

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

Environmental Assessment

**Cooper Draw Solar Pumps
DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0208-EA**

PREPARING OFFICE

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



Environmental Assessment
Cooper Draw Solar Pumps
DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0208-EA

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

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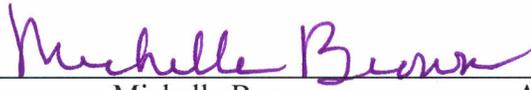
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Finding of No Significant Impact

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts of the Cooper Draw Solar Pumps Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0208-EA, I have determined that the proposed action will not have any significant impacts on the environment and an environmental impact statement is not required.

Signatures:

Approved by:



Michelle Brown
Assistant Field Manager

August 7, 2014

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Decision Record

Based on my understanding of the information contained in the *Cooper Draw Solar Pumps* EA and my subsequent finding of no significant impact, it is my decision to authorize the actions needed to dispense water across the allotment for better cattle dispersion as set out in DOI-BLM-GO10-2014- 0208-EA, subject to the below conditions of approval.

The following actions will be realized:

- The permittees shall place two solar pumps next to Hatch Reservoir 7 and 8 to develop water sources.
- A single backhoe will be used to develop the spring sources.
- Steel cattle panels will be used to fence the spring sources.
- The 3” steel polyline would be buried six feet deep and run approximately 20 feet to the stock ponds.

Compliance

The proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the 2008 Vernal Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan and found to be in conformance. The following 2008 Vernal Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan decisions apply:

RNI-1: specific improvements to rangeland health will include, but not limited to, vegetation treatments, fencing, spring development, reservoirs, guzzlers, pipelines, and wells;

RNI-2: Part or all measures will be implemented to meet resource objectives for habitat enhancement. The Decision identifies this allotment as being open for livestock grazing and as a compatible use on public lands within the Mail Draw allotment within the authority of the 1934 Taylor Grazing Act (TGA), the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and the grazing administration regulations contained in 43 CFR 4100.

Selected Action

Under the selected action, the Proposed Action Alternative, the permittees will be allowed to construct and place solar pumps next to Hatch Reservoirs 7 and 8 by using a single backhoe to develop the spring sources. Panel fencing shall be placed around the solar pumps. Three inch steel pipe shall be placed six feet deep and run approximately 20 feet to the stock ponds.

Conditions of Approval

To prevent the spread of invasive weeds, the following actions will be taken:

1. All equipment would be power-washed prior to entering the project area.
2. Annual monitoring of the project area for weed establishment would occur.

3. Annual treatments of weeds would be conducted under the authority of existing Vernal Field Office Pesticide Use Proposals, and following existing policy (Vernal Field Office Surface Disturbing Weed Policy 2009).

The project design would not meet the VRM II visual resource management objectives as proposed because a moderate contract rating would occur due to the changes in form, line and texture. In order to achieve the project goals and meet the visual resource management objectives associated with VRM II the following mitigation measures will be applied:

- Mound soil in front of the solar pump in order to visually obscure the pump from the Jones Hole Road.
- Reseed the disturbed soil with native seed.
- Stipulation: The pipeline will be constructed and buried under Uintah County claimed class D road, #100805, the applicant needs to contact Uintah County to obtain the proper permits for the project.

Public Involvement:

The permittees, Holmes Bar NE Ranch LLC were the only ones to comment. Their comment is responded to by the proposed action. The proposed project was posted to the E-Planning NEPA Register. No other comments were received from the public.

Rationale:

My decision to authorize implementation of the proposed action alternative will not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation to wilderness characteristics, threatened or endangered species, cultural resources, or matters pertaining to Native American religious freedoms or their customs. Realization of the proposed action is in conformance with the existing Vernal RMP (2008) and is consistent with the Uintah County Land Use Plan. The No Action Alternative was not selected because that alternative would not meet the stated purpose and need of pumping water to two locations in an effort to disperse cattle congregation areas.

