

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record
Environmental Assessment**

DOI BLM UT Y010-2016-0218 EA

June 2016

Seven Mile Equestrian Trailhead

Location: Grand County, Utah

Proponent: BLM Moab Field Office
Trail Mix (Grand County's Non-motorized Trail Committee)

Moab Field Office
82 East Dogwood
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-2100
435-259-2106



FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

DOI BLM UT Y010 2015-0218 EA

INTRODUCTION:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has conducted an environmental analysis (DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2015-0218) for a proposed action to improve a trailhead and add a kiosk (0.3983 acres total) so that equestrian users may more easily access the Seven Mile Canyon Equestrian Trail. The trailhead would also serve hikers walking up Seven Mile Canyon. The parking area is described and mapped in the EA referenced above. The underlying need for the proposal would be met while providing equestrian opportunities for the general public.

The project area is within the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area and the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area. EA#DOI BLM UT Y010 2015-0218 is attached, and is incorporated by reference for this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). A no action alternative and the proposed action alternative were analyzed in the EA.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that the project is not a major federal action and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity as defined in 40 CFR 1508.27 and do not exceed those effects described in the 2008 Moab RMP/FEIS. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not needed.

This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described:

Context: The project is a site-specific action directly involving approximately 0.3983 acres of parking area on BLM administered land that by itself does not have international, national, regional, or state-wide importance.

Intensity: The following discussion is organized around the Ten Significance Criteria described in 40 CFR 1508.27 and incorporated into resources and issues considered (includes supplemental authorities Appendix 1 H-1790-1) and supplemental Instruction Memorandum, Acts, regulations and Executive Orders.

The following have been considered in evaluating intensity for this proposal:

1. **Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse.** The Proposed Action would impact resources as described in the EA. None of the environmental effects discussed in detail in the EA are considered significant, nor do the effects exceed those described in the 2008 Moab RMP/FEIS. Beneficial impacts to recreation users are analyzed within the EA.
2. **The degree to which the selected alternative will affect public health or safety.** The Proposed Action provides a safe parking alternative to the current “parking wherever you can find a space”, which enhances the public’s safety. In addition, the wire fence would be replaced with a swing gate, making vehicle entrance into the parking area safer. Providing parking on the south side of the highway would mean that equestrian users would not have to cross the busy Utah State Highway 313.

- 3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.** The historic and cultural resources of the area have been inventoried and no cultural resources were found. The trailhead avoids all cultural sites. In addition, mitigation measures will be undertaken to reduce the impacts of past actions. The following components of the Human Environment and Resource Issues are not affected because they are not present in the project area: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Wetlands, Water Resources, BLM Natural Areas, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, Wilderness/WSA, Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns, Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species, Threatened and Endangered Animal Species, Woodlands and Wastes. In addition, the following components of the Human Environment and Resource Issues, although present, would not be affected by this proposed action for the reasons listed in Appendix A of the EA: Air Quality, Floodplains, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Soils, Environmental Justice, Visual Resources, Invasive Species and Vegetation, Livestock Grazing, Utah BLM Sensitive Species, Migratory Birds, Socioeconomics and Fish and Wildlife, Paleontology and. Two components (Recreation and Vegetation), were analyzed in detail in Chapter 4.
- 4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.** There is no scientific controversy over the nature of the impacts.
- 5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.** The project is not unique or unusual. The BLM has experience implementing similar actions in similar areas. The environmental effects to the human environment are fully analyzed in the EA. There are no predicted effects on the human environment that are considered to be highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.
- 6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.** The actions considered in the selected alternative were considered by the interdisciplinary team within the context of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. Significant cumulative effects are not predicted. A complete analysis of the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the selected alternative and all other alternatives is described in Chapter 4 of the EA.
- 7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts – which include connected actions regardless of land ownership.** The interdisciplinary team evaluated the possible actions in context of past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions. Significant cumulative effects are not predicted. A complete disclosure of the effects of the project is contained in Chapter 4 of the EA.
- 8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.** The project will not adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of

Historic Places, nor will it cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources. A cultural inventory has been completed for the proposed action, and all cultural resources were avoided.

