



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Caliente Field Office

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Caliente, Nevada 89008-0237

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

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In Reply Refer To:
8300 (NVL0300)

DECISION RECORD **For the** **Bureau of Land Management, Ely District** **Lincoln County Partners Non-motorized, Multipurpose Trails**

Decision:

It is my decision to approve the construction of 27 miles of non-motorized, multiuse trails, both trailheads, and to improve and maintain three shallow water crossings along Clover Creek, and implement the Lincoln County Partners Non-Motorized, Multiuse Trails project as described in the EA DOI-BLM-NV-L030-2015-0021-EA. The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Ely District Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) (2008), as amended. A right-of-way (ROW) will be issued to the BLM for a term of 40 years for the construction, operations, and maintenance of the 27 miles of trails and both trailheads on public land. The ROW boundary would extend 50 feet to either side of center, creating a 100 foot corridor which would provide access for construction, operations, and maintenance. Any required permits from the Army Corps of Engineers will be obtained prior to water improvements along Clover Creek.

Background Information:

The EA analyzed two alternatives: the Proposed Action, and the No Action Alternative. A project notice was sent to other federal agencies, Native American Tribes, the Nevada State Clearinghouse, interested publics, and grazing permittees on February 1, 2016. The preliminary EA was placed on the BLM NEPA Register website for 30 days to receive public comments until March 1, 2016. The BLM received 25 external comments from individuals and government agencies on the proposed action during the 30-day comment period. The majority of letters expressed support for the project described in Alternative A. The final EA was revised to include additional impact analysis for various resources, as well as further explanation for the designated trail uses proposed in Alternative A.

Rationale For Decision:

The BLM's purpose in approving construction of approximately 27 miles of non-motorized

hiking and mountain biking trails, two trailheads, and three water crossing improvements is to provide an additional recreational use of the public lands near Caliente. This project would broaden the range of available user experiences, reduce environmental impacts from unauthorized use, and enhance tourism in Caliente while helping to promote awareness of the natural and cultural resources in Lincoln County through interpretation and education. The proposed action would also enhance stewardship of the public lands in accordance with BLM Recreation Strategy 2014-2019 and BLM Washington Office Information Memorandum 2014-110 while fostering mutually beneficial collaborative relationships with the communities in Lincoln County, recreationists, Nevada State Parks, and local proprietors.

The need for the proposed action is to respond to the public's desire for more non-motorized recreational opportunities and economic growth in Lincoln County and the City of Caliente. There are currently no mountain bike trails on the public lands in Lincoln County, and this project is being implemented in direct response to the public's desire for these kinds of trails and recreation opportunities. Construction of these trails and trailheads would broaden the range of available user experiences within Lincoln County and potentially bring an economic benefit to the area in the form of non-motorized, recreational tourism. Improving the three shallow water crossings along Clover Creek would facilitate low-impact access to the trails.

The Proposed Action was chosen over the No Action Alternative because it best meets the needs of the public as described in the EA. The Proposed Action has been analyzed, and it has been determined that there is no significant impact as referenced in the attached FONSI.

Appeal:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (Board), U. S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Hearings and Appeals, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error. If an appeal is taken, a notice of appeal must be filed at the Bureau of Land Management, Caliente Field Office, 1400 S Front St., Caliente, NV within 30 days of receipt of the decision if served a copy of the document, or otherwise within 30 days of the date of the decision. If sent by United States Postal Service, the notice of appeal must be sent to the following address:

Bureau of Land Management
Caliente Field Office
P O Box 237
Caliente, NV 89008-0237

The appeal may include a statement of reasons at the time the notice of appeal is filed, or the statement of reasons may be filed within 30 days of filing this appeal. At the same time the original documents are filed with this office, copies of the notice of appeal, statement of reasons, and all supporting documentation also must be sent to the U. S. DOI Solicitor at the following address:

Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region

