BLM

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

Categorical Exclusion

Double Bridge Pit

PREPARING OFFICE

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Categorical Exclusion
Double Bridge Pit

Prepared by
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Elko District BLM, Wells Field Office

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Chapter 1. Categorical Exclusion Worksheet

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NEPA ID No: DOI-BLM-NV-E030–2015–0003–CX

BLM Office: Wells Field Office (LLNVE0300)

Prepared by: Harley Gordon

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: NVN-094269

Type of Action (Subject Code): 3600

Location of Proposed Action: Elko County — Wells Field Office, Elko District BLM

Applicant: BLM use

Description of Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to extract 9000 cubic yards of material from the Double Bridge pit (Figures 1 and 2). 2000 cubic yards of this material is to be used in support of the construction of the Orange Bridge replacement project. The remaining 7000 cubic yards of material is intended to be used in support of maintenance and future maintenance of the local BLM roads.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Wells RMP

Date Approved/Ammended: 07/16/1985

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

In the Wells Resource Managment Plan Record of Decision (ROD), the Minerals and Energy Program Objectives listed on Page 25, provides that "The public lands will be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation's needs for domestic sources of minerals." As a standard operating procedure, the ROD prescribes that "*Time-of-day and/or time-of-year restrictions will be placed on construction activities associated with transmission and utility facilities and leasable and saleable mineral exploration and/or development that are in the immediate vicinity or would cross crucial sage grouse, crucial deer and pronghorn antelope winter habitats, antelope kidding areas, or raptor nesting areas*."

This Minerals Objective is to: *"Maintain public lands open for exploration, development and production of mineral resources whil mitigating conflicts with wildlife, wild horses, recreation and wilderness resources"*

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with BLM Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 516 DM 11.9.

F. Solid Minerals

10. 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.

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.

D. Conclusion and Signature

Based upon this review, I have determined that the Proposed Action, as described, is in conformance with the land use plan and meets the criteria for the selected CX. There is no potential for significant impacts. Therefore, the action is excluded from further environmental analysis and documentation.

/S/ Melanie Peterson 07/28/2015

Melanie A Peterson Date
Wells Field Office Manager

Contact Information

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:
Harley Gordon
Geologist
Wells Field Office
3900 E. Idaho St.
Elko, NV 89801
(775) 753–0251
hgordon@blm.gov

* NOTE A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.