Implementation of the proposed action will result in the development of reliable water sources for wildlife and livestock use. It will also increase the amount of water which would allow for the use of existing wildlife habitat and livestock forage that is currently not available due to the lack of water.

Appeal or Protest Opportunities:

The decision or approval may be appealed to the Interior Board Of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR 4.21. Within 30 days of receipt of the decision, an appeal must be filed to: Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia, 22203. A copy of the notice of appeal must also be filed in the Vernal Field Office at 170 South 500 East; Vernal, Utah, 84078, as well as with: Office of the Solicitor, 125 South State Street, Suite 6201, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84138. Public notification of this decision will be considered to

have occurred on December 6, 2010. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

If you wish to file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR 3150.2(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 appellants success on 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 the granting of the stay

Authorizing Official:



Michelle Brown
Assistant Field Manager

August 7, 2014

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Chapter 1. Introduction

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1.1. Identifying Information:

U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

1.1.1. Title, EA number, and type of project:

Cooper Draw Spring Developments Environmental Assessment, DOI-BLM-UTG010–2014–0208, July 29, 2014

1.1.2. Location of Proposed Action:

Township 2 South, Range 24 East, Section 24, Township 2 South, Range 25 East, Section 18

1.1.3. Name and Location of Preparing Office:

U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

Vernal Field Office

170 S. 500 E.

Vernal, Utah 84078

Phone: (435) 781-4400

Fax: (435) 781-4410

1.1.4. Applicant Name:

Holmes Bar NE Ranch LLC

1.2. Purpose and Need for Action:

The Holmes Bar NE Ranch LLC's need for the proposed action is to: Develop two new water sources for use with livestock and wildlife

BLMs purpose for the Proposed Action is to: consider the Holmes Bar NE Ranch LLC's proposal to develop two new water sources, and to improve habitat and distribution of cattle, as well as wildlife, throughout the Cooper Draw allotment and resource area, and to develop new water sources for livestock and wildlife species where existing stock ponds exist but do not retain enough runoff to draw livestock or wildlife during the summer and fall.

BLM will consider approval of the proposed water developments in a manner that avoids or minimizes impact on other resources.

Chapter 2. Proposed Action and Alternatives

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2.1. Description of the Proposed Action:

Cooper Draw Spring Developments: There are two sites proposed for new spring development. An area approximately 15' x 15' would be disturbed at each site to develop each spring and place the solar pumps. A single backhoe will be used to develop the spring sources. Steel cattle panels will be used to fence the spring sources. Two track roads already exist next to the stock ponds that the water would be pumped into. The 3" steel polyline would be buried six feet deep and run approximately 20 feet to the stock ponds. The stock ponds are Hatch Reservoir 7 and 8. The permittee would have to run the polyline across a two track road to reach Hatch Reservoir 7 and in a natural drainage for Hatch Reservoir 8 Figure 2.1, "Cooper Draw Water Development" (p. 6). A total of forty feet by three feet, of surface disturbance would occur during the trenching process. Reclamation would include smoothing out the road.

