

KINGMAN FIELD OFFICE SCOPING FORM

DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2014-0040-EA CL04, CL11, RR17 S:/BLMshare/nepa/ea_eis/cultural
 NEPA Document Number RMP Implementation No. Document Location

Land Description: T. 19 N., R. 15 W., Section 14
 Applicant: BLM
 Authorization:

INVOLVEMENT: Indicate in the left column which disciplines need to provide information into the EA.

Needed Input (X)	Discipline	Signature
	Lands	
	Minerals	
	Range	
	Wild Horse and Burro	
X	General Recreation	\\s\ Matthew Driscoll 07/09/2014
X	Cultural and Paleontological Resources	\\s\ Tim Watkins 07/09/2014
	Wilderness	
	Soils	
	Surface and Groundwater Quality/Water Rights	
	Air Quality	
X	Wildlife	\\s\ Rebecca Peck 07/09/2014
X	Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals	\\s\ Rebecca Peck 07/09/2014
X	Migratory Birds	\\s\ Rebecca Peck 07/09/2014
	Surface Protection	
	Hazardous Materials	
	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	
X	Visual Resources	\\s\ Matthew Driscoll 07/09/2014
	Socio-Economics/Environmental Justice	
X	General Botany/Noxious Weeds	\\s\ Rebecca Peck 07/09/2014
	Energy Policy	

Writer: \\s\ Matthew Driscoll

Date: 07/09/2014

Environmental Coordinator: \\s\ John Reid

Date: 07/10/2014

Field Manager: \\s\ Ruben Sanchez

Date: 07/11/2014

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

EA Number: DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2014-0040-EA

Lease/Serial Case File No.

Bureau of Land Management, Kingman Field Office
Proposed Action Title/Type: Gold King Mansion Enhancements
Location of Proposed Action: T. 19N R. 15W Section 14
Applicant: Bureau of Land Management – Cultural and Recreation

CONFORMANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAND USE PLAN:

This proposed action is in conformance with the *Kingman Resource Management Plan approved March 1995*.

- CL04/VIB Develop expanded cultural resource education program (page 75).
- CL11/VIB Develop cultural resource protection systems for selected cultural resources that have either a high level of significance or a history of vandalism (page 75).
- RR 17/V Recreation sites, interpretive sites, trails and roads will be maintained and developed where needed to enhance recreation opportunities and allow public use (Page 26).

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR PROPOSED ACTION:

The purpose of the proposed action is to enhance overall visitor awareness of Gold King Mansion (**see attachment 1**) from a cultural standpoint and provide for the preservation of the site. The need is in response to an internal concern for not only the structural and cultural integrity of Gold King Mansion, but visitor safety as well.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Barricade structures comparable to the existing metal pipe (**see attachment 2**) inside Gold King Mansion would be installed on the southeast doorways and windows to obstruct entrance to the roof of the building. Access to the mansion for the general public would be maintained. In addition to the metal pipe, a fence would be constructed using t-posts and barbed wire on the south side of the building where access to the roof is most prevalent. A warning sign addressing the safety concerns from walking on the roof would be installed on the fence. In addition to the above-mentioned safety items, an interpretive display and a kiosk would be maintained and installed. An interpretive sign describing the history and significance of Gold King Mansion is currently in place at the project location. Age and vandalism has led to the deterioration of this sign over time, warranting the replacement and possible relocation of this sign. This interpretive sign would be replaced and potentially moved to a previously disturbed location near the mansion that could be more suitable in terms of sign longevity. In an effort to educate the general public, a kiosk (**see attachment 3**) would be installed near the mansion on a north/south orientation that would facilitate educational information as it pertains to cultural site etiquette, area-specific biological concerns, off-highway vehicle (OHV) regulations, leave no trace, and tread lightly principles. All materials needed to complete these items would be transported to the mansion utilizing a Utility Terrain Vehicle via existing routes. Construction and maintenance activities would be completed by BLM staff and volunteers from local OHV clubs if they could be recruited for the project.

