wolverine has been proposed for listing by the USFWS Endangered Species Program (USDC NMFS, 2000). BLM, USFWS, and IDFG maintain an active interest in other special status species that have no legal protection under the ESA.

BLM special status species are: (1) species listed or proposed for listing under the ESA, and (2) species requiring special management consideration to promote their conservation and reduce the likelihood and need for future listing under the ESA (USDI BLM, 2008). These species are designated as sensitive by the BLM State Director(s). Special status wildlife species discussed in this document include those listed on the Idaho BLM State Sensitive Species List (USDI BLM, 2003) and those afforded protection under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (U.S., 1940) with potential to occur within the area.

Two birds are listed as candidates under the ESA, and four mammals, 13 birds, one reptile, and one amphibian with special status potentially could occur within the area. With the exception of a few well-studied species, current occurrence and population data for most special status animal species within the area are limited due to a deficiency of surveys and directed research. Therefore, only a few focal special status animal species would be discussed in detail individually. The USFWS has proposed wolverine and yellow-billed cuckoo for listing under the

ESA and determined that greater sage-grouse warrant listing (i.e., candidate species) but has been precluded due to higher priorities. These species would be discussed in greater detail because they occur or possibly could occur within the county, and they have been the subject of targeted surveys and periodic species-specific monitoring studies. Other special status animal species, migratory birds, raptors, and species of socio-economic importance (e.g., big game) would be included in a general discussion by taxonomic groupings.

Focal Special Status Animal Species

Canada lynx

In Idaho, the Canada lynx inhabits montane and subalpine coniferous forests typically above 4000 ft. Habitat used during foraging is usually early successional forest. Dens are usually in mature forests. Individuals are wide-ranging and require large tracts of forest. The Canada lynx preys on the snowshoe hare, particularly during the winter, as well as a variety of birds and other small mammals (IDFG, 2005). The surrounding SCNF no longer has the Canada lynx included on the list of protected species expected to occur on the forest and no longer consults on Canada lynx for their projects. There are historic records of Canada lynx in the Field Office area, including records near the project area. A portion of the project area is within the North Beaverhead Canada Lynx Analysis Unit (LAU), and the entire Continental Divide is considered a linkage area for Canada lynx and other forest carnivore species. While the trail crosses an LAU, there is no mapped habitat on BLM lands along the route. Based on the Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy (Ruediger, 2000), public lands managed by the BLM within the area do not provide primary lynx habitat since the forest vegetation is considered a “dry site,” which lacks adequate components for species reproduction and foraging. Timbered BLM managed lands, as well as riparian corridors would provide a connectivity corridor for wildlife, as they move through the area.

Wolverine

In February of 2013, the USFWS proposed the wolverine for threatened status under the ESA (USDI FWS, 2013). In that proposal they described the primary threat to the wolverine as the loss of habitat and shrinking range due to climate warming. Secondary threats, including harvest and loss of genetic diversity due to small effective population sizes could become significant as habitat is lost due to the primary threat. The USFWS found no evidence to suggest that current levels of transportation infrastructure development or residential development are a threat or would become one in the future. Land management activities, principally timber harvest, wildland firefighting, prescribed fire, and silviculture can modify wolverine habitat, but this generalist species appears to be little affected by changes to the vegetative characteristics of its habitat.

The wolverine requires extensive tracts of land to accommodate large home ranges and extensive movements. The primary habitat during winter is mid-elevation conifer forest, and summer habitat is subalpine areas associated with high-elevation cirques. Summer use of high elevation habitats is related to the availability of prey and den sites and human avoidance. Lower elevation forests likely contain the greatest amount of ungulate carrion in winter. Den sites are often in large boulder or talus fields in subalpine cirques (IDFG, 2005). The BLM SFO has limited records of wolverine in the project area. The landscape that the trail crosses is wolverine habitat.

