

Environmental Assessment
Revel Mt Charleston:
DOI-BLM-NV-S020–2016–004

Prepared by
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Red Rock Sloan Field Office
Las Vegas, Nevada

Marathon and Half Marathon State Route 157

April 28, 2016

This page intentionally
left blank

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	1
1.1. Identifying Information:	1
1.1.1. Title, EA number, and type of project:	1
1.1.2. Location of Proposed Action:	1
1.1.3. Name and Location of Preparing Office:	1
1.1.4. Identify the subject function code, lease, serial, or case file number:	1
1.1.5. Applicant Name:	1
1.2. Purpose and Need for Action:	1
1.3. Scoping, Public Involvement and Issues:	2
2. Proposed Action and Alternatives	3
2.1. Alternative A- Description of the Proposed Action:	5
2.2. Alternative B-No Action	7
2.3. Alternatives Considered but not Analyzed in Detail	7
2.4. Conformance	7
3. Affected Environment:	9
3.1. Recreation	14
3.2. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate Species and Critical Habitat	14
4. Environmental Effects:	15
4.1. Proposed Action- Alternative A	17
4.1.1. Recreation	17
4.1.2. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate Animal Species and Critical Habitat	17
4.2. Alternative B- No Action	18
4.2.1. Recreation	18
4.2.2. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate Animal Species and Critical Habitat	18
4.3. Cumulative Effects- Alternative A-Proposed Action	18
4.3.1. Recreation	20
4.3.2. Threatened , Endangered or Candidate Animal Species	20
4.3.3. Cumulative Effects-Alternative B- No Action	21
4.3.3.1. Recreation	21
4.3.3.2. Threatened , Endangered or Candidate Animal Species	21
4.4. Mitigation Measures	21
5. Tribes, Individuals, Organizations, or Agencies Consulted:	23
6. List of Preparers	27

Appendix A. Stipulations for REVEL Mt Charleston 31

**Appendix B. Red Rock Programmatic BO (1-5-04-F-526) Biological Opinion Terms and
Conditions 37**

List of Tables

Table 4.1. Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Planning and Projects 18
Table 5.1. List of Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted 25
Table 6.1. List of BLM Preparers 29

This page intentionally
left blank

Chapter 1. Introduction

This page intentionally
left blank

1.1. Identifying Information:

The proponent, Brooksee, LLC., is proposing a foot race marathon and half-marathon starting at the west end of SR157, Kyle Canyon and the “Twilight Zone” parking area respectively, on Saturday May 7, 2016 at 6:30 am. A portion of the proposed event to occur on public lands within Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Twilight Zone parking area is managed by the BLM. There are two other OHV areas with are within the proposed zone. Although they will not be utilized by the event, their access will be limited due to the nature of traffic control used during the proposed event.

1.1.1. Title, EA number, and type of project:

REVEL Mt Charleston, DOI-BLM-NV-S020–2016–0004–EA

1.1.2. Location of Proposed Action:

Mile 10 on SR157 Kyle Canyon Road T.19S. R58E. Section 20–24

1.1.3. Name and Location of Preparing Office:

Red Rock Sloan Field Office- NVS02000

1.1.4. Identify the subject function code, lease, serial, or case file number:

Case file number SRP# LNVS02000–16–14

1.1.5. Applicant Name:

Brooksee LLC. Jared Rohatinsky: owner

1.2. Purpose and Need for Action:

Brooksee, LLC, has applied to BLM for a Special Recreation Permit (SRP). *Purpose:* The purpose is to issue a SRP to Brooksee, LLC in order to utilize Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered lands to conduct a commercial, non-speed (non-OHV) single-day event. The proposed event is a running race where participants can participate in any of two varying distance races along the same general course. *Need:* The need is to comply with the Federal Lands policy and Management Act (FLPMA), 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq., which establishes outdoor recreation as one of the principle uses of public lands, and directs the Secretary of the Interior to regulate, through permits or other instruments, the use of public lands (43 CFR 2931.3.) *Decision to be made:* The BLM will decide whether or not to grant Brooksee, LLC. a SRP for the Revel

Mount Charleston commercial, non-speed (non-OHV) single-day event, and if so, with what terms and conditions.

1.3. Scoping, Public Involvement and Issues:

The scoping effort included internal scoping by BLM resource specialists. Internal scoping is used to ensure that all affected resources are being analyzed and potential impacts addressed. Comments for internal scoping were provided by BLM Resource Specialists between March 1 2016 and April 2016.