9. **The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, or the degree to which the action may adversely affect: 1) a proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or its habitat, or 2) a species on BLM's sensitive species list.** Habitats would incur no new impacts as parking is currently in use by the public.
10. **Whether the action threatens a violation of a federal, state, local, or tribal law, regulation or policy imposed for the protection of the environment, where non-federal requirements are consistent with federal requirements.** The project does not violate any known federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

 _____

Authorized Officer

 _____

Date

DECISION RECORD
DOI BLM UT Y010 2015-0218 EA

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has conducted an environmental analysis (EA # DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2014-0218) for the delineation of a 0.3983 acre trailhead, as well as a kiosk in the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area (part of the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area). Two alternatives were analyzed for their environmental impacts (Proposed Action and No Action).

It is my decision to approve the Proposed Action, which authorizes the delineation of a parking area and construction of an information kiosk for non-motorized users (hikers and equestrians) to access the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area. The approved parking area will be available for private, commercial and organized group use. See the Map in the above referenced EA for a map of the approved route. This EA is attached to this Decision Record.

Authorities: The authority for this decision is in CFR 43 8342-Designation of Areas and Trails.

Compliance and Monitoring: No monitoring is required. The BLM will ensure that the following terms, conditions and stipulations outlined below are met.

Terms / Conditions / Stipulations: The proponent commits to the following terms and conditions in the construction and marking of the approved trailhead.

- 1) Gullies will be blocked to minimize erosion on the sides of the trailhead parking area.
- 2) The designated parking area will be delineated with fencing or boulders.
- 3) A gate will be installed so that vehicles swinging into the parking area will have ease of access.

PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CONSISTENCY:

The Proposed Action has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with a specific decision in the 2008 Moab RMP. Decision REC-39 established the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Within that SRMA, the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area (1,026 acres) was established to provide equestrian recreation opportunities. This action provides a parking location for non-motorized users (hikers and horseback riders) who wish to access the area.

The proposed action is also consistent with the Grand County General Plan (2012), which calls for “maintaining and enhancing the recreational, scenic and cultural amenities unique to Grand County to attract and sustain economic activity”. The Grand County General Plan recognizes that the public lands of Grand County are the foundation of the county’s economic prosperity because of the reliance of Grand County on tourist revenue.

Rationale for Decision: the Proposed Action meets the purpose and need for the project by providing parking opportunities for equestrians in an area allocated to that use in the 2008 Moab Resource Management Plan. There are no significant impacts to any resources located near the parking area. The designation of the trailhead would improve safety as trailers pull off Utah Highway 313 as a swing gate would be installed, lessening time vehicles need to wait in order to

turn. Information would be provided to users, and parking would be maximized on the small piece of land available for parking.

The public was notified of the proposed action by posting on the ePlanning website (ENBB) on August 7, 2015. The proposal was discussed at meetings open to the public by Trail Mix, a county-sponsored committee. The project had the input of the Moab Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of America.

Protest/Appeal Language:

The decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. Public notification of this decision will be considered to have occurred on June 15, 2016. Within 30 days of this decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at Moab Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

If you wish to file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(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 appellant's success on the 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 granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and with the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 6201 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1180, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.



Authorized Officer



Date

Attachments: EA # DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2015-0218, which includes a diagram of the Proposed Action

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

Environmental Assessment DOI BLM UT Y010-2015-0218
June 2016

Seven Mile Equestrian Trailhead

Location: along Utah Highway 313, Grand County, UT

*Applicant/Address: BLM Moab Field Office
Trail Mix (Grand County's Non-Motorized Trail Committee)*

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Moab Field Office
82 E. Dogwood
Moab, Utah 84532
Phone: 435-259-2100



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

INTRODUCTION

The BLM Moab Field Office, in conjunction with its partner Trail Mix, proposes to make improvements to equestrian parking for the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area within the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area. A popular equestrian trail goes up the south fork of Seven Mile Canyon; riders also use the north fork of Seven Mile Canyon for equestrian activities. On any given day during the recreation season, trucks and horse trailers can be seen parked at the previously-disturbed location of the proposed trailhead.

The proposed trailhead is located approximately 12 miles northwest of Moab just off Utah Highway 313 (see attached diagram of project area).

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The need for the proposed action is to provide trailhead and parking facilities (including a kiosk) for horseback riders and hikers using the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian trail system within the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area. People are currently parking just off the highway; the purpose of the proposed action (providing a trailhead parking area) is to improve and contain the parking that is already occurring at this location. The area available for parking is constrained by a drop-off into the riparian area (the condition of the road is such that trucks and trailers cannot drive down the road in search of better parking opportunities.) The BLM proposes to clear some non-riparian vegetation to open up the number of parking spaces, and to define the area available for parking. The increasing use of this area has necessitated the addition of a kiosk as well as a designated parking area/trailhead.

