

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOI-BLM-MT-M030-2016-0008-  
CX**

**Review and Approval**

**March 2016**

**#06134 Coburg Allotment Temporary Pipeline Extension**

**A. Location**

Blaine County, Montana  
Montana Principle Meridian, T31N, R26E, Section 6  
#06134 Coburg Allotment

**B. Applicant / Address**

David K. & Laurel N. Hines  
3036 Kid Curry Road Malta,  
MT 59538

**C. Prepared By**

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Title: Rangeland Management Specialist  
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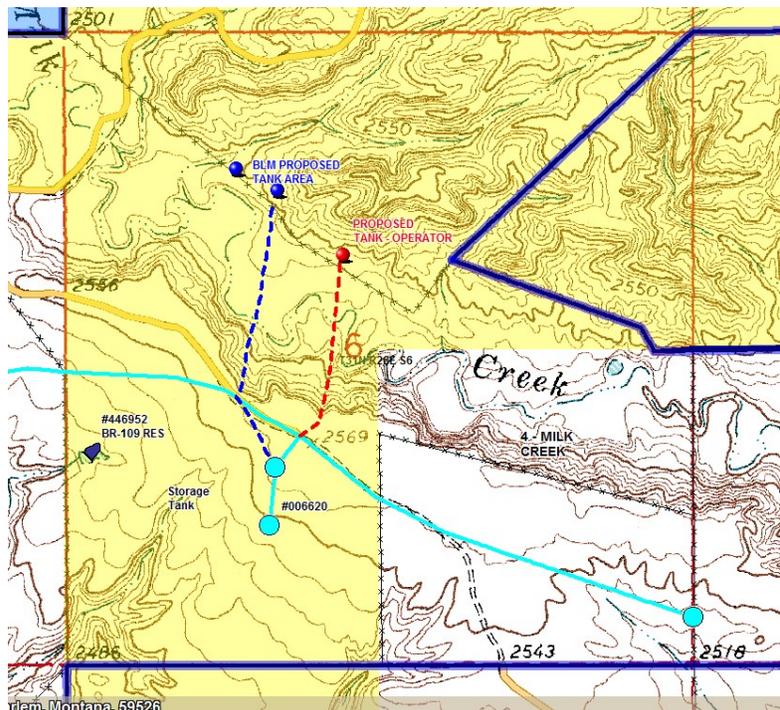
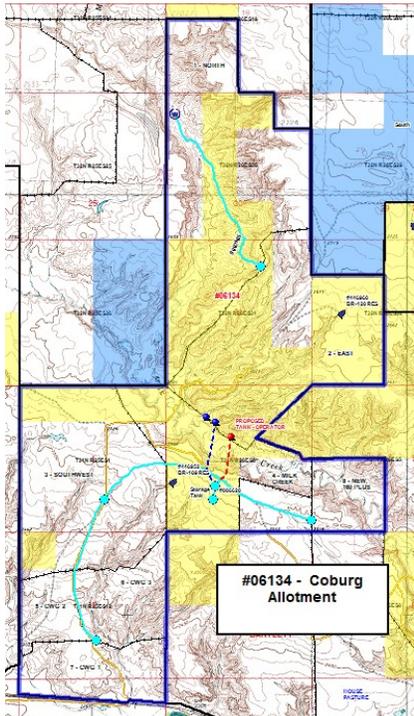
# CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW AND APPROVAL

## A. Background

Lease/Serial/Case file No.: #06134 Coburg Allotment  
Range Improvement Project #006620 S Coburg Pipeline Extension

Description of Proposed Action: Applicants David K. & Laurel N. Hines would like to extend the present #006620 S Coburg Pipeline Extension project to the north from the existing storage tank and pipeline in order to have additional water in the #2-East pasture. Approximately 1700 feet of water pipe would be laid on the ground from the existing storage tank and pipeline to a livestock water tank. After an field visit on Thursday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 BLM employees choose a route to the west of the route proposed by the permittee. The BLM proposed location would only cross the creek once, follow existing cow trails, and have a flatter area for tank placement. The BLM Proposed Route would be approximately 2600 feet depending on the exact location of the tank. No additional construction would take place except possibly temporary fence at the water tank to prevent animals from becoming trapped in the water tank. A bird escape ramp will be installed on the water tank.

There is no water in the southern area of the pasture so it is not utilized to full potential and livestock are concentrating in the northern portion of the pasture. Also the #446960 BR-120 Reservoir has not maintained enough water the past several years for livestock watering. If this temporary pipeline is successful, NEPA would occur and possibly permanent installation of the pipeline and associated stock watering tank. Maps of potential project are below.



**The following mitigations would apply to the proposed action:**

- Vehicles and equipment would be thoroughly cleaned before leaving the project due to infestations of leafy spurge at the site of the proposed action.
- Activities shall not be performed during periods when the soil is too wet to adequately support equipment/vehicles. If such equipment/vehicles create ruts in excess of 3” deep, the soil shall be deemed too wet to adequately support construction equipment/vehicles and activities must cease.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

The proposed action is in conformance with the HiLine Resource Management Plan (approved September, 2015). Even though the proposed action is not specifically mentioned, it is consistent with the decision(s) [or objective(s)] are listed below.

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**3.2.18 Vegetation – Rangeland**

Range improvements will be constructed to manage use of vegetation to support multiple use resource management.

Water developments will be installed and/or maintained to facilitate control of livestock use of vegetation, support other uses, and protect resource values. In order to minimize surface disturbance, have reliable water of better quality and not alter normal surface flow of water, alternative water developments will be emphasized before constructing new pits and reservoirs.

The HiLine RMP can be accessed using the internet at <http://www.blm.gov/8qkd>

**C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with:

516 DM 11.9: BLM Categorical Exclusions

D. Rangeland Management 2. Placement and use of temporary (not to exceed one month) portable corrals and water troughs, providing no new road construction is needed.

The proposed action has been reviewed, and, as documented in the administrative record, none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

**D. Conclusion**

I considered this review and determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the land use plan, it is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis, and none of the extraordinary circumstances apply. Therefore, this categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment.

	
<i>Authorized Officer (Signature)</i>	<i>Date</i>

Name: Stanley Jaynes  
Title: Havre Field Office Manager

**Note**

The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the Bureau of Land Management’s internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this CX is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.