Additionally, Mt. Charleston Community residents held a town hall meeting on March 30, 2016, which included discussion of the proposed Revel Mt. Charleston event. The County Representative Liaison provided BLM with feedback resulting from this meeting. In general, the community residents at the west end of Mt. Charleston are favorable to the proposed project, while one resident from the east end was unfavorable to the initial design of the proposed project because of the one way shuttle system changing the traffic flow. Because of this feedback, the Brooksee, LLC. changed their initial design to include an increase of Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP) officers for the event and increase the frequency of shuttle intervals during the event. This improvement is reflected in the description of the Proposed Project in Chapter 2 of this Environmental Assessment (EA). The Nevada Department of Transportation, City of Las Vegas, and U.S. Forest Service representatives also submitted comments for this document, indicating they are in favor of the proposed project and didn't have any additional comments to add.

The issues identified during scoping includes:

- Recreation, and
- Threatened, endangered or candidate animal species.

These will be analyzed in Chapters 3–4 of this EA.

Chapter 2. Proposed Action and Alternatives

This page intentionally
left blank

2.1. Alternative A- Description of the Proposed Action:

The proponent, Brooksee, LLC., has applied for a marathon and half-marathon starting at the west end of SR157, Kyle Canyon and the “Twilight Zone”(TZ) parking area respectively, on Saturday May 7, 2016 at 6:30 am. The Twilight Zone parking area is managed by the BLM. There are two other OHV areas with are within the proposed zone. Although they will not be utilized by the event, their access will be limited due to the nature of traffic control used during the proposed event.

The proposed race may cross various agency jurisdictions including United States Forest Service and Clark County. The minority of the course (10%) will be on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) managed public lands. The proponent will be responsible for attaining permissions, permits, and/or use authorizations from all affected agencies and land owners, prior to the scheduled race day.

The course will be run on approximately primarily on Nevada State rights-of-way. However, the half-marathon will be starting on BLM managed lands, entirely in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Participants will run along roads that are suitable for full-size vehicles. Vehicle traffic along the proposed race course is generally light in the early morning hours and irregular, consisting mainly of street legal vehicles. The race will begin with a mass start both for the marathon and half-marathon. Racers will have the option to participate in a, marathon or half-marathon. Road conditions are good in this area with a large paved shoulder and newly paved main roadway.

All activities associated with the proposed race, including staging areas, Start/Finish line, parking and aid stations, will be limited to existing disturbed areas. The Start/Finish line and staging areas will be situated as to not obstruct regular traffic and in an area that has the capacity to safely accommodate the expected size of the group associated with this event. Parking for participants will be at the finish line area at the Centennial Hills Park. Participants will be bused to both the Marathon and half-marathon parking areas. Only staging area staff will be allowed to park at the Twilight Zone trail head with room for casual users as well. No more than 10 staff /volunteer vehicles will be parked at the Twilight Zone parking area. Participants will be bussed to the TZ parking area at approximately 5:00– 6:20 am. Participants will be confined to the post and cable fence area. No more that 700 participants are expected to participate in the half-marathon .

At approximately 6:20 am the Nevada Highway Patrol will stop all traffic along State Route (SR) 157 to allow participants to walk down SR157 to the starting line. There will be a mass start at 6:30 am .

The marathon event will start approximately at the same time as the half-marathon and the end of Kyle Canyon Road, 13 miles east of the Twilight Zone parking area. This will allow participants to space themselves out by the time they pass by the three road accesses to BLM managed lands at Grapevine Canyon OHV area approximately 12 miles east of 95/SR157 intersection, Harris Springs Road at the Twilight Zone parking area, and Deer Pasture Access approximately 9 miles east of SR95/157 intersection.

During the event, traffic will not be stopped, except for the race start. One lane of traffic will be available for travel. The Nevada Highway Patrol will have a moving shuttle system to pilot vehicle both east and west bound on SR157. Approximately 20 Highway Patrol officers are scheduled to assist with this process.

Following the start, race staff and volunteers will begin a sweep clean up of the area. Clean up will conclude roughly by 7:30 am, at which time all staff, volunteers, vehicles and trash will leave the site.

Up to 30 rest rooms will be brought to the starting line for the half-marathon the day before and removed the day of the event. One portable toilet for every 50 participants minimum will be available.

Event staff will have both two way radios and cell phones to communicate with the main staging area at the finish line. EMS vehicles will be stationed at the start of each staging area and follow behind the racers. An escort vehicle will also follow behind runners to pick up participants who can not maintain a 15 minute mile pace.

Three variable message signs will be placed one week prior to events to notify area residents and potential area recreational users of the activity. These will be located at the SR95/Kyle Canyon intersection, Deer Creek Road intersection and near milepost 11, near the Twilight Zone Parking area.

The proponent will be required to comply with BLM Special Recreation Permit stipulations listed in Appendix A. Additional stipulations may be added as required.

Design Features:

In addition to the course of action steps listed above, The proposed project would also comply with the following design features.

- Fire/Fuels Management:

- Conditions that support wildland fire spread can occur any time of the year in Southern Nevada. In general and when fire restrictions are not in effect, use standard fire prevention measures and best management practices to prevent fires.
- Minimize wildfire risk to assets or infrastructure where needed by maintaining a wildfire defensive space.
- In the event of an unplanned ignition that causes a wildfire the proponent will be held responsible for all costs of suppression and damaged resources pending a fire Origin and Cause Investigation. An Origin and Cause Investigation will be done on any human caused fire by BLM Law Enforcement or their designated representative.

- Human Health and Safety:

- Brooksee, LLC. has provided BLM with insurance coverage and safety plan that includes sufficient Emergency Medical Services (EMS) services during the event and means to respond to any emergency situations via Fire, Highway Patrol and other Law Enforcement.

- Invasive Species/ Noxious Weeds:

- Participants will remain on existing roads and trails and will stage in existing disturbed areas to minimize soil disturbance and travel through existing weed populations. If race participants are confined to existing roads and trails, impacts to weed spread will be minimized. Standard stipulations for weed control measures are sufficient for mitigation. All

mitigation measures and stipulations regarding weed control responsibility and treatment apply.

- Wild Horses and Burros:

- Individuals will not harass (feed, pet, chase, etc.) wild horses and burros if encountered on or near the roads or race areas. If they do see any wild horses and burros, they should keep a safe distance, they are wild animals and can be unpredictable, especially during foaling and breeding season.
- All access gates will remain closed to keep the animals off the roadways.

Please note: Per the management direction of the 2005 BLM RRCNCA Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Record of Decision, BLM will monitor “in order to measure the effectiveness of actions implemented or record the impacts to the natural resources. Whenever monitoring show impacts considered significant, or surpass the limits of acceptable change (LAC), mitigation will be taken to reverse the situation. This may include a reduction in or elimination of the action or situation causing the impact.”.

2.2. Alternative B-No Action

Under the no action alternative this event will not be permitted or allowed to take place. The result being no impact to natural resources but possibly inhibiting economic gains to the local economies. Additionally, the purpose and need, stated previously, would not be met under this alternative.

2.3. Alternatives Considered but not Analyzed in Detail

No other Alternatives have been considered.

2.4. Conformance

The EA is in conformance with:

- Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Resource Management Plan approved May 20, 2005, under the following management directions:
 - 5A) Special Recreation Permits
 - 5A.2 New types of commercial uses proposed will be evaluated to determine if they are appropriate and consistent with the RRCNCA management guidelines.”

This page intentionally
left blank

Chapter 3. Affected Environment:

This page intentionally
left blank

This chapter describes the existing conditions of the environmental resources within the Proposed Project Area. The affected environment is the physical area that bounds the environmental, sociological, economic, or cultural features of interest that could be impacted by the Proposed Action or No Action Alternative. A more detailed description of the affected environment is contained in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) Resource Management Plan (RMP).

The table below summarizes the environmental attributes that have been reviewed, whether they may be affected by the Proposed Action, and the rationale for that determination. Elements that would not be affected will not be discussed further in this Environmental Assessment.

Resource	Determination			Rationale for Determination
	Not Present	Present, but not Affected	Present, May be Affected	
Air Resources		X		Since the proposed project would comply with all proposed project descriptions, design features and SRP stipulations for the duration of the activity. impacts to air resources are not anticipated.
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	X			Not present and not affected by the action
BLM Natural Areas	X			Not present and not affected by the action
Cultural Resources	X			There are not any historic properties that will be affected by the undertaking given the activity as proposed.
Greenhouse Gas Emissions		X		Currently, there are no emission limits for suspected greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, for this project, and no technically defensible method for predicting potential climate change contributions from GHG emissions during construction of the proposed action. However, there are, and would continue to be, several efforts to address GHG emissions from federal activities, including BLM authorized uses in future planning documents.
Environmental Justice		X		NI. No group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group would bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from the proposed action.
Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	X			There are no prime or unique farmland designations in the District.
Fish and Wildlife Excluding Federally Listed Species		X		The proposed project does not involve any habitat disturbance. Wildlife species in the general area include mammals, birds, reptiles, and invertebrates. The primary direct impacts of the proposed action on wildlife would be killing or maiming of ground dwelling animals during construction, operation, and/or maintenance activities; displacement of individuals; and increased potential for harassment of wildlife. Indirect impacts may include noise, increased erosion, and spread of weeds by the associated race activities, including vehicles moving and parking in and around staging and parking areas; and runners traveling through vegetation along roadsides. Wildlife species in the general area are common and widely distributed throughout the area and the loss of a few individuals should have a negligible impact on populations of the species range

