

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

**Determination of NEPA Adequacy
DOI-BLM-UT-W020-2016-0006-DNA**

April 2016

Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive Motorcycle Races 2016

Location: Sheeprock/Tintic SRMA
Juab and Millard County, Utah

Applicant/Address:
Sugar Loafers Motorcycle Club
Fire Birds Motorcycle Club
The Sage Riders Motorcycle Club

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Fillmore, Utah 84631
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Worksheet

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

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

The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision; however, it constitutes an administrative record to be provided as evidence in protest, appeals and legal procedures.

OFFICE: Fillmore Field Office

TRACKING NUMBER: DOI-BLM-UT-W020-2016-0006-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive Motorcycle Races 2016

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sheeprock/Tintic SRMA, Juab Co., UT

APPLICANT (if any): Firebirds MC Club, Sage Riders MC Club, Sugarloafers MC Club

A. Description of the Proposed Action and Any Applicable Mitigation Measures

The proposed action is to authorize a Special recreation Permit to conduct a series of desert motorcycle races by three different clubs of the Utah Sportsman Riders Association (USRA). The races would be conducted within the Sheeprock/Tintic Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). These clubs have been using the Sheeprock/Tintic area for competitive desert races for more than 50 years. Each race would involve approximately 150 to 500 participants and spectators. The races are desert, long distance races and are some of the first races of the season in Utah. The permit holders are required to use existing roads and trails for their races, and to not create any new routes or trails in this area.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name- House Range Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision
Date Approved 1987

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

- 1) It is determined that Off Road Vehicles (ORV aka OHV) use is permitted on “existing” roads, trails, and washes within the Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive ORV Area. The HRRMP states on page 54, “...Little Sahara Recreation Area and adjoining lands would be established as a competitive events area, subject to present management.”

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

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive 2012 OHV Environmental Assessment (EA) #DOI-BLM-UT-W020-2012-0006-EA 2012

Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive 2009 OHV EA EA# UT-010-06-080 2009

D. 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
 No

Documentation of answer and explanation: This proposed action is essentially the same as what was proposed in Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive 2012 OHV EA. The 2012 OHV EA at page 7 describes in more detail the proposed action as well as the guidelines for permitting the activity. The project is within the same analysis area as the previously analyzed EA's.

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

Yes
 No

Documentation of answer and explanation: The range of alternatives analyzed in the 2012 OHV EA is still appropriate considering the current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values. The 2012 EA analyzed a wide range of alternatives that are considered to still be appropriate.

3. Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standards assessment; recent endangered species listings, updated list 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
 No

Documentation of answer and explanation: An Interdisciplinary Team reviewed the proposed project and it was determined that new information about sage grouse habitat has been identified since the previously analyzed EA. However, this information would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action because sage grouse habitat concerns were analyzed in the 2012 EA. Stipulations were identified at that time with interim guidance. These stipulations and any revisions of them are incorporated in this document and are appropriate for the proposed 2016 races. It was determined that all other resources had no changes since the 2012 OHV EA. Please see the attached Interdisciplinary Team Checklist for those determinations.

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
 No

Documentation of answer and explanation: The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects identified under Section 4 of the 2012 OHV EA beginning on page 17 are similar and essentially the same as the new proposed action. This is because the new proposed action is occurring at the same time, the same area, and in the same manner as described in the existing NEPA document.

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

Yes
 No

Documentation of answer and explanation: The existing public notification and involvement in the 2012 OHV EA is adequate for this action as well. This proposed action was also posted to the ePlanning website on 2/11/2016 to notify the public of the proposal and has not received any public comments from that posting.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>
Jim Priest	Biologist	Wildlife
Stacey Whitman Moore	Archaeologist	Archaeology
Jay Cram	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation and Document Preparation

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 *(If you found that one or more of these criteria is not met, then you cannot conclude that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action).*

Plan Conformance:

- X This proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan.
- This proposal does not conform to the applicable land use plan

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

- X 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 constitutes BLM’s compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.
- The existing NEPA documentation does not fully cover the proposed action. Additional NEPA documentation is needed if the project is to be further considered.

_____/s/ Jay Cram _____
Signature of Project Lead

_____/4/15/2016_____
Date

_____/s/ Cindy Ledbetter _____
Signature of NEPA Coordinator

_____/4/15/2016_____
Date

_____/s/ Michael D. Gates _____
Signature of the Responsible Official

_____/4/15/2016_____
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.

ATTACHMENTS:
Interdisciplinary Team Checklist
Map

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST

Project Title: Sheeprock/Tintic SRMA Desert Races

NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-UT-W020-2016-0006-DNA

File/Serial Number:

Project Leader: Jay Cram

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

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale column may include NI and NP discussions.

Determi- nation	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)				
NC	Air Quality	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Paul Caso	3/22/16
NC	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/Teresa Frampton	2/24/2016
NI	Cultural Resources	A literature review was conducted by Whitman Moore on March 14, 2016 and it was determined that no historic properties would be affected if racers stay on existing, designated routes. Event proponents will ensure that no adverse effect to historic properties will result from this Federally-permitted undertaking. If any adverse effect is discovered during post-race monitoring, it shall be the responsibility of the event proponents to pay for mitigation including damage assessment(s) pursuant to the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.	/s/Stacey Whitman Moore	3/15/2016
NC	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Cindy Ledbetter	2/19/2016
NC	Environmental Justice	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Cindy Ledbetter	2/19/2016
NI	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	While the routes in these races do pass through soil mapping units that have soils that qualify as prime farmland if irrigated, it is anticipated that the races as proposed would have no affect to them since the routes are existing and new disturbances are not proposed.	/s/ Bill Thompson	3/14/16
NP	Floodplains	Floodplains are not in the race area	/s/ Tom Gibbons	2/24/16
NC	Fire/Fuels Management	No change from previously analyzed documents.	/s/ Erik Valdez	3/21/2016
NI	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production	There is no change from the previously analyzed document	/s/Cheryl LaRoque	3/17/2016
NC	Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds (EO 13112)	There is no change from the previously analyzed document.	/s/R.B. Probert	

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NC	Lands/Access	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Teresa Frampton	2/24/2016
NC	Livestock Grazing	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Paul Caso	3/22/16
NC	Migratory Birds	Discussion regarding migratory birds within the original Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive/Trials 2012 OHV EA is still applicable and does not require any additional analysis.	/s/ James Priest	3/29/16
NP	National Historic Trails	A cultural resource file search conducted by Whitman Moore on February 18, 2016 indicates that there are no National Historic Trails within the project area.	/s/Stacey Whitman Moore	3/15/2016
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Consultation with Native American tribes was completed in accordance with the <i>Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive/Trials 2012 OHV EA</i> . Because no adverse effects are anticipated for the 2016 races, no addition consultation is needed.	/s/Stacey Whitman Moore	3/28/2016
NI	Paleontology	There are no known significant paleontological resources in the area; this type of activity would not normally have a substantial impact on those resources in any case.	/s/Cheryl LaRoque	3/17/2016
NI	Property Boundary Evaluation	The proposed action would not have any impact to property boundaries.	/s/ Kyle Monroe	3/28/2016
NC	Rangeland Health Standards	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Paul Caso	3/22/16
NC	Recreation	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/Teresa Frampton	2/24/2016
NC	Sensitive Animal Species	Discussion regarding sensitive animal species within the original Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive/Trials 2012 OHV EA is still applicable and does not require any additional analysis.	/s/ James Priest	4/14/2016
NC	Socio-Economics	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Cindy Ledbetter	2/19/2016
NC	Soils	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Bill Thompson	3/14/2016
NI	Threatened, Endangered, Candidate or Special Status Plant Species	<p>The proposed loop 1 of the Sugarloafers Race crosses several potential habitat areas that may contain populations of two BLM Sensitive Plant Species: <i>Atriplex canescens</i> var. <i>gigantea</i> and <i>Penstemon angustifolius</i> var. <i>dulcis</i>. The potential areas along the proposed race route are predominantly along the western edge of LSRA and the portion that cuts through the northwest corner of LSRA. These two species were identified in the referenced 2012 EA, which states that race course routes that transverse potential population areas will require a plant survey prior to the race and potential course reroutes. The BLM T&E Plants Specialist can complete the needed surveys for both species within the flowering window for the penstemon, which is mid April to mid May. Given the proposed Sugarloafers race course date in May, the surveys will be completed as soon as possible (i.e., in late April if it is warm enough for flowering to occur). The race course route may need to be relocated if populations are located that need to be avoided along loop 1 of the race course</p> <p>Both the Firebirds and the Sageriders courses do not cross any known rare plant population areas, and thus do not require any additional on-the-ground plant survey work.</p>	/s/DWhitaker	2/22/16
NI	Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Animal	No new information regarding threatened or endangered species have come forward since the signing of the	/s/ James Priest	3/29/16