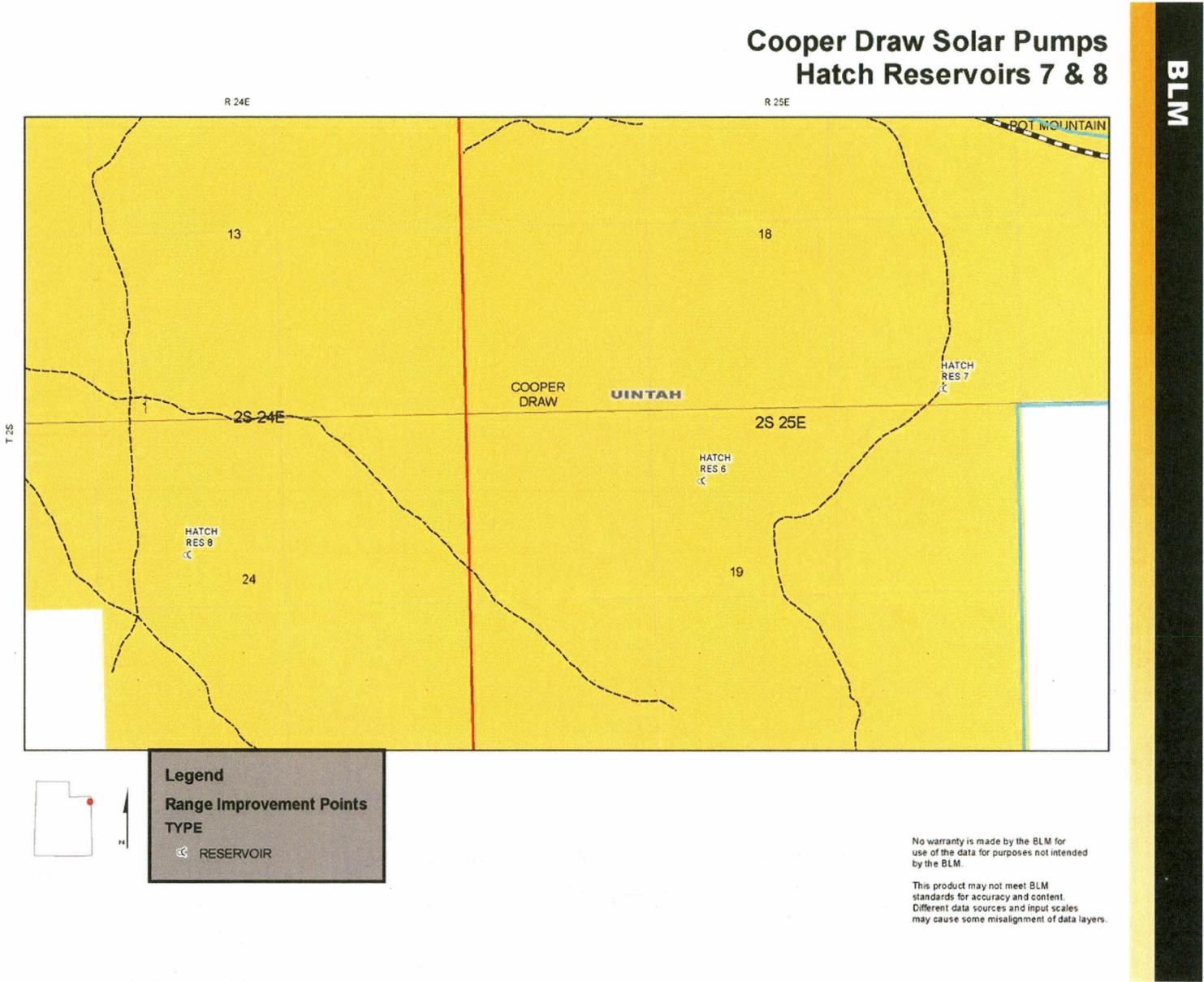


Figure 2.1. Cooper Draw Water Development

2.2. Description of Alternatives Analyzed in Detail:

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

BLM would not approve the spring developments and Holmes Bar NE Ranch LLC would not be allowed to re-develop/develop water sources. Land use practices would continue as they had before.

2.3. Conformance

The proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the 2008 Vernal Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan and found to be in conformance. The 2008 Vernal Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan RNI-1: specific improvements to rangeland health will include, but not limited to, vegetation treatments, fencing, spring development, reservoirs, guzzlers, pipelines, and wells; RNI-2: Part or all measures will be implemented to meet resource objectives for habitat enhancement. The Decision identifies this allotment as being open for livestock grazing and as a compatible use on public lands within the Cooper Draw allotment within the authority of the 1934 Taylor Grazing Act (TGA), the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and the grazing administration regulations contained in 43 CFR 4100.

The Proposed Action has also been reviewed for conformance with the Vernal Field Office RMP/ROD, and found to be in conformance with the plan. The proposed action is consistent with the management decisions for wildlife species as listed in the RMP/ROD on page 144, WL-30. The objective is to allow the BLM to establish and maintain all existing guzzlers and other water sources to improve habitat and distribution in the VPA. It has been determined that the proposed action would not conflict with other decisions throughout the plan.

