

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
White River Field Office  
220 E Market St  
Meeker, CO 81641**

## **DECISION RECORD**

### ***WPX RGU 33-25-198 Frac Line Re-route DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2015-0006-CX***

#### **Decision**

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as described in DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2015-0006-CX, authorizing the installation of the temporary surface line for remote fracking the RGU 33-25-198 well pad.

#### ***BLM Required Conditions of Approval to Mitigate Impacts to Cultural and Paleontological Resources***

1. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
2. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The applicant will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage, until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The applicant, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.

## **Mitigation Measures**

1. Project work would not be authorized between the dates of December 1 and April 30 to reduce cumulative energetic and physiological demands on big game during the winter and early spring seasons. Exceptions would be considered by BLM consistent with most current wildlife mitigation plan strategies.

## **Compliance with Laws & Conformance with the Land Use Plan**

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

## **Public Involvement**

This project was posted on the WRFO's on-line National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) register on November 16, 2014. No comments or inquiries have been received.

## **Rationale**

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E18. 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 43 CFR 46.215 apply. The temporary surface line to remote frac the RGU 33-25-198 well pad will be placed along the existing roadway and is 3,500 feet shorter than the previously approved route.

## **Monitoring and Compliance**

On-going compliance inspections and monitoring will be conducted by the BLM White River Field Office staff during and after construction. Specific mitigation developed in this document will be followed. The applicant will be notified of compliance related issues, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

## **Administrative Remedies**

### State Director Review

Under regulations addressed in 43 CFR 3165.3(b), any adversely affected party that contests a decision of the Authorized Officer may request an administrative review, before the State Director, either with or without oral presentation. Such request, including all supporting documentation, shall be filed in writing with the BLM Colorado State Office at 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215 within 20 business days of the date such decision was received or considered to have been received. Upon request and showing of good cause, an extension may be granted by the State Director. Such review shall include all factors or circumstances relevant to the particular case.

Appeal

Any party who is adversely affected by the decision of the State Director after State Director review, under 43 CFR 3165.3(b), of a decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals pursuant to the regulations set out in 43 CFR Part 4.

**Signature of Authorized Official**

*Kent C. Walter*

Field Manager

*02/05/2015*

Date