DESCRIPTION OF NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the “No Action Alternative” no safety enhancements or interpretive facilities would be installed at Gold King Mansion. This could adversely impact cultural resources associated with the mansion and the health and safety of visitors to the site.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The affected environment was considered and analyzed by an interdisciplinary team as documented in the KFO Project Scoping Form found in the Administrative Record for this proposal. Resources of concern that are either not present in the project area or would not be impacted to a degree that requires detailed analysis will not be discussed here. Resources which could be impacted by the proposed action or alternatives are discussed below.

This section describes the existing conditions of the environment and expected impacts. The table below summarizes the resources reviewed for this project. Resources not present within the project study area, as well as those present and not affected, are not discussed. Those resources that have been identified by an interdisciplinary team as present and potentially affected are discussed further below.

PROJECT RESOURCE review			
Resources Considered	Not Present	Present and Not Affected	Present and/or Potentially Affected
Air Quality*	X		
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern*	X		
Cultural and Historic*		X	
Environmental Justice* / Socioeconomics	X		
Floodplains*	X		
Grazing	X		
Hazardous or Solid Waste*	X		
Invasive and Non-native Species*	X		
Land Use and Recreation			X
Migratory Birds*			X
Native American Religious Concerns*	X		
Prime and Unique Farmland*	X		
Threatened and Endangered Species/BLM Sensitive Species*	No affect to T&E species, this area does not contain habitat for the Hualapai Mexican vole or the Mexican spotted owl.		X BLM Sensitive Species are present in the project area.
Vegetation		X	
Visual Resources			X
Water Quality*	X		
Wetland or Riparian Zones*	X		
Wild and Scenic Rivers*	X		

PROJECT RESOURCE review			
Resources Considered	Not Present	Present and Not Affected	Present and/or Potentially Affected
Wilderness*	X		
Wildlife			X
* Consideration Required By Law or Executive Order			

Proposed Action

Present and Not Affected:

Vegetation: A wide variety of vegetation exists near the project area and is best described as chaparral plant community consisting of turbinella oak, manzanita, desert ceanothus, silktassel and scattered pinyon pine. All construction and maintenance activities would take place within previously disturbed areas proximate to Gold King Mansion. No vegetation would be disturbed and thus not affected.

Cultural and Historic: The area of Kingman, Arizona and the region as a whole was a center for numerous mining activities starting in the mid 19th century and expanding through to the mid 20th century. The period of significance for the area is related to “Secondary Gold and Silver Mining in Arizona, 1900-1942. The Gold King Mansion, ultimately completed in 1933, is exemplifies this period of significance as a rare standing example of a residence related to a mining camp in northwestern Arizona. The historic context, location, design, setting, and feeling and workmanship are intact and retain integrity. Gold King Mansion has therefore been determined to be eligible for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed project would have no effect on the criterion that make Gold King Mansion eligible.

Present and/or Potentially Affected:

Land Use and Recreation: Gold King Mansion is situated off of a popular technical 4-wheel drive route in Mohave County. Technical 4-wheel drive enthusiasts are the predominant users of the route. Although at times, especially in the summer, hikers may use this motorized route to reach the mansion. Use of this area is most prevalent between September and May. The attraction for user groups to the area is Gold King Mansion as it is popular among Kingman area residents. Construction and maintenance activities could discourage user groups from extensively touring the mansion. However, as these activities would take place of a short period of time (2-3 days) between Monday and Friday recreationists would not likely be affected.

Wildlife, Migratory Birds, and BLM Sensitive Species: A wide variety of wildlife, migratory birds, and BLM sensitive species can be found in the project area. General wildlife and migratory birds include mule deer, mountain lion, western screech owl, Arizona woodpecker, white-breasted nuthatch, pygmy nuthatch, yellow warbler, Stephen’s woodrat, and Arizona black rattlesnake. BLM sensitive species that may be found in the project area include: golden eagle, pinyon jay, Townsend’s big-eared bat, spotted bat, Arizona myotis, and the American peregrine falcon.

Noise and human activity include such things as the operation of a motorized vehicle, power and hand tools, and human created noise from construction. Animals may be flushed from the area, but as workers move from place to place within the project area, animals are expected to settle until another person walks by. The construction and maintenance activities would take place over a short period of time (2-3 days) and once

complete the animals would be able to return to their normal activities.