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Chapter 3. Affected Environment:

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The affected environment and environmental consequences of the alternatives were considered and analyzed by an interdisciplinary team as documented in Appendix A. The analysis indicates that resources of concern are either not present in the project area, or would not be impacted to a degree that requires detailed analysis. The analysis and rationale for this conclusion is provided in Appendix A.

3.1. Invasive and Noxious Weeds

Canada and musk thistle have been treated in the past along the Holmes Ranch Road that leads to Hatch Reservoir 8. A known patch of Canada thistle is located a quarter mile down the drainage from Hatch Reservoir 7.

3.2. Visual Resource Management

The Vernal Field Visual Resource Inventory (November 2011) serves as the baseline information for assessing potential effects to visual resources for proposed projects. The project area falls within Unit #9 (Wild Mountain) and unit #9A (Diamond Mountain Plateau). Both units were given a scenic quality rating of C.

The Vernal RMP identified the project area as Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class II & III Lands. The objective of the VRM II is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape. New projects can be approved if they blend in with the existing surroundings and don't attract attention (i.e., small-scale picnic area or primitive campground in valley shielded from view that blends with natural appearance).

The objective of class III is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape. New projects can be approved that are not large scale, dominating features (i.e., geothermal power plant or major mining operation would not be approved).

3.3. Lands and Realty

The proposed project in T. 2 S., R. 25 E., Section 18, SW1/4SE1/4, (Pipeline to the Hatch Reservoir #8) would cross an existing county road (#100805).

Mitigation: Coordination with the county is necessary and the proper permit is required prior to construction.

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Chapter 4. Environmental Effects:

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This chapter describes the direct and indirect impacts that would be expected to occur upon the implementation of each of the considered alternatives. It also discloses the expected cumulative impacts, which are those impacts resulting from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.

4.1. Invasive and Noxious Weeds

There would be a potential for weed encroachment following surface disturbance.

Mitigation: The following management plan will be followed in order to prevent the establishment of weeds within the project area as a result of the proposed action.

Weed Management Plan:

A pre-project weed inventory would be conducted to determine the presence of noxious weeds. If weeds were found, they would be: a) mapped and reported; 2) removed or treated prior to surface disturbance; 3) and removed or treated prior to seed set when possible.

1. All equipment would be power-washed prior to entering the project area.
2. Annual monitoring of the project area for weed establishment would occur.
3. Annual treatments of weeds would be conducted under the authority of existing Vernal Field Office Pesticide Use Proposals, and following existing policy (Vernal Field Office Surface Disturbing Weed Policy 2009).

4.2. Visual Resource Management

The key observation points for the public would be from the Jones Hole Road. In the fall, (Primarily September – November) hunters in low to moderate use numbers use the road to access Diamond Rim hunting units.

Evaluation of visual contrast associated with the management activities proposed was evaluated using Bureau Form 8400-4 - Visual Contrast Rating Worksheet. A summary of the analysis is as follows:

Table 4.1. Key Observation Points

	KOP #1 – Jones Hole Road #1	KOP #2 –Jones Hole Road #2	KOP #3 –Gravel Road Off Jones Hole Road	KOP #4 — Gravel Road Off Jones Hole Road	KOP #5 —Gravel Road Off Jones Hole Road
KOP Locations (UTM Zone 12S, NAD 83)	655698.5912 4501280.6603	656598.7839 4500875.8718	655239.4312 4500017.9691	654605.0653 4499540.6871	654750.0626 4500307.9638
VRM Class	II	II	II	II	II

One of the proposed solar pumps is located within lands managed as VRM II and the other is located within lands managed as VRM III. The solar pump located within VRM III is in conformance with VRM standards. The solar pump located within lands managed as VRM II

(western most pump) needs additional mitigation measures to be inconformancee with VRM II standards. A summary of the contrast rating form from 8400-1 is as follows:

Table 4.2. Summary of Contrast Rating from KOP #1-4

	Land				Vegetation				Structure			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
Form			X				X			X		
Line			X				X			X		
Color			X				X				X	
Texture		X					X				X	

The project design would not meet the VRM II visual resource management objectives as propose because a moderate contract rating would occur due to the changes in form, line and texture. In order to achieve the project goals and meet the visual resource management objectives associated with VRM II the following mitigation measures are recommended:

Mitigation:

- Mound soil in front of the solar pump in order to visually obscure the pump from the Jones Hole Road.
- Reseed the disturbed soil with native seed.

