

Finding of No Significant Impact

Prepared by
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

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Chapter 1. Finding of No Significant Impact

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1.1. Environmental Assessment Enter NEPA Number via text entities - here

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts (per Environmental Assessment Enter NEPA Number via text entities - here), I have determined that the proposed action with the mitigation measures described below will not have any significant impacts on the environment and an environmental impact statement is not required.

1.2. Mitigation Measures:

1. The proponent will adhere to mitigation measures for migratory birds.
2. The proponent will adhere to protocols for removal of Gila Monsters from construction sites if any are encountered.
3. To prevent undue harm, habitat-altering projects or portions of projects should be scheduled outside bird breeding season. In upland desert habitats and ephemeral washes containing upland species, the season generally occurs between February 15th and August 31st.
4. If a project that may alter any breeding habitat has to occur during the breeding season, then a qualified biologist must survey the area for nests prior to commencement of construction activities. This shall include burrowing and ground nesting species in addition to those nesting in vegetation. If any active nests (containing eggs or young) are found, an appropriately-sized buffer area must be avoided until the young birds fledge.
5. The proponent will implement best management practices during soil removal and dust suppression measures in conformance with the dust permit required by the Department of Air Quality Management. The top six inches of topsoil would be stockpiled to salvage the native seedbank, biological soil crust components, and soil microbial organisms that would be replaced during reclamation. Stockpiled topsoil would be vulnerable to wind and water erosion, and would need to be protected by large rocks or fill, or stabilized by a wood fiber tackifier or straw matting.
6. Each contract area must have tortoise fencing installed by the proponent. The BLM wildlife biologist and geologist will work with the proponent to identify which areas, if any, will not need fencing due to existing barriers to tortoise movement such as steep cliffs. The proponent is required to have an authorized biologist survey the fence alignment and work areas before fence construction and the enclosed area cleared of tortoise before the start of sand and gravel operations. If tortoises are encountered they must be moved out of harm's way as described in the terms and conditions. Proponents are also required to pay remuneration fees as described in the terms and conditions.
7. Mineral Materials mining of the parcel located at the E2SWSW and W2SESW of T. 19 S., R. 59 E., Sec. 26 will not occur until yellow two toned beardtongue seed has been collected for at least three growing seasons or sooner if authorized by the BLM botanist.
8. BLM will place \$10,000 into an agreement with the Center for Plant Conservation, to provide for offsite mitigation of the Yellow two toned beardtongue through the National Collection of Endangered Plants.

- 9. Contracts located within the SW1/4NW1/4 of T. 19 S., R. 59 E., Section 36 require concurrence from the City of Las Vegas prior to signing, shall not exceed a 2 year term, and require concurrence from the City of Las Vegas prior to extending and renewing said contract.
- 10. Contracts located within the SW1/4NW1/4 of T. 19 S., R. 59 E., Section 36 may only be mined to a depth no lower than two feet above the adjacent Clark County School District Bus Yard located within the SE1/4NW1/4 of T. 19 S., R. 59 E., Section 36.
- 11. A portion of the SW1/4NE1/4 of Section 36, T. 19 S., R. 59 E. will be temporarily impacted during the construction of the Western Clark County 215 Bruce Woodbury Beltway realignment. Until construction is complete, only issue contracts within the SW1/4NE1/4 of Section 36, T. 19 S., R. 59 E., starting at C-E1/16 to the C1/4 to the C-N1/16 to the point of beginning (C-E1/16), adjusting the northeasterly boundary southwest a distance of 50 feet.
- 12. Exclude the SW1/4SE/14 of Section 36, T. 19 S., R. 59 E., from sales contracts and FUPs until construction of the Western Clark County 215 Bruce Woodbury Beltway realignment is complete.
- 13. Exclude the southern 75 feet of the SE1/4SW1/4 of Section 36, T. 19 S., R. 59 E., from sales contracts and FUPs until construction of the Western Clark County 215 Bruce Woodbury Beltway realignment is complete.

1.3. Signatures:

Recommended by:  12/23/14

 Evan Allen [Date]
 Lead Geologist

Approved by:  1/10/15

 Mark Slaughter [Date]
 Acting Assistant Field Manager
 Division of Resources