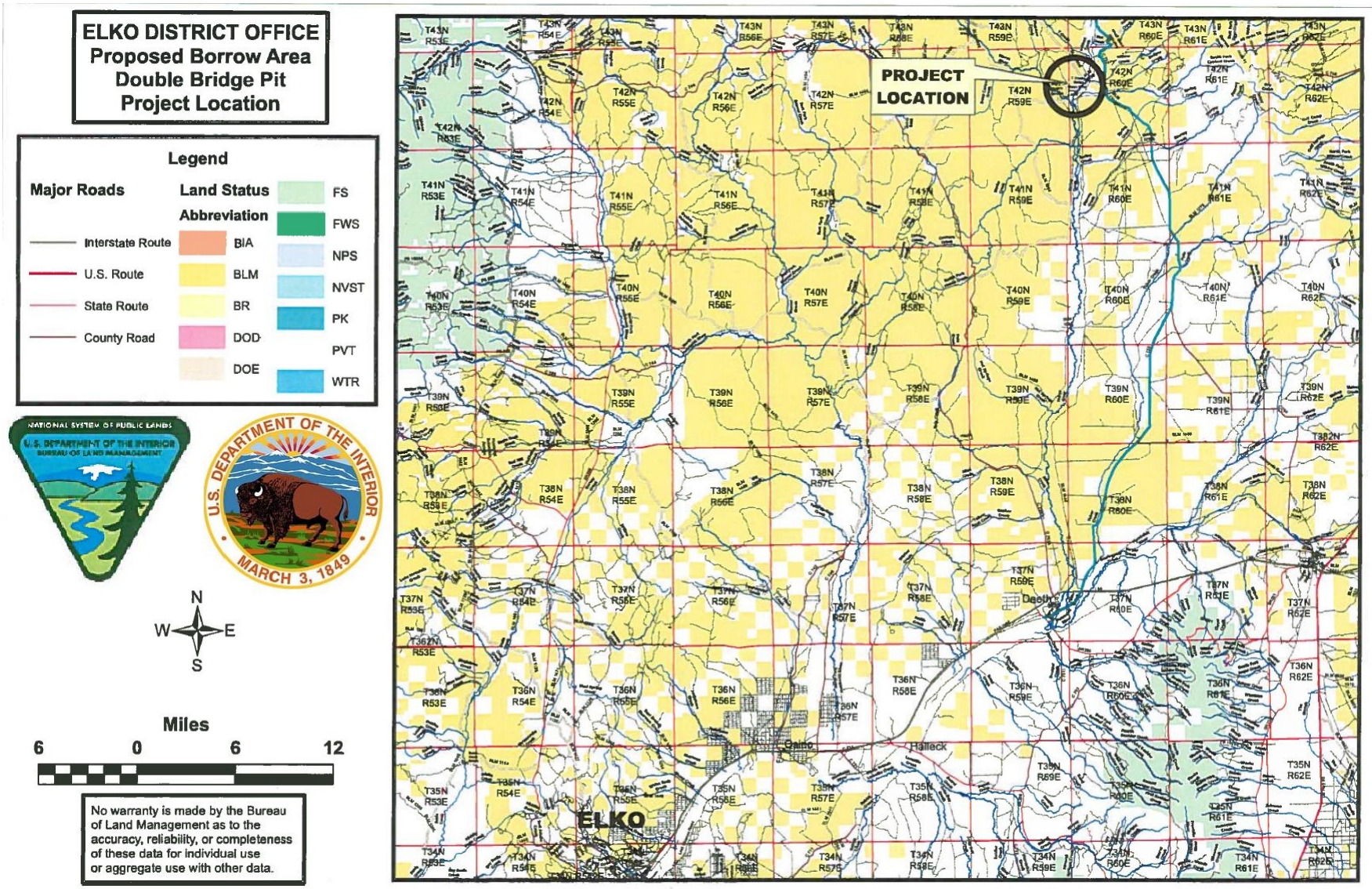

Figure 1. Double Bridge Pit Project Location

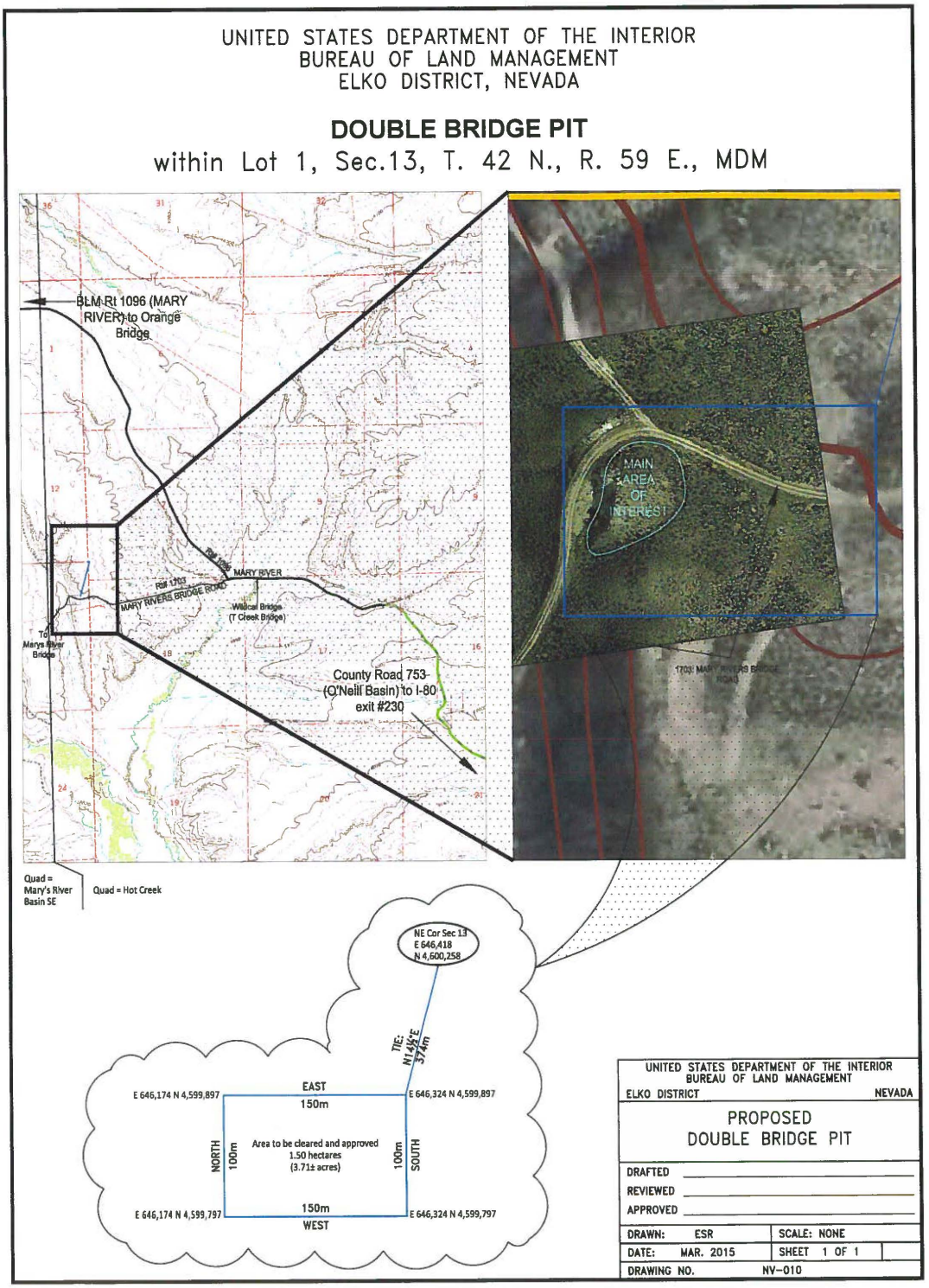

Figure 2. Double Bridge Project Area

Chapter 2. Screening for Extraordinary Circumstances

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Each of the following questions must be answered negatively, with concurrence from all resource specialists participating on the interdisciplinary team (IDT), before this CX may be approved (516 DM).

Table 2.1. Screening for Extraordinary Circumstances

Resource Concerns	Yes	No
1. Will this project have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?		X
2. Will this project adversely affect such unique geographic characteristics as: (a) historic or cultural resources; (b) park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers; (c) sole or principal drinking water aquifers; (d) prime farmlands, wetlands, flood plains, or (e) ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department of the Interior's National Register of Natural Landmarks?		(a) X (b) X (c) X (d) X (e) X
3. Will this project have highly controversial environmental effects?		X
4. Will this project have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X
5. Will this project establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X
6. Will this project be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?		X
7. Will this project have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?		X
8. Will this project have adverse effects on species listed or proposed for listing on the Threatened or Endangered Species List, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		X
9. Will this project require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management),Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?		X
10. Will this project threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X