4.3. Lands and Realty

Disturbance to the existing county road is propose, which would result in disrupted traffic flow for the duration of the construction activity. Coordination with the county is required prior to construction. The appropriate county permits must also be obtained.

Mitigation: The pipeline would be constructed and buried under County claimed Class D road # 100805. The applicant would need to contact Uintah County to obtain proper permits for the project.

4.4. NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, current resource trends would continue.

4.4.1. Invasive and Noxious Weeds

Under this alternative, no spring developments would occur and existing resource conditions and trends would occur. Ongoing weed control efforts would continue to be directed towards musk thistle and Canada thistle

4.4.2. Visual Resource Management

Under this alternative no development would occur, therefore there would be no impacts to Visual Resources.

4.4.3. Lands and Realty

No impact to the road would occur under this alternative.

4.5. Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts are those impacts that result from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions, regardless of which agency or person undertakes such other actions. The cumulative impacts analysis area (CIAA) varies by resource and will be defined in the section for each individual resource.

4.5.1. Invasive and Noxious Weeds

The Cumulative Impacts Analysis Area is the Cooper Draw allotment. Past, present and future actions including livestock grazing and oil and gas development have resulted in the introduction and spread of noxious weeds, such as Canada and musk thistle. There is potential for weeds to spread or establish at the site of the disturbance as a result of the proposed action.. Mitigation measures are in place and can be located in 4.1 of this Environmental Assessment. Future monitoring is needed to verify no establishment of invasives occurs. The No Action Alternative would not result in an accumulation of impacts.

4.5.2. Visual Resource Management

The cumulative impact area considered for visual resources is Scenic Quality Rating Unit #9 (SQRU) Wild Mountain and SQRU #9A Diamond Mountain Plateau. The rationale for using the boundary is the baseline for determining impacts in the visual resource inventory. Under this boundary, and assuming application of the identified mitigation are followed, no past, present or reasonably foreseeable impacts would occur under either the proposed action or the no action alternative.

4.5.3. Lands and Realty

The cumulative impact area is the county road # 100805. The past, present and reasonably foreseeable activities include livestock grazing, oil and gas, and local traffic on the road. Cumulative impacts, under the proposed action, include disruption of traffic flow during construction and disturbance to the road. The No Action Alternative would not result in an accumulation of impacts.

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**Chapter 5. Tribes, Individuals,
Organizations, or Agencies Consulted:**

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Table 5.1. List of Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
Lori Hunsaker; Utah State Historic Preservation Officer	SHPO Section 106 consultation on project affect to cultural resources.	No Historic Properties Effected CFR800.4(d)(1). SHPO consultation completed 7/14/2014.
Ute Indian Tribe, Eastern Shoshone, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Northwest Band Shoshone, Goshute Indian Tribe, Souther Ute Tribe, White Mesa Ute Tribe, Laguna Pueblo Tribe, Santa Clara Pueblo Tribe, Zia Pueblo Tribe, Navajo Nation	Native American Concerns consultation with THPOs.	No Native American Concerns identified. Native American Consultations completed 8/5/2014.
Brian Maxfield	UDWR	No identified concerns with Sage Grouse in the area.

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Chapter 6. List of Preparers

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[Enter the Preparers List here.]