Greater sage-grouse

The greater sage-grouse is a sagebrush obligate species that requires large areas of relatively undisturbed sagebrush steppe habitat. Sage-grouse were once abundant and concomitant with sagebrush steppe ecosystems across western North America (Schroeder, Young, & Braun, 1999). Currently, their distribution has been reduced to nearly half of what it was historically (Schroeder, et al., 2004). Despite long-term population declines, sage-grouse persist across more than 250,000 miles² of the sagebrush ecosystem (Schroeder, et al., 2004). Within this requisite sagebrush landscape, important seasonal habitats (e.g., wet meadows, higher elevation mesic shrublands) are also necessary (Connelly, Schroeder, Sands, & Braun, 2000).

Because sage-grouse are still broadly distributed, dependent on a diversity of heterogeneous seasonal habitats, and some populations are wide-ranging, they are expected to be vulnerable to changes to the sagebrush ecosystem. In addition, the maintenance of viable sage-grouse populations is of special concern to state and federal resource managers across the species' present range, and their persistence is important in the socio-political, economic, and environmental realms (Sands & Smurthwaite, 1992). On March 5, 2010 the USFWS submitted a new finding to the Federal Register which found that listing the greater sage-grouse was warranted but precluded by the need to take action on other species facing more immediate and severe extinction threats.

The project area is located in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Management Agencies (WAFWA) Snake River Plain Management Zone (MZ), a large population that includes portions of Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Utah (Stiver, et al., 2006). The Snake-Salmon-Beaverhead population within the Snake River Plain MZ (Garton, Connelly, Horne, Hagen, Moser, & Schroeder, 2011) includes a large portion of east-central Idaho. Of the five subpopulations identified by Connelly et al. (2004) within the population, the Lemhi-Birch Idaho subpopulation overlaps the project area.

Generally, habitat conditions have deteriorated or been altered to some degree throughout the entire distribution of sage-grouse. This has caused local extirpations or declines in sage-grouse populations throughout their historical range. Connelly et al., (2004) conducted a population analysis by state and not by management zone, population, or subpopulation. Annual rates of change for sage-grouse in Idaho suggest a long-term decline. More recently, Garton et al. (2011) conducted a population analysis of the Northern Great Basin population based on data from 1965 to 2007. During the assessment period, the proportion of active leks decreased and average number of males per active lek declined by 17 percent (Garton, Connelly, Horne, Hagen, Moser, & Schroeder, 2011). Although the Garton et al. (2011) analysis is more detailed than the Connelly et al. (2004) analysis, both indicated similar trends for sage-grouse populations in the Snake River Plain MZ.

Typically, sage-grouse in the area congregate on communal strutting grounds (i.e., leks) from late March to early May. The nesting season occurs soon after, extending from May to early June. Broods remain with females for several more months as they move from early brood-rearing areas (e.g., forb- and insect-rich upland areas surrounding nest sites) to late brood-rearing and summer habitats (e.g., wet meadows and riparian areas) from June to August. Based on locations acquired through lek surveys, telemetry studies, and incidental observations, sage-grouse late brood-rearing habitat occurs on BLM in the project area. The nearest sage-grouse lek

is over three miles to the southwest of the end of the race. The lek is small with less than ten males counted on it in the last few breeding seasons.

Recently, Idaho BLM initiated a modeling effort to identify preliminary priority sage-grouse habitat (PPH) within the Snake River Plain MZ (Makela & Major, 2012). Priority habitat includes breeding, late brood-rearing, and winter concentration areas. Because priority habitat areas have the highest conservation value for maintaining the species and its habitat, it is BLM policy (as per WO IM 2010-071) to identify these areas in collaboration with respective state wildlife agencies. Preliminary results indicate that approximately the last mile of the race on BLM would be within PPH and Priority General Habitat (PGH). This area is also currently identified by Idaho as “key” greater sage-grouse habitat. Key habitat consists of generally intact sagebrush that provides sage-grouse habitat during some portion of the year by the (Idaho Sage-grouse Advisory Committee, 2006).

Yellow-billed cuckoo

Suitable habitat for the yellow-billed cuckoo is considered to be a large block (minimum of 25 acres to upwards of 99 acres) of cottonwood canopy and a thick willow understory (Federal Register, 2001). This type of habitat is rare within the BLM SFO area and not found in the project area.