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
	Species	<p><i>Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive/Trials 2012 OHV EA.</i> However, the greater sage-grouse was delisted as a candidate species in September 2015. At this time the greater sage-grouse continues to be a BLM Special Status Species. Since the signing of the original <i>Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive/Trials 2012 OHV EA</i>, the BLM has completed the <i>Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment 2015 (ARMPA)</i> for the management of greater sage-grouse. As required by the ARMPA, the SRP for the races was reviewed and impacts to greater sage-grouse populations and their habitat were reevaluated accordingly (See Fish and Wildlife Biological Evaluation Amendment). During the process, routes were reviewed, adjusted, and mitigation measures provided to avoid any detrimental impacts to greater sage-grouse populations and habitat and retain a minimum “neutral” impact to this species.</p>		
NC	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	Use of petroleum fuels and lubricants in the pit areas etc. must be controlled and any spills cleaned up with proper disposal of waste and contaminated soil. EA DOI-UT-W020-2012-0006-EA stated on page 40	/s/Cheryl LaRoque	3/17/16
NI	Water Resources/Quality (drinking/surface/ground)	Races are confined to existing roads and impacts to water or water quality are nominal or limited by use of existing disturbed roads and trails.	/s/ Tom Gibbons	2/24/16
NI	Water Rights	While water rights are found throughout the general area, the race activities including from spectators should not impact or adversely interfere with uses of existing water rights.	/s/ Tom Gibbons	2/24/16
NC	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	No change to impacts to riparian areas or wetlands from that of the referenced EA.	/s/ Bill Thompson	3/14/2016
NC	Wilderness/WSA	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/Teresa Frampton	2/24/2016
NC	Wildlife and Fish Excluding Designated/Special Status Species	Discussion regarding migratory birds within the original <i>Sheeprock/Tintic Competitive/Trials 2012 OHV EA</i> is still applicable and does not require any additional analysis.	/s/ James Priest	3/29/16
NC	Woodland / Forestry	There is no change from the previously analyzed document.	/s/ Eric Reid	2/23/2016
NC	Vegetation Excluding Designated/Special Status Species	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Paul Caso	3/22/16
NC	Visual Resources	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/ Teresa Frampton	2/24/2016
NC	Wild Horses and Burros	There is no change from the previously analyzed document.	/s/ Eric Reid	2/23/2016
NC	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	No change from previously analyzed document.	/s/Teresa Frampton	2//24/2016

