

# **Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**

**Faye Luther Trail Realignments – Construction and Rehabilitation**

**DOI-BLM-NV-C020-2016-0007-DNA**

Sierra Front Field Office

Carson City

Nevada

89701

775-885-6000

# *Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)*

## **Worksheet**

U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: Sierra Front Field Office, LLNVC02000

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: 8300-2016-01

**PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE:** Faye Luther Trail Realignments – Construction and Rehabilitation

**LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Alpine County, CA. T. 12 N., R 19 E, S. 26, 35

Description of Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures.

The Carson Valley Trails Association (CVTA) is proposing three separate trail realignments to the Faye-Luther Trail system located in Alpine County, CA. The proposed trail realignments involve the existing Grand View Loop, Lonesome Trail and the Interpretive Trail. The existing Interpretive Trail segment would be rehabbed soon after the construction of the proposed realignment. The existing Grand View and Lonesome trail segments would be retained in the trail system unless use monitoring and/or maintenance issues indicate a retained trail segment warrant's rehabilitation. All construction and rehab of the trails would be conducted with hand tools. The project would take place in the spring or fall of 2016.

**Grand View Loop Proposal:** The length of this realignment would result in about 2,073 feet of new trail. This realignment would be constructed as a single-track trail with a few switchbacks and would meet modern trail requirements for accessibility and sustainability. The trail will be built similar to the rest of the trail system, with an approximate twenty-four inch width and a grade of eight to ten percent with grade reversals, accommodating hikers, bikers and equestrians.

**Lonesome Trail Proposal:** A segment of the trail exhibits a steep down-and -up grade which makes it difficult for certain segments of the public to negotiate. The 1,065 foot trail realignment would create an alternate route on the contour for users to experience a pleasant and easy route for people of most abilities.

**Interpretive Trail Proposal:** The purpose of this realignment, about 400 feet in length, is similar to the Grand View Loop and Lonesome Trail realignments. A short portion of this loop trail follows an old jeep route that is steep and channels water during rainstorms and snow melt. This realignment would provide a sustainable 5-8 percent grade that would match the rest of the 1.2 mile Interpretive Loop and provide a continuous, undemanding grade throughout the entire trail. The existing trail alignment, about 300 feet in length, would be rehabilitated once the construction of the new alignment is complete.

There are no mitigation measures required for these proposed trail realignments and rehabilitation.

## Land Use Plan Conformance

LUP Name	Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan	Date Approved:	May 2001
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**The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:**

The Proposed Action described below is in conformance with the Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) (BLM 2001):

On page REC-2: 1. "Provide a wide range of quality recreation opportunities on public lands under management by the Carson City Field Office."

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

Name of Document: Fay Luther Trail System - Environmental Analysis (NV-030-2006-17) (Aug 2006)

### **NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the new 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 existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Yes, the Proposed Action is similar to the originally analyzed Proposed Action. The new Proposed Action proposes to construct approximately 3535 feet of new hiking trail and rehabilitate about 325 feet of existing hiking trail. The project is directly adjacent to and encompasses part of the original analysis area. The new alignments are designed to minimize trail maintenance needs and resource impacts.

**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 value?**

Yes, the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document is appropriate with respect to the new Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values.

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessments, recent endangered species listings, 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?**

The existing analysis remains valid, and it can reasonably be concluded that the new circumstances do not influence the negligible impact of expanding the existing Faye Luther Trail system by adding about 3,200 feet (net) of new trail. The Project Area is not within greater or bi-state sage-grouse habitats.

**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 direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with new trail construction and old trail rehabilitation is similar to the Proposed Action in the existing NEPA document.

**5. Are there public involvement and interagency reviews associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Yes, this action is being proposed by a local trail association to enhance the trail user experience and to increase the sustainability of the trail by reducing maintenance needs. The proponent was originally involved in scoping and remains the appropriate level of review for this level of project analysis.

In 2004 The USFS Carson Ranger District conducted government-to-government consultation with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California (WTNC). In December 2004, follow up communication between Federal government representatives and representatives of the WTNC indicated that the tribe supports 1) immediate placement of signage to keep visitors on existing trails in areas of resource sensitivity, 2) existing social trail development is detrimental to sensitive resources, and 3) the trail project as proposed in the 2006 EA is consistent with their requests.

On February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the BLM provided project information to the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, and on March 7, 2016 the tribe responded that they do not have any concerns about the 2016 trail modifications.