Visual Resources: The project area is in Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class III. Objectives for this area are to partially retain the character of the landscape with a moderate level of change. Management activities may attract attention, but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. The basic elements of the natural landscape in the area (form, line, color, and texture) should not be affected by the placement of the interpretive facilities due to their proximity to Gold King Mansion, a modified structure within the existing natural landscape. In addition to the interpretive elements being installed near the mansion, all interpretive facilities would be situated to blend with the existing facilities and painted to match the characteristic landscape. Through mitigation measures the interpretive facilities should not detract from the current aesthetics of the site.

No Action Alternative

Present and/or Potentially Affected

Under the “no action alternative” there would be no affect to wildlife, migratory birds, BLM sensitive species, and visual resources as no construction or maintenance activities would be taking place that could disturb these resources.

Land Use and Recreation: Moss Wash is a heavily used OHV trail that facilitates recreational opportunities for technical 4-wheel drive enthusiasts, motorcyclists, and to a lesser extent, hikers and mountain bikers. This trail is publicized by the BLM’s recreation program through visitor area trail brochures and a variety of maps available for public sale and on kiosks in the area of the trail off of Blake Ranch Rd. In addition to BLM’s promotion of the area, there are various online websites that give the trail’s location, general description, and points of interest such as Gold King Mansion. In fiscal year 2013, Moss Wash received 1,345 visits. The high use of Moss Wash OHV trail and high visibility of the mansion creates a need for periodic maintenance of the site. Many OHV enthusiasts seek out the trail because of the cultural and historic value of the mansion. No maintenance or action to the site could adversely affect the recreating public from having a positive experience, especially if the mansion experienced a higher level of deterioration from unnecessary use, such as visitors walking on the roof. Aside from facilitating positive outcomes-based experiences on BLM managed land, the current state of the mansion poses a concern for public health and safety. The no-action alternative could preclude the BLM’s recreation program from facilitating outcome-based recreation and maintaining public health and safety.

Cumulative Impacts

The Council on Environmental Quality regulations defines cumulative effects as “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such actions.” Due to the small project area and concentrated scope of resources affected, there were no resources cumulatively affected as a result of the proposed action (**see attachment 4**).

DESCRIPTION OF MITIGATION MEASURES AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS:

1. All construction and maintenance activities would be supervised by BLM personnel for compliance with provisions as they apply to cultural and historic values.
2. All new facilities, such as the kiosk would be painted to blend with the local environment and placed on an aspect that would be less visible to the casual observer.

PERSONS/AGENCIES CONSULTED:

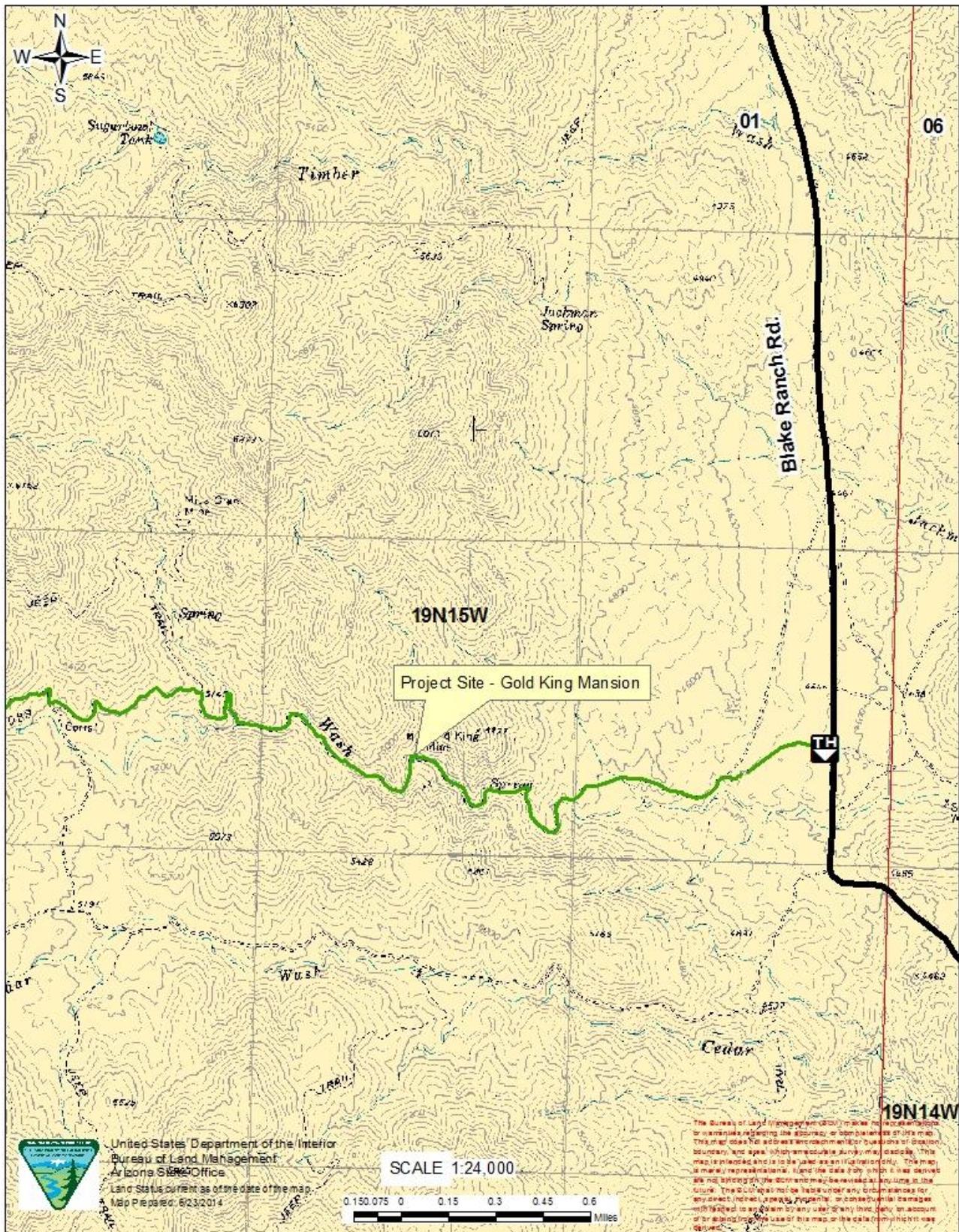
This proposal was presented at the BLM/AGFD bi-weekly NEPA coordination meeting held on June 16, 2014. Persons expressing an interest in reviewing the proposal are listed on the attached KFO Scoping Form.

Rebecca Peck	Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Land Management
Tim Watkins	Archaeologist, Bureau of Land Management
Matt Driscoll	Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management

Preparer(s): Tim Watkins, Archaeologist; Matt Driscoll, Outdoor Recreation Planner
Environmental Coordinator: John Reid

Attachment 1:

Project Location - Gold King Mansion



Document Path: T:\AZ\Kingman_F0\figs\user\mxd\ac\Project\work\Gold_King_04.mxd

Attachment 2:



Metal pipe covering windows at Gold King Mansion

Attachment 2:



Similar kiosk that would be installed at Gold King Mansion

Attachment 4:

Resource	Impact	Geographic Scope	Temporal Scope	Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions	Conclusions
Recreation	Temporarily preclude trail users from extensively touring Gold King Mansion. Noise created from construction activities and increased human presence (BLM employees and volunteers) could diminish the perceived recreation experience.	<p>Scope: Moss Wash OHV trail</p> <p>Rationale: Gold King Mansion is located along the Moss Wash OHV trail concentrating recreationists affected to trail users.</p>	<p>Scope: 1-3 days throughout the course of construction/maintenance activities.</p> <p>Rationale: Expected impacts to recreational opportunities are of a short duration as construction/maintenance activities would take place over a 1-3 day period.</p>	None	No Cumulative impacts
Wildlife, Migratory Birds, and BLM Sensitive Species	Animals may be temporarily flushed from their habitats during the course of construction and	<p>Scope: Gold King Mansion – 1 mile perimeter around the site.</p> <p>Rationale: Any noise/disturbance to wildlife would be located within a reasonable distance of</p>	<p>Scope: 1-3 days throughout the course of construction/maintenance activities</p> <p>Rationale: Expected impacts to wildlife would take place throughout the duration of construction and maintenance</p>	None	No Cumulative Impacts

