

Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: *Hassayampa Field Office (HFO)*

NEPA/TRACKING NUMBER: *DOI-BLM-AZ-P010-2015-0013-DNA*

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: *LFHFCK2400000*

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TITLE: *Yarnell DNA*

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: *10N 5W Sections 14, 15, 23 Gila and Salt River Meridian (See Map 1)*

APPLICANT (if any): *N/A*

A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures:

The proposed action is to add 287 acres of hazardous fuels treatments (See Map 1) to the Yarnell Unit of the Hassayampa Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Defense System (EA No. DOI-BLM-AZ-P010-2014-0030-EA). The treatments could include mechanical, chemical, biological, seeding, and activity fuel disposal (chipping, pile burning) methods.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: Bradshaw-Harquahala Record of Decision & Approved Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: **4/22/2010**

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

FM-2. Fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) are maintained at non-hazardous levels to provide for public and firefighter safety.

FM-4. Each vegetation community is maintained within its natural range of variation in plant composition, structure, and function, and fuel loads are maintained below levels that are considered to be hazardous

FM-8. Use suitable tools for reducing hazardous fuels, including prescribed burning, wildland fire use, and mechanical methods. Methods can include the following:

- Chainsaws
- Motorized equipment for crushing brush
- Tractor and hand piling,
- Thinning and pruning, and treatments selected on site-specific case that are ecologically suitable and cost effective.

FM-10. In areas not suitable for fire where fuel loading is high, BLM will use biological,

mechanical, or chemical treatments and some prescribed fire to maintain non-hazardous levels of fuels and meet resource objectives.

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment for: Hassayampa Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Defense System Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-AZ-P010-2014-0030-EA).

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the exiting NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Yes. The proposed action involves use of the same techniques and no restricted lands specifically excluded in the Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment for: Hassayampa Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Defense System (February 2015). The action is within and adjacent to the same analysis area with similar resource conditions.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Yes. The proposed action is consistent with actions previously covered and reviewed in the Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment for: Hassayampa Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Defense System (February 2015) and the range of alternatives is still appropriate. The current environmental concerns, interests and resource values have not changed at the site since the time the existing NEPA documents were prepared.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, and updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Yes. The existing analysis is still valid since no new threatened, endangered, or BLM sensitive species have been listed within the project area. It can reasonably be concluded that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action because the new proposed action is the same as the proposed action analyzed in the original EA.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Yes. The proposal would result only in impacts that have been addressed in the Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment for: Hassayampa Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Defense System (February 2015).

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Yes. The proposed action is the same as that covered in the Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment for: Hassayampa Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Defense System (February 2015). A 30-day public comment period was open and no public comment was received.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

Name	Title	Initial
Josh Tibbetts	Fuels Specialist	
Codey Carter	Wildlife Biologist	CDC
Christopher McLaughlin	Archaeologist	CJM
James Holden	Rangeland Management Specialist	JH

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitute BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.


 Josh Tibbetts-Fuels Specialist

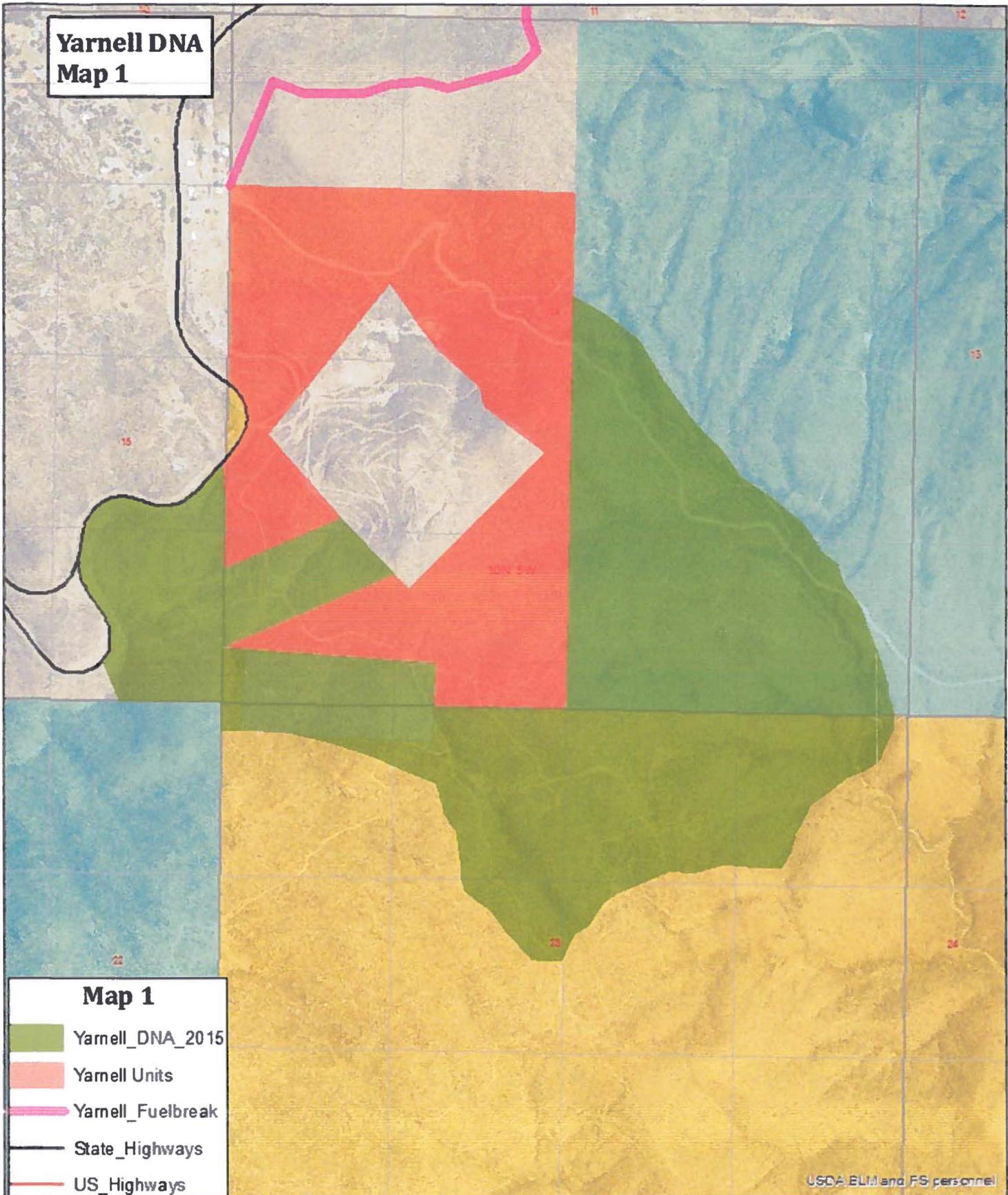

 Gloria Tibbetts -Planning and Environmental Coordinator


 Rem Hawes-Hassayampa Field Manager


 Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

**Yarnell DNA
Map 1**



Map 1

- Yarnell_DNA_2015
- Yarnell Units
- Yarnell_Fuelbreak
- State_Highways
- US_Highways

USDA BLM and FS personnel



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PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE**