

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

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**Categorical Exclusion**

**Desbrough Canyon-Application for Contract Sale of Stone  
DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0255-CX**

**PREPARING OFFICE**

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





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**Desbrough Canyon-Application for Contract Sale**  
**of Stone**  
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Prepared by  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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Permit by Abelecio & Kimberly Jiron with  
Rock Solid Designs;**

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## **A. Background**

### **BLM Office:**

Vernal Field Office, 170 South 500 East, Vernal, UT 84078

**Lease/Serial/Case File No.:** UTU-089118

### **Proposed Action Title/Type:**

Collection of Dimension Stone by hand and by hand tool

### **Location of Proposed Action:**

Township 11 South, Range 16 East, Section 20 (N/2 SE/4, E/2 E/2 NE/4) and Section 21 (N/2 N/2), SLB Meridian, Duchesne County, Utah

### **Description of Proposed Action:**

This project consists of driving designated pick-up trucks to the designated collection area and collecting by hand tools 600 tons of dimension stone that lies on the exposed surface. No access roads would be constructed (access to the stone would be along existing two-track roads that parallel the stone outcrops). No stone collection activities will take place within 100 feet of the canyon rim, or within any canyons. This area falls within the West Wrinkles Common Use Area which was evaluated in an Environmental Assessment in 1996.

Field Methods: Up to 120 single vehicle trips would be made as part of the stone removal operations which would not include off road travel to collect stone. Only existing roads and two tracks would be used. Gathering would be conducted when ground is dry and generally would be on week days. The area of disturbance would be no greater than 5 acres. Disturbed ground would be raked out and re-contoured. No water would be used. Less than 10,000 gal of chemicals (under SARA, 1986) and less than the TPQ of chemicals in 40 CFR 355 would be used in association with the operations (applicant would clean up spills of fuel, lubricants, acids or antifreeze from trucks used and dispose of properly). The applicant would monitor and control noxious weeds that emerge in association with the extraction and transport of stone within the application area. The applicant would abide by any timing restrictions or avoid areas should any sensitive plants, wildlife or other resources be identified later by the BLM. The area would be jointly inspected upon the completion of extraction and two years afterwards (the latter to determine if the applicant must conduct any reclamation work). A 5 year term has been applied for.

## **B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

### **Land Use Plan Name:**

Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan

### **Date Approved/Amended:**

October 2008

**The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):** The proposed action would be in conformance

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with the Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan Record of Decision (ROD 2008). The ROD allows the development of mineral operations for salable minerals (page 97), and 389,788 acres have been set apart for mineral material disposal with standard and special stipulations (page 100). The proposed off road travel would not conflict with the limited OHV designation because it would be a formally permitted activity and all appropriate resource clearances have been conducted. The project would not conflict with other decisions throughout the plan.

### **C. Compliance with NEPA:**

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.9,

The action described above generally does not require the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS), as it has been found to not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. The applicable Categorical Exclusion reference is in 516 DM 2, Appendix 1 (or 516 DM 11.5 F (10)). This reference states, "Disposal of mineral materials such as sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, cinders, and clay, in amounts not exceeding 50,000 cubic yards or disturbing more than 5 acres, except in riparian areas." Less than 5 acres would be worked at any one time.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

I considered: extraordinary circumstances as shown in the attached worksheet.

### **D. Approval and Contact Information**

/s/ Jerry Kenczka

11/5/2014

Jerry Kenczka, Assistant Vernal Field Office Manager, Lands and Minerals

Date

#### **Contact Person**

Stephanie Howard

Vernal Field Office  
170 South 500 East  
Vernal, UT 84078

435-789-4469

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