	maintenance activities	Gold King Mansion. Any noise/disturbance near routes used to transport supplies/people would be for to brief a period to properly quantify impacts.	activities.		
Visual Resources	Long term for new kiosk (life of the structure at a minimum) Short term for activities that are associated with maintenance of existing signs.	Scope: Areas where Gold King Mansion is easily viewable including Moss Wash and surrounding ridges. Rationale: All construction and maintenance activities would take place near Gold King Mansion, thus the area surrounding Gold King Mansion would be affected when viewing the site.	Scope: Life of the constructed and maintained structures and signs. Rationale: Constructed structures would remain in place for a minimum of their life before deteriorating.	The landscape has been previously altered and retains very little of its natural character due to the mansion. Any modifications would take place proximate to the mansion and blend with the natural environment so as not to further detract from the character of the area. Furthermore, orientation of signs/kiosks would be so that not to dominate the view of the casual observer.	No Cumulative Impacts

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/DECISION RECORD

I have reviewed this environmental assessment including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts. I have determined that the proposed action with the mitigation measures described below will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an EIS is not required. I have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan. It is my decision to implement the project with the stipulations identified below.

Authorized Official: \s\ Ruben Sanchez Date: 7/11/2014

Ruben Sanchez
Field Manager
Kingman Field Office

DECISION RECORD

KINGMAN FIELD OFFICE

Gold King Mansion Enhancements NEPA# DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2014-0040-EA

It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action with mitigation measures as described in Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2014-0040-EA. This decision will result in the completion of various safety and interpretive enhancements to Gold King Mansion.

All work would be performed by Bureau of Land Management staff of the Kingman Field Office. The staff would be versed in all environmental documents associated with this project to ensure all mitigation measures are carried out.

Rationale:

My decision to approve the Proposed Action analyzed in DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2014-0040-EA is based on the following:

The Proposed Action has been analyzed, with no significant impacts anticipated, as stated in the FONSI signed on July 11, 2014 thus an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The environmental assessment adequately covers all affected resource values.

Implementation of the proposed action provides unique opportunities for protecting a significant and well-known historical site in the Kingman resource area. In addition, recreational opportunities for viewing historical sites like Gold King Mansion would be enhanced and maintained for future generations.

The decision to allow the Proposed Action does not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation, and is in conformance with the *Kingman Resource Management Plan*.

Alternatives Considered:

Propose Action: Barricade structures comparable to the existing metal pipe (**see attachment 2**) inside Gold King Mansion would be installed on the southeast doorways and windows to obstruct entrance to the roof of the building. Access to the mansion for the general public would be maintained. In addition to the metal pipe, a fence would be constructed using t-posts and barbed wire on the south side of the building where access to the roof is most prevalent. A warning sign addressing the safety concerns from walking on the roof would be installed on the fence. In addition to the above-mentioned safety items, an interpretive display and a kiosk would be maintained and installed. An interpretive sign describing the history and significance of Gold King Mansion is currently in place at the project location. Age and vandalism has led to the deterioration of this sign over time, warranting the replacement and possible relocation of this sign. This interpretive sign would be replaced and potentially moved to a previously disturbed location near the mansion that could be more suitable in terms of sign longevity. In an effort to educate the general public, a kiosk (**see attachment 3**) would be installed near the mansion on a north/south orientation that would facilitate educational information as it pertains to cultural site etiquette, area-specific biological concerns, off-highway vehicle (OHV) regulations, leave no trace, and tread lightly principles. All materials needed to complete these items would be transported to

the mansion utilizing a Utility Terrain Vehicle via existing routes. Construction and maintenance activities would be completed by BLM staff and volunteers from local OHV clubs if they could be recruited for the project.

No Action Alternative: No safety enhancements or interpretive facilities would be installed at Gold King Mansion. This could adversely impact cultural resources associated with the mansion and the health and safety of visitors to the site.

Appeals:

In accordance with Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 2931.8(a) and (b), if you are adversely affected by this decision, you may appeal the decision under Title 43 CFR, Part 4 and Part 1840. This decision will go into effect immediately and will remain in effect while appeals are pending unless a stay is granted under 43 CFR 4.21(b).

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal 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 appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

Approved By:

 \s\ Ruben Sanchez
Ruben Sanchez
Field Manager
Kingman Field Office

 7/11/2014
Date