The purpose of the proposed action is to authorize delineation of a trailhead parking area in the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area within the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area.

CONFORMANCE WITH BLM LAND USE PLAN(S)

This action is in conformance with a specific decision in the 2008 Moab RMP. Decision REC-39 established the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Within that SRMA, the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area (1,026 acres) was established to provide equestrian opportunities. This action would provide a safe parking location for those riders who wish to access the equestrian Focus Area.

The 2008 Moab Resource Management Plan allows no surface disturbing activities within 100 meters of riparian areas. The edge of the proposed parking area is topographically above, but within 100 linear meters of the riparian area. However, the 2008 Resource Management Plan also provides an exception if there are no practical alternatives. Alternative locations were considered, but eliminated for the reasons given

below. Therefore, the exception to the 100 meter rule would be authorized. In addition, the surface of the parking area is already disturbed.

RELATIONSHIPS TO STATUTES, REGULATIONS AND OTHER PLANS

The proposed action is consistent with the Grand County General Plan (2012), which includes the following strategy: Strategy E - Maintain and enhance the recreational, scenic, and cultural amenities unique to Grand County to attract and sustain economic activity.

CHAPTER 2 DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

INTRODUCTION

This EA focuses on the Proposed and No Action alternatives. The No Action alternative is considered and analyzed to provide a baseline for comparison of the impacts of the proposed action.

PROPOSED ACTION

The BLM proposes to delineate an area for the parking of vehicles and horse trailers to improve equestrian access to the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area. (See attached diagram of proposed trailhead parking lot). The trailhead would be located immediately adjacent to Utah Highway 313, on the other side of the range fence that parallels the highway. The proposed trailhead would serve the equestrian trail system; it may also be used by hikers. Improvements would include delineating and flattening the parking area as well as the addition of a kiosk to provide equestrian and hiking information. The delineation would be with post and cable, or some sort of fencing. The size of the parking area would be approximately 0.4 acres.

Trail Mix commits to controlling possible erosion by filling in the existing gullies off the parking surface.

The proposed parking area is directly behind the range fence along Highway 313. This range fence currently has a wire gate that is very difficult to open (which means that vehicles attempting to turn into the parking area have to wait on the highway until someone gets the gate opened). Trail Mix proposes to replace this wire gate with an easier-to-use metal swing gate.

A portion of the trailhead would be located within the UDOT right of way for Highway 313. UDOT has informed the BLM that the proposed improvement to the parking area does not need an encroachment permit, but may proceed, as it is an existing use.

NO ACTION

The No Action Alternative would be to undertake no improvements to the parking situation at the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area. The area would not be delineated, a kiosk would not be provided and a swing gate would not be installed.

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS CONSIDERED, BUT REJECTED

The proposed location for the parking area has been in use for many years. It is not a perfect location, as there is very little physical space to expand the trailhead, which is sandwiched in between deep gulleys. Trail Mix and the BLM reviewed several other potential trailhead locations, but rejected them.

Several of the alternate locations were on the opposite side of the highway from the trail. It is not safe to require horses to cross a high speed highway, and those locations were rejected. Another location further east along Highway 313 (that is, closer to Highway 191) was rejected because a connector trail for equestrians would have had to be built either on the bench on the south side of the canyon or within the drainage itself. While these connector trails would have added one mile to the ride, it would be a mile of rather unpleasant riding with traffic noise reverberating off the cliffs. The “approach” trail was therefore considered undesirable from a user perspective. This “approach” trail, as well as the trailhead itself, would also have been in the riparian area of Seven Mile Canyon. Additionally, it is very unlikely that any hikers wishing to hike up the canyon would be willing to add an extra two miles to their walk. Hikers would undoubtedly continue to park in the current existing location.

For the reasons outlined above, the alternative locations for the trailhead were rejected.

CHAPTER 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL SETTING

The affected environment of the Proposed Action and No Action alternatives were considered and analyzed by an interdisciplinary team as documented in the Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Record Checklist, Appendix A. The checklist indicates which resources of concern are either not present in the project area or would not be impacted to a degree that requires detailed analysis.

Recreation and Vegetation could be impacted to a level requiring further analysis; these resources are described in this chapter, and impacts on these resources are analyzed in Chapter 4 below.

Recreation

The area of the proposed parking lot is within the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area (a subdivision of the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges SRMA). The area has been popular for horseback riding even before the 2008 Moab Resource Management Plan chose to allocate it to that activity. Horseback riders park near Highway 313 and venture up both forks of Seven Mile Canyon, although the south fork is the more popular. The canyons are also used rather extensively by hikers, who wander up both canyons in search of both scenery and rock art.