Migratory Birds, Raptors, and other Birds (including Special Status Species)

A variety of special status bird species occur or are likely to occur within the area. Further consideration is given to avian species afforded special management emphasis under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). As of 2010, under a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the USFWS, the BLM has a responsibility to “as practical, protect, restore, and conserve habitat of migratory birds, addressing the responsibilities in Executive Order 13186”. The area may provide foraging and nesting habitat for up to 185 species of migratory birds.

The North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) is a comprehensive instrument by which government agencies, such as the BLM, and private partners can promote and achieve integrated continental bird conservation as specified by Executive Order 13186 and the BLM-USFWS MOU. One product of the NABCI is the designation of Bird Conservation Regions (BCR) across North America. BCRs are ecologically distinct regions with similar avian communities, habitats, and management concerns developed as the primary unit within which issues are resolved, sustainable habitats are designed, and priority projects are initiated. Within BCRs, regional partnerships, or joint ventures, identify Bird Habitat Conservation Areas in which to deliver and implement state or local bird conservation plans.

On a regional scale, the area includes acreage within both the Great Basin and Northern Rockies BCR. Within the two BCRs, partner agencies and organizations have compiled a list of continentally important bird species, based on a variety of bird initiatives and plans.

Big Game and Other Mammals (including Special Status Species)

Several special status mammal species have been documented, or have the potential to occur within the area. The area has long supported populations of a wide variety of big game species. Rocky Mountain elk (*Cervus canadensis*), and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) use portions of the area yearlong. However, some areas are used specifically as seasonal ranges (i.e., spring,

summer, fall, and winter). Elk and mule deer winter on the BLM-managed lands in the area and then move to higher elevations during the summer months.

Large predators that occur within the area include bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), gray wolf (*Canis lobo*), and mountain lion (*Puma concolor*). These predators are quite secretive and elusive. Because of their secretive nature, predator densities are difficult to determine. However, predators are closely tied to their prey, and if prey numbers are low, predator numbers would reflect that. The gray wolf occurs in parts of Idaho characterized by a mosaic of dry and mesic conifer and subalpine forest, as well as grassland and shrubland habitats. Large areas are required by individual wolves. Den sites are often in wooded, protected sites near water (IDFG, 2005). Wolves can be found in the area. The wolves in the area continue to grow in population. The BLM has no record of rendezvous or den sites on public lands managed by the BLM in the area.

Amphibians and Reptiles including Special Status Species

Several special status amphibians and reptiles, including the western toad and common garter snake, have been documented or have the potential to occur within the area. Both species prefer habitats in proximity to water, including springs, streams, wetlands, and meadows.

Alternative 1-Proposed Action Direct/Indirect Impacts

Since little-to-no vegetation would be impacted by the runners, habitat used by wildlife species in the area would not change if the Proposed Action occurs. As the participants move along the trail wildlife species adjacent to the trail may be displaced. This displacement would be short in duration and distance given the amount of available habitat in the area. Impacts to wildlife species, including migratory birds and Threatened and Sensitive Species, would be negligible at the individual level and unmeasurable at the population level. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has been consulted with and they agree that habitat for greater sage-grouse would be maintained with this proposal.

Alternative 2 –No Action Direct/Indirect Impacts

There would be no displacement of wildlife by participants of the event.

Cumulative Impacts

Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions

This cumulative effects analysis discloses the incremental impact that the alternatives are anticipated to have when considered in the context other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future BLM actions, other Federal actions, and non-Federal (including private) actions within the Cumulative Impacts Assessment Area (CIAA). The CIAA is a half mile buffer of the endurance race trail. Most of the acres are managed by BLM and USFS, but there are also State and privately managed lands. Past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions that have impacted the Endurance Run CIAA to varying degrees include livestock grazing, private land agriculture/ranching, weed treatments, road, dispersed and developed recreation (

Table 2).

Table 2 Past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions in the CIAA

Type of Activity	Past and Present	Reasonably Foreseeable
Livestock Grazing	Within the CIAA, livestock grazing occurs on federal (BLM and Forest Service), state and private lands.	Grazing activity is expected to remain at current levels in the foreseeable future.
Private Land Agriculture/Ranching	Private lands in the CIAA are irrigated for hay and are grazed by livestock.	Private land agricultural practices are expected to continue as they have been.
Weed Treatments	The weed species in the CIAA have been vigorously treated by LCWMA and BLM staff.	The weed treatment efforts will continue at a similar level for the foreseeable future.
Road Network	Roads on BLM managed lands in the CIAA are managed based on the 2001 Lemhi Resource Management Plan Amendment and 2010 North Half Travel Management Plan, on USFS lands roads are managed based on their current travel plan.	Road management south of Lemhi Pass on BLM managed lands is expected to change, There are Alternatives currently being developed.
Dispersed and Developed Recreation	There are no developed campgrounds on BLM and USFS managed lands within the CIAA. There is a variety of dispersed recreation occurring on BLM, USFS, and IDL managed lands in the CIAA. Most of this activity centers on hunting seasons, and includes dispersed camping sites and OHV use on existing roads and trails.	A cabin is expected to be constructed within the CIAA, along the CDNST in the foreseeable future. The cabin has been reviewed under the NEPA and a decision has been made to construct it. Dispersed recreation is expected to remain at similar levels for the foreseeable future.

Cumulative Impacts Associated with Past, Present, Reasonably Foreseeable Actions

Each of the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions described in

Table 2 contribute a specific incremental environmental effect that can be described or accounted for with the same indicators as used in the alternative analysis presented earlier in the document. The accumulated effect of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions on a given resource provides a baseline from which to evaluate the contribution of the alternatives to the collective impact on that resource.

Soils

The past, present, and reasonably foreseeable activities, primarily private land agriculture, private and public land livestock grazing, roads, and dispersed recreation can increase erosion and compaction of soils. Eroded and compacted soils are less capable of supporting healthy native plant populations. There is some evidence of erosion and compaction occurring within the CIAA, however these impacts are: (1) not wide-spread, (2) confined to disturbance footprints, and (3) most evident on roads and OHV trails. These impacts are expected to continue at current or similar levels.

Wildlife Resources including Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Animals and Migratory Birds

The past, present and foreseeable actions in the CIAA have and will continue to effect wildlife and their habitat primarily through displacement and habitat conversion. Activities on the landscape, including recreation and commodity use can displace wildlife in the short term. Wildlife displacement has occurred at the individual level, but species have not been displaced at the CIAA scale.

Contribution of the Alternatives to the Cumulative Impacts

Wildlife Resources including Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Animals and Migratory Birds

Proposed Action

At the CIAA scale the project would make little difference to the effects that past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions would have on wildlife. The small increase in potential displacement of wildlife species in the CIAA would be short-term in duration. For sage-grouse, in particular, there is currently less than 300 acres of PPH in the CIAA. Of that, only a small amount would be affected by the project since the trail is in PPH for less than a mile.

No Action

The No Action Alternative would maintain existing habitat conditions; there would be no change in effects at the cumulative scale.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Persons and Agencies Consulted

Eric Tarkalson, Goldstone Ultra Running
Trish Callaghan, US Forest Service
Tom Bassista, Idaho Fish and Game

List of Preparers

Section of EA	Specialist
Rangeland Resources/Vegetation types; Botany/TES Plants/ACECs; Invasive species	Kyra Povirk
Farm Lands (prime or unique)/Access/ Economic Feasibility of Ag Entry/Existing and Potential Land Uses/Economic and Social Values/Environ. Justice	Joni Cain
Geology/Minerals/Soils; Wastes, Hazardous or Solid/Superfund Sites	Brandy Janzen
Cultural Resources/Native American Religious Concerns/Indian Trust Resources/Tribal Treaty Rights/Paleo. Resources	Steven Wright
Recreation/Wilderness/Wild and Scenic Rivers/Visual Resources	Shannon Bassista
Forest Resources/Vegetation types, Communities; permits and sales/Air Quality	Bill Baer
Fisheries/TES Fisheries/Wetlands-Riparian Zones/Floodplains/Water Quality	Tricia Miller
Wildlife/TES Animals/Migratory Birds	Vince Guyer

Preparer /s/ Shannon Bassista

Date: 05/19/2014

NEPA Reviewer /s/ Kyra Povirk

Date 05/29/2014