

DECISION MEMORANDUM

ACOE/Dept. Homeland Security/CBP Remote Video Sensors (RVS) Right-of-way Modification
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2014-0021
AZA 32945

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Tucson Field Office

Project Description

The ACOE has requested that the Right-of-way (ROW) Reservation be amended to expand an existing RVS station area to 50' x 50' from 18' x 31' to accommodate the installation of solar panels. The existing RVS site currently contains a 60 foot monopole, concrete slabs, microwave dish/s, cameras, solar panels, propane tank, a small facility building, and fencing. The original environmental analysis was prepared under the Environmental Assessment for Infrastructure within the U. S. Border Patrol Naco- Douglas Corridor, Cochise County, Arizona, dated August 2000; with a subsequent Supplemental EA, November 2003, prepared by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, and subsequent BLM Document of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA), January 2005.

A perpetual ROW Reservation authorization with amendments were initially issued to the Army Corps of Engineers in care of the U.S. Border Patrol of the Department of Homeland Security, and its assigns, in 2005 for a 60 feet strip within the U.S./ Mexico International Boundary, and then subsequently amended in 2007, and amended again in 2008 to add an additional 60 feet strip north of the 60 foot U.S./ Mexico International Boundary and additional infrastructures.

The BLM ROW authorizes various land uses for Border Patrol operations that include the development and maintenance of roads, fencing, lighting structures, various drainage infrastructures, RVS stations, signage, and staging/ parking areas all encompassing a strip of land 10 linear miles by 120 feet north the International Boundary strip, consisting of approximately 85 acres falling within:

- T. 24 S, R. 25 E.,
sec. 20 - 24, all in lots 1-4;
- T. 24 S., R. 26 E.,
sec 19-24, all in lots 1-4.

This particular project falls within pre-disturbed lands:

- T. 24 S., R. 26 E.,
sec. 22, lot 4.

Approval and Decision

Based on a review of the project described in the attached Categorical Exclusion documentation and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the Safford Resource Management Plan (approved 1992 and partially amended in 1994) and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed.

Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4 and the attached Form 1842-1. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed at Tucson Field Office, 3201 E Universal Way, Tucson AZ