Table 6.1. List of Preparers

Name	Title	Responsible for the Following Section(s) of this Document
Alec Bryan	Range Management Specialist/Team Lead	Air Quality ,Waters, Socio-economic, Hazardous Wastes, Livestock Grazing, Wetlands, Soils, Wild Horse and Burros, Invasive Weeds..
Dan Gilfillan	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Impact analysis for Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness, Recreation, Visual Resources, Natural Areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Margo Roberts	Realty Specialist	Impact analysis for county road # 100805. Lands/Access
Stephanie Howard	NEPA Coordinator	Quality Control

References:

Vernal Field Office Final Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision Bureau of Land Management (BLM). U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, Vernal, Utah. October 2008.

U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Approved December 22, 2011. IM 2012-043, Greater Sage-Grouse Interim Management Policies and Procedures.

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Appendix A.

Cooper Draw Spring Developments Environmental Assessment, DOI-BLM-UTG010–2014–0208, July 11, 2014.

DETERMINATION OF STAFF: (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 to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale column may include NI and NP discussions.

Determina- tion	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)				
NI	Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Dust and vehicle emissions would be generated during the project. However, impacts from emissions are expected to be short term (during construction only) and indistinguishable from background emissions as measured by monitors or predicted by models. Greenhouse gas emissions: It is anticipated that greenhouse gas emissions associated with this action and its alternative(s) would be negligible, due to the short duration of the project..	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NP	BLM Natural Areas	No BLM Natural Areas exist within the identified project area.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14
NP	Cultural: Archaeological Resources	No cultural resources identified within the project APE. No Historic Properties Effected CFR800.4(d)(1). SHPO Consultation Request sent 7/1/2014. SHPO Concurrence received 7/14/2014	Jimmie McKenzie	8/5/2014
NP	Cultural: Native American Religious Concerns	No Native American concerns were identified within the project area. Tribal Consultation Requests sent 7/1/2014. Tribal Consultation completed on 8/5/2014.	Jimmie McKenzie	8/5/2014
NP	Designated Areas: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	No designated ACECs exist within the proposed project area.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14
NP	Designated Areas: Wild and Scenic Rivers	No Wild and Scenic River exist within the proposed project area.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NP	Designated Areas: Wilderness Study Areas	No ACEC exist within the identified project area.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14
NI	Environmental Justice	No minority or economically disadvantaged communities or populations are present which could be affected by the proposed action or alternatives.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NP	Farmlands (prime/unique)	A review of the Field Office GIS layer files indicates that there is no Prime or Unique Farmlands located in the Field Office.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Fuels/Fire Management	Project will not have any negative impacts on hazardous fuels or fire management activities	Blaine Tarbell	8/5/2014
NI	Geology/Minerals/ Energy Production	No negative impacts to geology, minerals, and energy production will result from this project.	Betty Gamber	7/17/2014
PI	Invasive Plants/ Noxious Weeds, Soils & Vegetation	Potential for noxious weed increase. The proposed action involves a minor amount of surface disturbance and is not expected to result in an increase in soil erosion or sediment yields.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
PI	Lands/Access	Current land uses, within the area identified in the proposed action consist of current livestock grazing. No existing land uses would be changed or modified by the implementation of the proposed action. There are not current right-of-ways near the proposed project. Per Vernal Field Office GIS Data layers there are no Public Water Reserves identified in the project area. The pipeline would be constructed across a Uintah County claimed Class D road known as (100805)	Margo Roberts	8/6/2014
NI	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC)	The area was not identified as having wilderness character in the 2008 Vernal RMP. Additional review of BLM wilderness characteristics and the inventory of findings for the project area were completed on 7/29/14. No areas with wilderness characteristics were found to be present within the project area.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Livestock Grazing & Rangeland Health Standards	The project would be in the Cooper Draw Allotment, which is an active cattle allotment. Minimal forage would be removed (less than 1 AUMs) for the proposed spring development. The proposed action involves a minor amount of surface disturbance and is not expected to result in a deterioration of existing health standards. Water is trucked to these ponds currently; therefore, cattle dispersion would not be altered.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NP	Paleontology	No scientifically important fossils were found (BLM site walkover 7/17/2014 by B. Gamber, J. Snyder and R. Monahan)	Betty Gamber	7/17/2014