Highway 313, a Utah Scenic Byway, had a vehicle count of 412,450 in 2013. About 1,130 vehicles per day use the highway, although use peaks in spring and fall and drops off in winter.

Vegetation

The proposed location is sparsely vegetated (see attached aerial photo), although there is some rabbitbrush, sagebrush, fourwing saltbush, tamarisk and greasewood at the location.

CHAPTER 4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS

PROPOSED ACTION

This section analyzes the impacts of the proposed action to those resources described in the Affected Environment, Chapter 3, above.

Recreation

The trailhead parking area in the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area would provide a benefit to equestrians and hikers by providing a delineated and cleared parking area for these users. This benefit is particularly important to equestrian users, who often come to a location with a truck and trailer (many equestrian trailers are quite long, as they often contain self-contained camper units in addition to horse stalls). The proposed action would improve safety along Highway 313 as the new gate would make it easier and faster for trucks and trailers to pull into the parking area and off the busy highway. Providing a cleared parking area would make the desired location for parking more obvious, and would expand the number of rigs which could be accommodated. The location of the trailhead parking area would keep horses on the canyon side of the highway. This means that horses and riders would not be forced to cross a highway with 1,130 vehicle trips per day on a year round basis.

An addition of a kiosk would provide the benefit of giving information to horseback riders and hikers.

Vegetation

Some vegetation would be lost by providing parking. This loss of vegetation would not exceed 0.4 acres of disturbance. (About 0.4 acres is the total acreage of the parking area; much of it is previously disturbed.)

NO ACTION

The No Action alternative does not meet the need for the proposed action, which is to improve safety and provide improved trailhead parking for Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area.

Recreation

The delineated and flattened parking area with a kiosk would not be provided for the equestrian community. A new gate on the highway would not be installed, and trucks

and trailers would have to wait longer on the busy highway to pull into the parking area. An undelineated parking area could result in accidents if drivers backed big rigs off the flattened area. Information would not be provided to horseback riders and hikers.

Vegetation

The edge of the parking area would not be shored up and would continue to erode. No vegetation would be removed; vegetation would continue to be crushed as people continued to park on the already disturbed land.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative impacts 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. There is no further development foreseen in the project area. It has been determined that cumulative impacts to recreation and vegetation would be negligible as a result of the proposed action because impacts of the proposed action itself are negligible.

CHAPTER 5 PERSONS, GROUPS, AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

During preparation of the EA, the public was notified of the proposed action and EA by posting on the ePlanning website on August 7, 2015. Trail Mix and the BLM worked extensively to find alternative locations to the existing parking area, but none was found to be suitable. The project also had the involvement of the Backcountry Horsemen of America, Moab Chapter. The project was discussed at the monthly Trail Mix meetings, which are open to the public and well attended by a cross-section of the community, including a member of the Grand County Council, the Grand County Planner and other officials.

Table 5.1. List of BLM Preparers

Name	Title	Responsible for the Following Section(s) of this Document
Josh Relph	Fuels Specialist	Riparian/Wetlands
Pam Riddle	Wildlife Biologist	T and E Animals, Migratory Birds, BLM Sensitive Species, Fish and Wildlife
David Williams	Range Management Specialist	T and E Plants, Soils
Kim Allison	Range Management Specialist	Grazing, Rangeland Health Standards, Vegetation
Jordan Davis	Range Management Specialist	Woodlands/Forestry, Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds
Bill Stevens	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Natural Areas, Wilderness/WSA, Socio-economics, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, Environmental Justice
Jared Lundell	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns
Katie Stevens	Outdoor Recreation Planner	ACECs, Recreation, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Visual Resources
David Pals	Geologist	Geology, Wastes, Water Resources, Floodplains
ReBecca Hunt Foster	Paleontologist	Paleontology

Appendix

Appendix A: Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Record Checklist

Attachments

Location Map

Diagram of Proposed Project

Photo of location with horse trailers

Appendix A: INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST

Project Title: Seven Mile Equestrian Trailhead
NEPA Log Number: DOI BLM UT Y010-2015-0218 EA
Project Leader: Katie Stevens

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
 The following elements are not present in the Moab Field Office and have been removed from the checklist:
 Farmlands (Prime or Unique), Wild Horses and Burros.