### BLM Staff Consulted

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency Represented</u>
Alicia Alfaro	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources

### 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 requirement of NEPA.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Project Lead

Date 3/16/2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of NEPA Coordinator

Date 3/16/2016

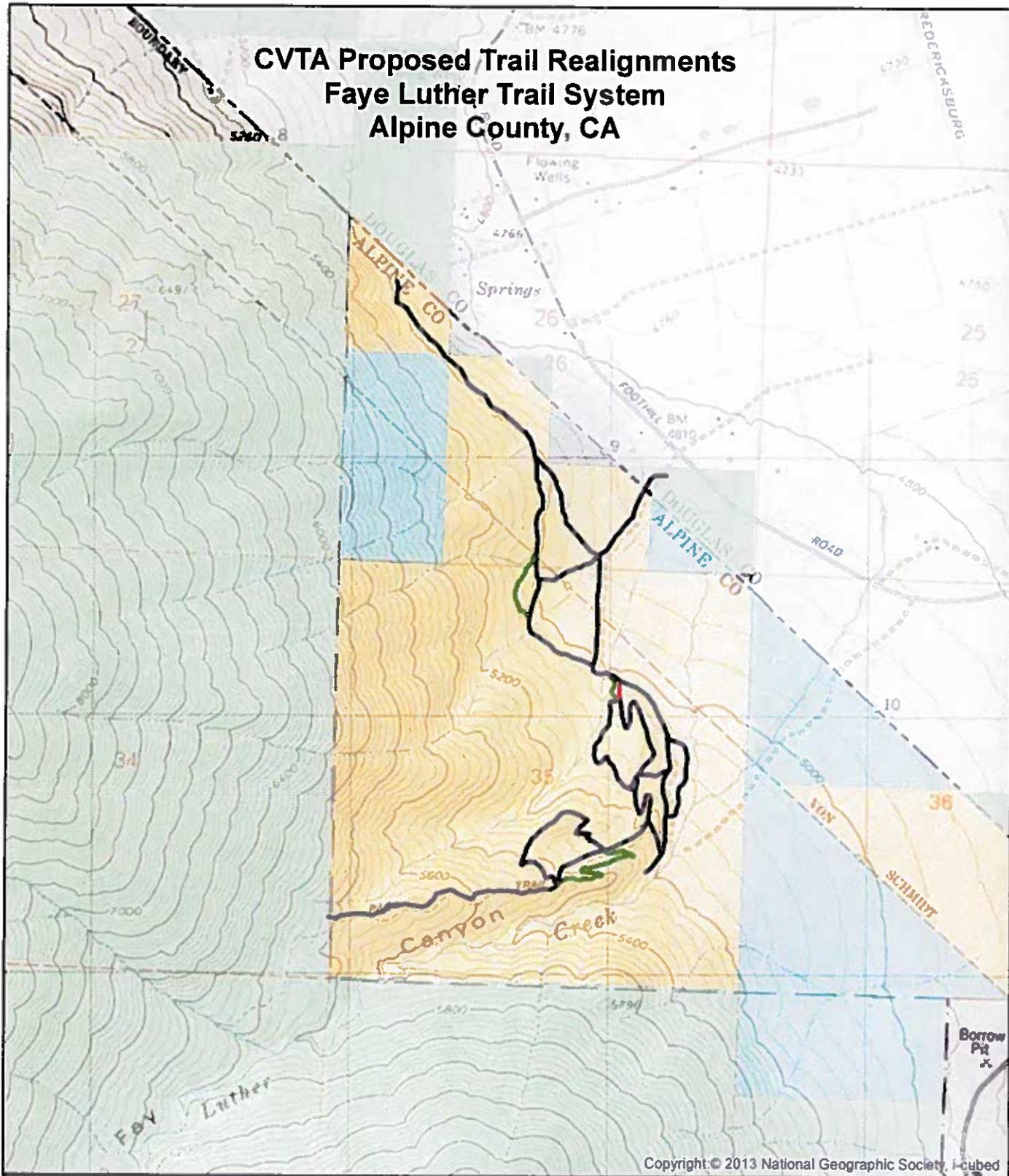
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Responsible Official  
Sierra Front Field Office

Date 3/23/2016

### Note:

See accompanying Decision Record for appeal information.

# CVTA Proposed Trail Realignments Faye Luther Trail System Alpine County, CA



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### Legend

-  Proposed Trail Rehabilitation
-  Proposed Trail Realignments
-  Existing Trail System

### Land Status

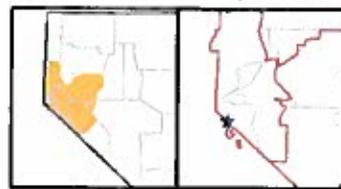
-  BLM
-  PVT
-  ST
-  USFS



1:20,000



### Carson City District Project Area



United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Carson City District Office  
5665 Morgan Mill Rd.  
Carson City, NV 89701  
(775) 885-6000

Map Produced by  
Arthur Galan III on  
March 8, 2014

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