NP	Plants: BLM Sensitive	The following UT BLM sensitive plant species are present or expected in the same or an adjacent subwatershed as the proposed project: Blue Mountain arabis (<i>Arabis vivariensis</i>), Hamilton's milkvetch (<i>Astragalus hamiltonii</i>), and Goodrich's stickweed (<i>Cleomella palmeriana</i> var. <i>goodrichii</i>). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ○ The proposed project is located outside of the potential range of all three species, and the project is not located on soils known to support the species. 	Jessi Brunson	8/6/2014
NP	Plants: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate	No federally listed, proposed, or candidate plant species are present or expected in the same or an adjacent subwatershed as the proposed project.	Jessi Brunson	8/6/2014
NI	Plants: Wetland/Riparian	Juncus and carex grow in the drainage of Hatch Res 7 and Wild Rye grows in the drainage leading up to Hatch Res 8. The project would not alter the drainages capacity to continue to produce such communities. See Invasive weeds.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Recreation	No developed recreation sites/trails or Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) exist within the project area. Limited recreational use in the area. Considered part of the Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA), where limited recreation management takes place. Recreational use of off highway vehicles (OHVs) is restricted to existing roads and trails.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Socio-Economics	Due to the small scale project size, socioeconomics are not expected to be measurably impacted by this proposed project.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
PI	Visual Resources	The identified project area occurs within VRM Class II Lands. The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.	Dan Gilfillan	7/23/14
NI	Wastes (hazardous/solid)	No chemicals subject to reporting under SARA Title III in an amount equal to or greater than 10,000 pounds will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of annually in association with the project. Furthermore, no extremely hazardous substances, as defined in 40 CFR 355, in threshold planning quantities, will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of in association with the project. <i>Solid Wastes:</i> Trash would be confined in a covered container and hauled to an approved landfill. Burning of waste or oil would not be done. Human waste would be contained and be disposed of at an approved sewage treatment facility.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Water: Floodplains	Floodplains exist within the area, but the project is of a small enough scale it would not be expected to alter the floodplains	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Water: Groundwater Quality	Since the proposed action involves a minor amount of surface disturbance, water quality for surface and ground is not expected to be impacted.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Water: Hydrologic Conditions (stormwater)	After construction a small amount of sediment loading could occur in the stock ponds, but the amount would not be enough to fill or inhibit their function to catch water. Ephemeral drainages already exist beyond the ponds and erosion does occur naturally.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Water: Surface Water Quality	Since the proposed action involves a minor amount of surface disturbance, water quality for surface and ground is not expected to be impacted.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Water: Waters of the U.S.	Site visit indicated that there are no live waters, only ephemeral waters with drainages.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Wild Horses	The project area is not within any HMAs as per map in RMP and GIS review.	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014
NI	Wildlife: Migratory Birds (including raptors)	No impact to migratory bird species or raptor species are expected to occur from the proposed action. There would be a small amount of disturbance and construction should only take a day.	Dixie Sadlier	7/11/2014
NI	Wildlife: Non-USFWS Designated	Crucial summer ranges occur for big game species throughout the allotment. The additional water sources will benefit wildlife. There would be a small amount of surface disturbance and the construction would only take a day to complete.	Dixie Sadlier	7/11/2014
NI	Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate	Is the proposed project in sage grouse PPH or PGH? YesX No If the answer is yes, the project must conform with WO IM 2012-043. Personal communication with UDWR Sensitive Species Biologist, Brian Maxfield, 2014. He supports the proposed action because the disturbance is already there and construction of the solar pumps would be done outside of the lekking timeframe.	Dixie Sadlier	7/11/2014
NI	Woodlands/Forestry	No woodlands/forests are in the proposed project area, per site visit	Alec Bryan	7/11/2014

FINAL REVIEW:			
Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	<i>Stephanie Johnson</i>	8/8/14	
Authorized Officer	<i>Michelle Benson</i>	8/8/14	