Determi- nation	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)				
NI	Air Quality Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Becky Doolittle	5/52016
NI	Floodplains	As per RMP exception (Table A1 p. A-5) Applicant committed measures address how the parking area is constructed and mitigated for runoff. The action prevents degradation due to dispersed parking and mitigates gullying.	David Pals	5/5/2016
NI	Soils	The area has already been impacted by vehicles; no new disturbance	Dave Williams	5/5/2016
NI	Water Resources/Quality (drinking/surface/ground)	Runoff as per applicant committed measures	David Pals	5/5/2016
NI	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	<p>NI – Although the project is within 100 meters of a riparian area, multiple onsite visits have shown no signs of riparian vegetation within the project area other than a few patches of Inland Saltgrass. It's assumed the sporadic presence of Saltgrass is due to road runoff from Highway 313. The edge of the proposed parking area is topographically higher in elevation, but within 100 linear meters of the riparian area. The 2008 Moab Resource Management Plan allows no surface disturbing activities within 100 meters of riparian areas unless exception criteria are met. This project meets these criteria found on p. A-5 of the RMP. Alternative locations were considered, but eliminated from further analysis. Therefore, the exception to the 100 meter rule would be authorized. Erosion control measures are incorporated into the project design and will help to decrease erosion that is currently taking place adjacent to the parking area. The parking area is already disturbed with current vegetation onsite including:</p> <p>On-Site Plants Grasses Inland Saltgrass (<i>Distichlis spicata</i>) Indian Ricegrass (<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i>) Cheatgrass (<i>Bromus tectorum</i>) Forbs</p>	Josh Relph	6/8/2016

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
		<p>Spring Parsely (<i>Cymopterus spp</i>) <u>Shrubs</u> Greasewood (<i>Sarcobatus vermiculatus</i>) Fourwing Saltbush (<i>Atriplex canescens</i>) Sagebrush (<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>) Green Rabbitbrush (<i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>) Rubber Rabbitbrush (<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i>)</p> <p>Off Site Plants <u>Trees</u> Cottonwood (<i>Populus fremontii</i>) Tamarisk (<i>Tamarix chinensis</i>)</p> <p>This action is in conformance with a specific decision in the 2008 Moab RMP. Decision REC-39 established the Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Within that SRMA, the Seven Mile Canyons Equestrian Focus Area (1,026 acres) was established to provide equestrian opportunities. This action would provide a safe parking location for those riders who wish to access the equestrian Focus Area. It has been determined that since this area is small in scope, not within the riparian green belt, does not contain riparian vegetation, protects adjacent/off-site cottonwoods, incorporates erosion control measures, and meets the exception criteria that no further analysis is needed.</p>		
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	See 2008 RMP	Katie Stevens	10/27/15
PI	Recreation	Would provide recreation benefit in improved parking and information dissemination	Katie Stevens	10/27/15
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	See 2008 RMP	Katie Stevens	10/27/15
NI	Visual Resources	Previous disturbance already heavily used for parking	Katie Stevens	10/27/15
NP	BLM Natural Areas	See 2008 RMP	Bill Stevens	10/27/15
NI	Socio-Economics		Bill Stevens	10/27/15
NP	Wilderness/WSA	See 2008 RMP	Bill Stevens	10/27/15
NP	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	See 2008 RMP	Bill Stevens	10/27/15
NP	Cultural Resources	<p>BLM conducted a literature search and a Class III archaeological inventory of the project area. The BLM found no properties eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. The BLM, therefore, made a determination of No Historic Properties Affected. Details of these finds are discussed in the Cultural Resource Inventory Report (U-15-BL-0831). BLM will consult with the Utah SHPO in accordance with the threshold procedures for small projects specified in the Utah BLM/Utah SHPO Statewide Small-scale Undertakings Programmatic Agreement.</p>	Jared Lundell	11/16/15