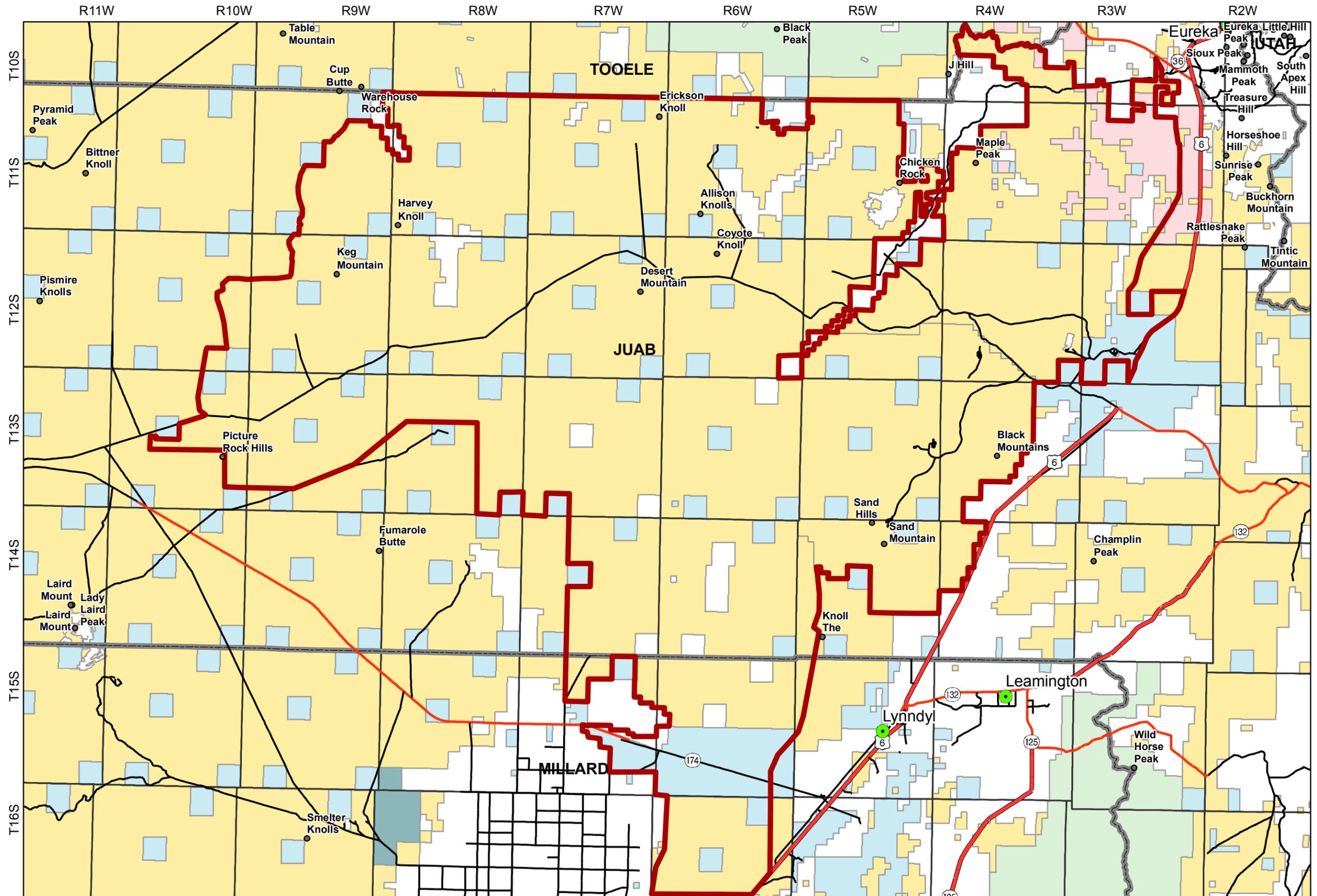
Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
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FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	/s/ Cindy Ledbetter	4/15/2016	
Authorized Officer	/s/ Michael D. Gates	4/15/2016	

SHEEPROCK TINTIC SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY REVIEW

January 11, 2016



Sheepprock Area USRA

Road Class

- Class 1 Primary Route
- Class 2 Secondary Route
- Class 3 Primary Road
- County Boundary

Land Status

- Bankhead-Jones Land Use Lands
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Private
- State
- State Wildlife Reserve/Management Area
- US Forest Service (USFS)



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This product may not meet BLM standards for accuracy and content. Different data sources and input scales may cause misalignment of data layers. Transportation network has not been verified.



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(when plotted at 11" x 17")