11. Will this project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites? (Executive Order 13007— Sacred Sites)		X
12. Will this project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species?		X

Table 2.2. Reviewer Comments and Concurrence

Resource	Specialist Name	Comments	Initials	Date
AFM- Non-Renewables	Bryan Mulligan	no concerns	/s/ BM	07/15/2015
AFM- Renewables	Melanie Mirati	no issues	/s/ MM	07/27/2015
Air/Hydrology/Soils	John Daniel	no issues	/s/ JD	07/07/2015
Archaeology	Lucinda Langston	no survey needed	/s/ LL	06/05/2015
Native American Coordination	Lucinda Langston	no survey needed	/s/ LL	06/05/2015
P&EC	Terri Dobis	no concerns	/s/ TKD	06/26/2015
Range Management/ Grazing	Clay Stott	Shut gates. Don't harass livestock	/s/ CS	07/11/2015
Recreation	Kristine Dedolph	no concerns	/s/ KMD	06/04/2015

Weeds	Sam Cisney	ensure equipment is cleaned and free of weeds (seeds and plant parts) prior to on-site arrival	/s/ SC	07/16/2015
Wild Horses & Burros	Bruce Thompson	N/A	/s/ BWCT	06/04/2015
Wildlife	Kelly Michelsen	see 07/25/2015 email	/s/ KDM	07/27/2015
Fisheries	Beth Wood	no concerns	/s/ BDW	07/01/2015

Gordon, Harley <hgordon@blm.gov>

Double Bridge Pit Cx

1 message

Michelsen, Kelly <kmichelsen@blm.gov> Mon, Jul 27, 2015 at 1:47 PM
To: Harley Gordon <hgordon@blm.gov>

Hi Harley,

This project does fall within greater sage-grouse (GSG) preliminary priority habitat (PPH); however, there will not be any issues with GSG habitat. The pit area falls right alongside a well-developed gravel road; the vegetation within the potential pit area is sparse and doesn't offer the correct structure for nesting and brood-rearing; and more suitable habitat surrounds the project area for several miles.

There are no other wildlife concerns.

Thank you,

Kelly Michelsen
Natural Resource Specialist (Wildlife)
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"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do." ~Edward Everett Hale