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
NP	Native American Religious Concerns	No known sites of religious or cultural significance to Native American tribes are within the project area.	Jared Lundell	11/16/15
NI	Environmental Justice		Bill Stevens	10/27/15
NP	Wastes (hazardous or solid)		D. Pals	11/17/15
NI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species	No new surface disturbances – currently used as parking area; no change in use.	P. Riddle	11/12/15
NI	Migratory Birds	No new or additional impacts to wildlife or habitats	P. Riddle	11/12/15
NI	Utah BLM Sensitive Species	No new or additional impacts to wildlife or habitats	P. Riddle	11/12/15
NI	Fish and Wildlife Excluding USFW Designated Species	No new or additional impacts to wildlife or habitats	P. Riddle	11/12/15
NI	Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	Not likely to spread the invasive/noxious weeds. Recreation has management in place to manage any problems if they were to occur.	Jordan Davis	11/16/15
NP	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species		Dave Williams	11/17/15
NI	Livestock Grazing		Dave Williams	11/17/15
NI	Rangeland Health Standards		Dave Williams	11/17/15
PI	Vegetation Excluding USFW Designated Species	The total project area is 0.38 acres. The majority of this acreage is already devoid of vegetation. Some vegetation would be removed on the currently undisturbed land.	Dave Williams	11/17/15
NI	Woodland / Forestry	No trees are to be damaged as a result of the Proposed Action.	Jordan Davis	11/16/15
NP	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production		D. Pals	11/17/15
NI	Lands/Access	Subject to valid existing rights.	Jan Denney	11/16/15
NI	Paleontology		R. Hunt-Foster	11/16/15

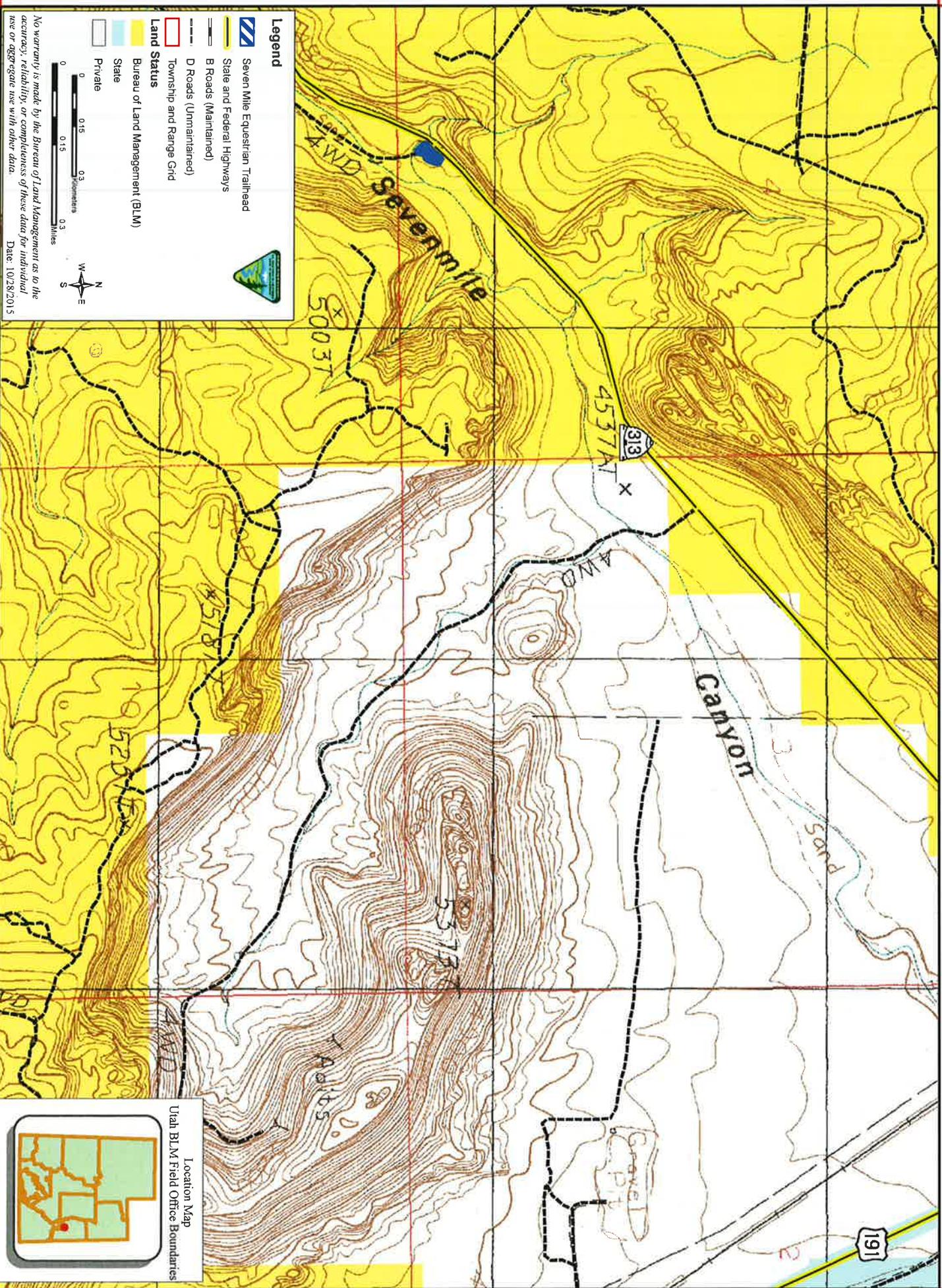
FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	<i>KC Stevens</i>	<i>6/8/16</i>	
Authorized Officer	<i>T. Bruce Doolittle</i>	<i>6/10/16</i>	

