

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

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**DOI-BLM-NM-A020-2016-0013-CX**

**Road Maintenance on the Quebradas  
Backcountry Byway**

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U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Albuquerque District Office  
Socorro Field Office  
901 S. HWY 85  
Socorro, NM 87801  
Phone: (575) 835-0412  
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Land Management**

**Socorro Field Office  
901 S. HWY 85  
Socorro, NM 87801**

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW/DECISION**

**NEPA Log Number:** DOI-BLM-NM-A020-2016-0013-CX

**Lease/Serial/Case File No.:**

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**A. Background**

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**Title of Proposed Action:** Road Maintenance on the Quebradas Backcountry Byway

**Location of Proposed Action:** Legal Descriptions of beginning and end points:

| <b>County</b> | <b>Township</b> | <b>Range</b> | <b>Section</b> | <b>QQ</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| Socorro       | 002S            | 001E         | 030            | (begin)   |
| Socorro       | 004S            | 002E         | 025            | (end)     |

See attached map of Quebradas Backcountry Byway SRMA

**Applicant (if any):** Internal

**Description of Proposed Action:**

The proposed action is to implement regular and routine road maintenance on the Quebradas Backcountry National Scenic Byway within the original disturbance. Continued road maintenance by BLM and Socorro County Road Department would inherently improve the safety, quality, and recreational experience for the public.

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**B. Conformance with Land Use Plan**

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**This proposed action conforms with the Socorro Resource Management Plan (RMP) 2010, because it is specifically provided for in the land use decision(s):**

**Or, it is clearly consistent with the following decisions, objectives, and conditions of the RMP:**

The proposed action is in compliance with the Socorro RMP, Quebradas Back County Byway Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA): “Maintain the byway open to motor vehicle use”, “Allow mineral material disposals within the buffer area contingent upon site-specific assessment of resources and mitigation as necessary”, and “Maintain existing Socorro County Road Maintenance agreement” (page 59).

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**C. Compliance with NEPA**

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**This proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with BLM NEPA Handbook 1790-1 Appendix 3 or Appendix 4**

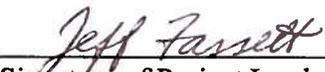
Appendix 3, 1.7, “Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity” (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects).

**This action does not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2.**

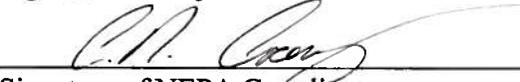
| Review for Extraordinary Circumstances |                  | Signature  | Date      | Impact                              |
|--|------------------|--|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Archaeologist                          | Brenda Wilkinson |   | 3-10-2016 | No                                  |
| Biologist-Animal/TE                    | Denny Apachito   |  | 3-10-2016 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |
| Biologist-Plant/TE                     | Denny Apachito   |  | 3-10-2016 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |

I have reviewed this proposed categorical exclusion and determined that it is appropriate for the proposed action and that none of the Categorical Exclusions Extraordinary Circumstances apply.

**Signatures By Signature Date**

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

03/11/2016  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

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

11 Mar 2016  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

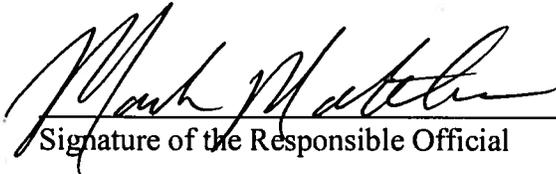
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**D. Signature**

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**Finding:** Based upon the above review, I have determined that the proposed action (as described, including any indicated stipulations) is in conformance with the land use plan and meets criteria for the selected categorical exclusion in that none of the Extraordinary Circumstances apply. Therefore, the action is excluded from further environmental analysis and documentation.

**Decision:** It is my decision that since the cited CX is applicable for the proposed project and that the action conforms with the (*Socorro RMP*), I hereby authorize the proposed action.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Responsible Official

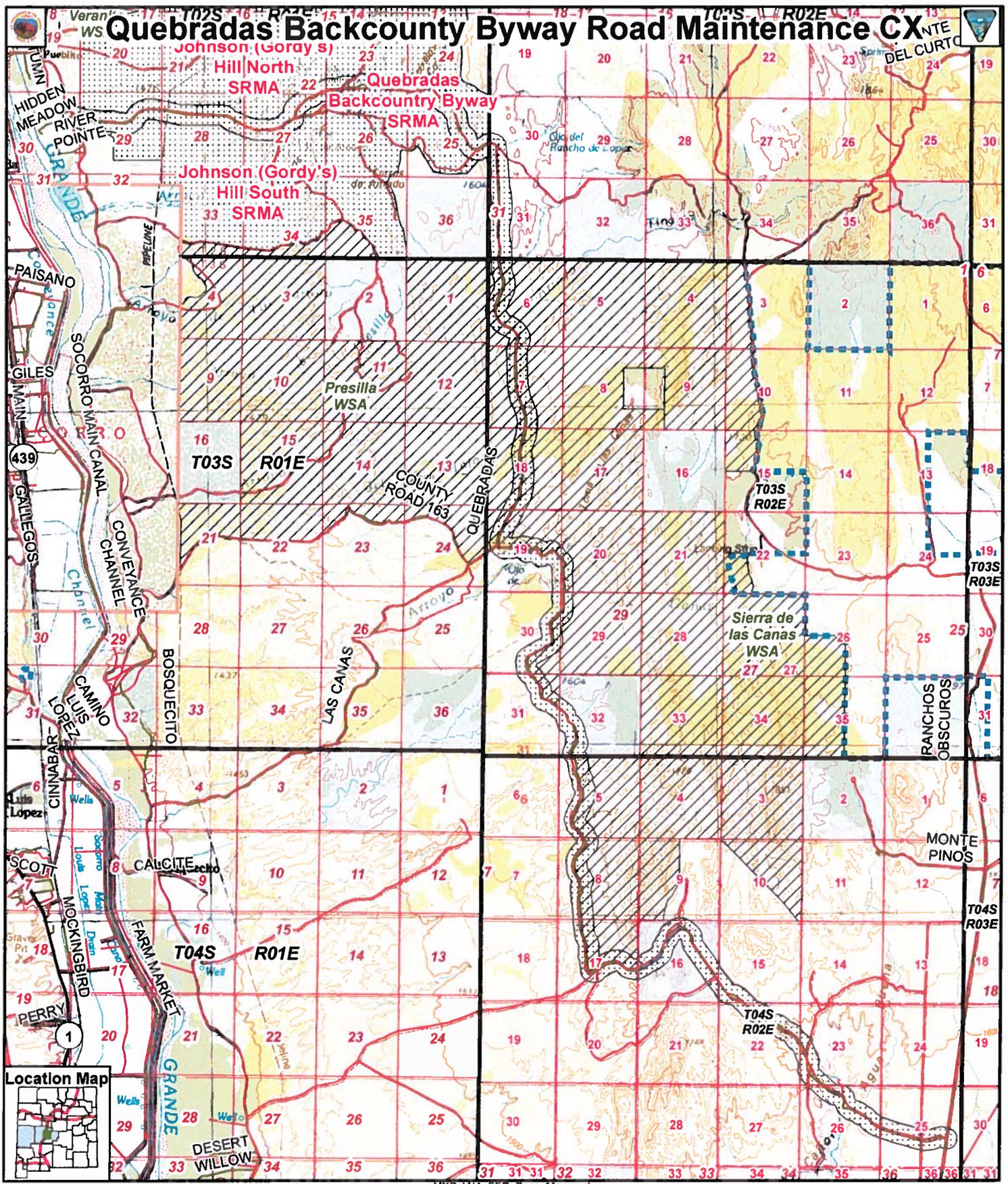
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Jeff Fassett, Project Manager, Socorro Field Office, 901 S. HWY 85 Socorro, NM 87801; 575-838-1245.

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.

# Quebradas Backcountry Byway Road Maintenance CX

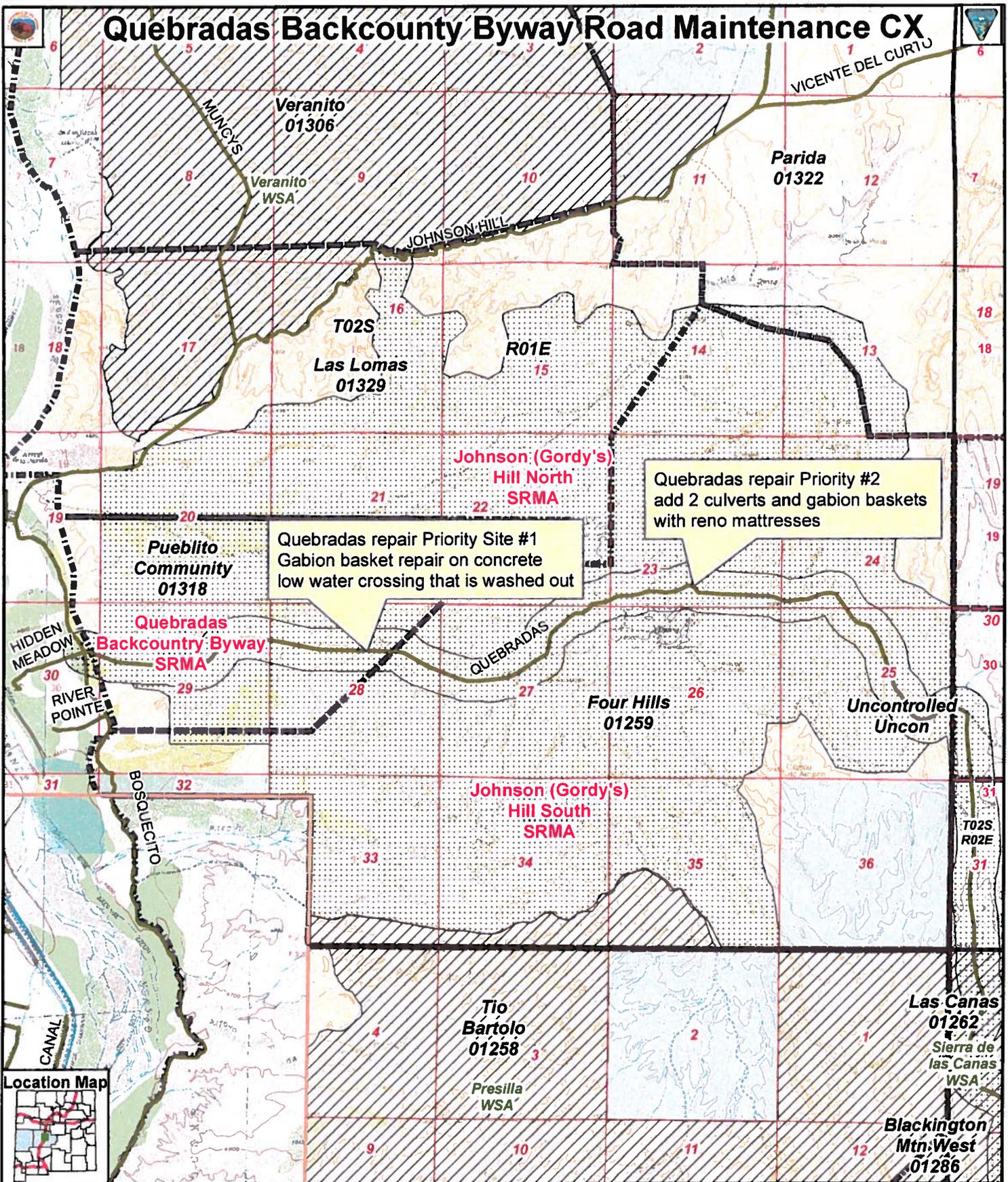


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 Scale: 1:100,000 Units: Meter  
 No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

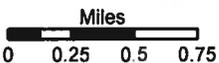
|                    |            |                               |         |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| ★ Cities           | TOWNSHIP   | Local Road                    | BLM     |
| □ County           | SECTION    | SFO Tiger Roads (2006 Census) | NMDGF   |
| □ Township & Range | GRANT BDRY | SFO E911 Roads                | Private |
| □ Sections         | Interstate | WSA                           | State   |
|                    | State Hwy  |                               | SRMA    |



# Quebradas Backcountry Byway Road Maintenance CX



MXD: V:\personal\_dir\jassett\Project\Quebradas Deferred Maintenance 2016 11to48k.mxd



User: jassett  
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 No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

|                  |                |         |
|------------------|----------------|---------|
| County           | SECTION        | BLM     |
| Township & Range | GRANT BDRY     | NMDGF   |
| Sections         | SFO E911 Roads | Private |
| TOWNSHIP         | Allotments     | State   |
|                  | WSA            | SRMA    |