Seven Mile Equestrian Trailhead

R 20E

DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2015-0218 EA
 Bureau of Land Management
 Moab Field Office



T 25S

T 25S

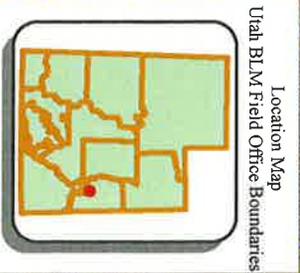
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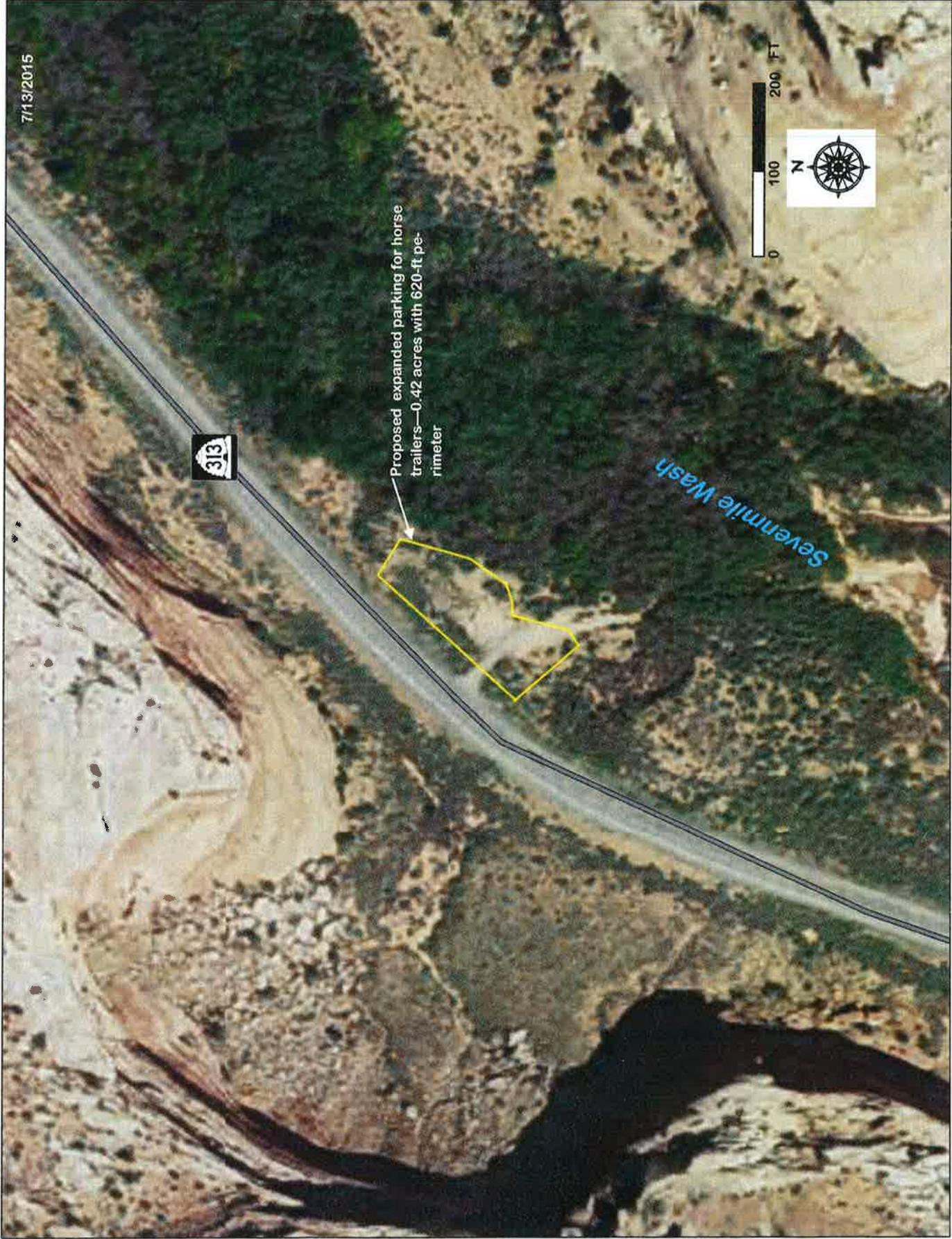
Legend

- Seven Mile Equestrian Trailhead
- State and Federal Highways
- B Roads (Maintained)
- D Roads (Unmaintained)
- Township and Range Grid
- Land Status**
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- State
- Private

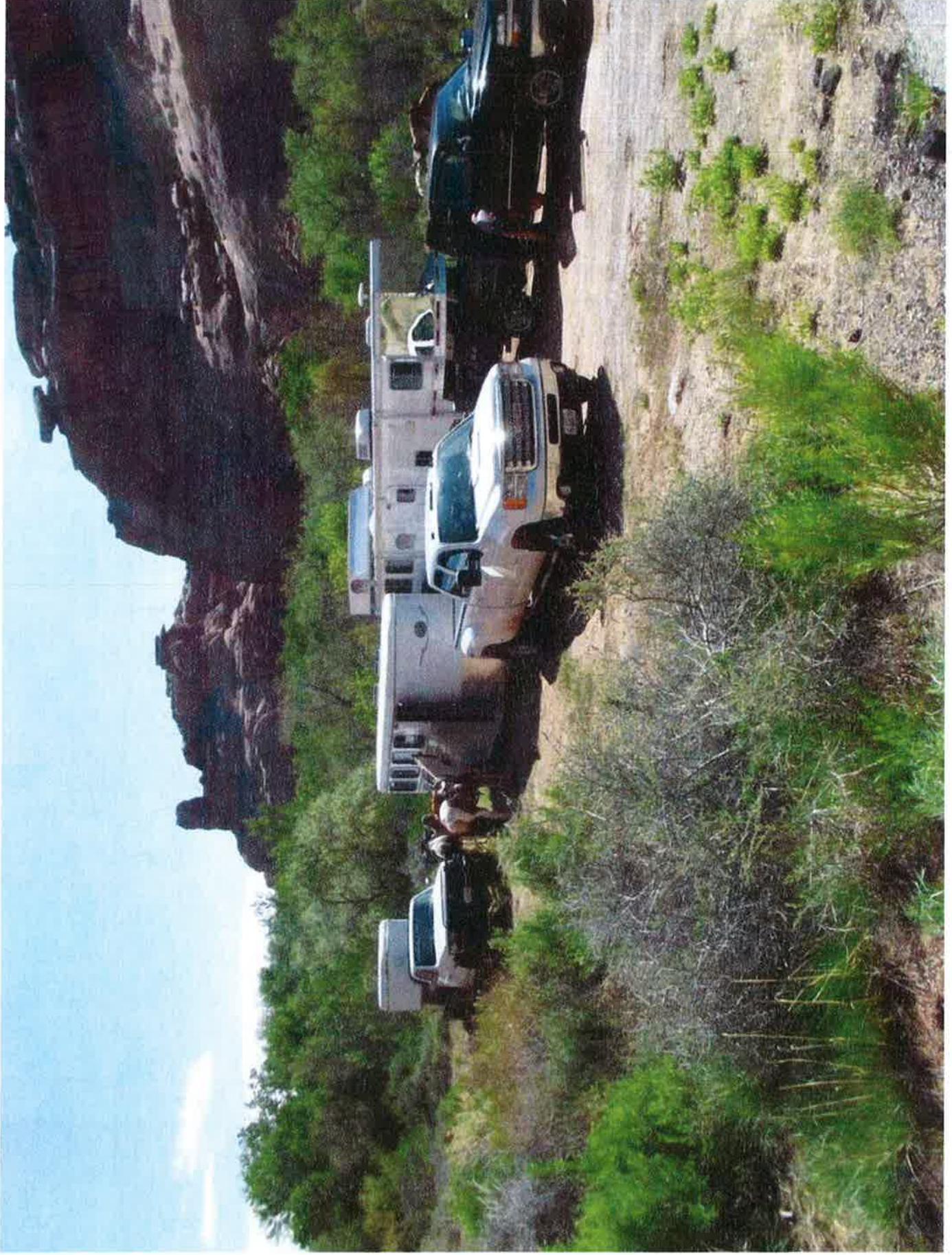


No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.
 Date: 10/28/2015





Proposed Parking Lot—Site “C” for equestrian trailers—Mile 20.2 on SR-313



Sevenmile Wash Site "C" parking