				wide. Only minimal impacts to wildlife are anticipated and a detailed analysis is not required. No impacts to BLM sensitive species are anticipated.
Floodplains	X			There are no FEMA designated floodplains present in the project area.
Fuels/Fire Management		X		Since the proposed action includes design features that would minimize any potential fire including compliance with standard SRP stipulations (listed in Appendix A) for the duration of the action, impacts to fuels/fire management are not anticipated.
Geology / Mineral Resources/ Energy Production		X		No mining claims or mining operations present. Mineral materials will not be severed from the property by this action.
Health and Safety		X		The proposed project would not affect Human Health and Safety as Brooksee, LLC has provided sufficient EMS services during the event and means to respond to any emergency situations via Fire, Highway Patrol and other Law Enforcement.
Hydrologic Conditions		X		As there will be no new surface disturbance associated with the proposed action, there will be no impact to hydrologic conditions.
Invasive Species/ Noxious Weeds		X		Since the proposed action includes design features that would minimize any potential spread of invasive species/noxious weeds including compliance with standard SRP stipulations (listed in Appendix A) for the duration of the action, impacts to invasive species/noxious weeds are not anticipated.
Lands/ Access		X		Since the proposed action includes obtaining permissions from all landowners and/or leasees for use and coordination of lands for the event, impacts to lands and access are not anticipated.
Livestock Grazing	X			Not present and not affected by the action
Migratory Birds		X		The proposed project does not involve any habitat disturbance or pose any other direct threats to migratory birds. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 U.S.C. 703 <i>et. seq.</i>) protects migratory birds and their nests (nests with eggs or young). The proponent must comply with the MBTA and avoid potential impacts to protected birds within the project area. A list of MBTA protected birds are found in 50 C.F.R. 10.13). Migratory birds and their nests may be present around and adjacent to the project site. Migratory birds may be displaced by noise disturbance during racing activities. Only minimal impacts to migratory birds are anticipated and a detailed analysis is not required. No impacts to BLM sensitive species are anticipated.
Native American Religious Concerns	X			There are not any areas that have been identified through previous relevant consultation/coordination that would Native American religious concerns.
Paleontology	X			There are not any paleontological resources that will be affected by the activity as proposed.
Rangeland Health Standards	X			Not present and not affected by the action
Recreation			X	Carried forward for analysis.

Socio-Economics		X		The Proposed Event would provide economic benefit to the proponents, participants, and associated businesses involved with the sport event, and could provide short-term economic benefits to local and regional businesses with travel expenditures and purchases of goods and services, but it is unlikely to be to a degree that detailed analysis would be required.
Soils		X		As there will be no new surface disturbance associated with the proposed action, there will be no impact to soils.
Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species	X			Based on known locations and habitat requirements, Threatened, Endangered or Candidate plant species are not present.
Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species			X	The project has a may affect, likely to adversely affect determination for the desert tortoise and no effect for its designated critical habitat. Carried forward for analysis.
Wastes (hazardous or solid)	X			Not present, however do include standard stipulations into the final approval documents.
Water Resources/ Quality (drinking/ surface/ ground)		X		Participants will remain on existing roads and trails and will stage in existing disturbed areas. No new impacts to water quality or local water resources.
Wetlands/ Riparian Zones	X			No permanent surface waters or wetlands exist in or near the project area.
Wild and Scenic Rivers	X			Not present and not affected by the action
Wilderness/ WSA	X			Not present and not affected by the action
Woodland / Forestry		X		Cactus and yucca are considered government property and regulated under the BLM Nevada forestry program. As the proposed project will not create new disturbance, no impacts to cactus, yucca or other forestry products are expected.
Vegetation Excluding Federally Listed Species		X		There are no known occurrences of BLM Sensitive plant species within the project area. As the proposed project will not create new disturbance, no impacts to vegetation including BLM sensitive species are expected.
Visual Resources		X		This area is currently in a disturbed area. This is a class 3 area. This action does not expand the footprint and is temporary in nature.
Wild Horses and Burros		X		The proposed staging area is located in the Wheeler Pass Herd Management Area (HMA). There should be no impacts to wild horses or burros because the proposed action will follow the design features in the description in Ch. 2 and the SRP stipulations in Appendix A.
Areas with Wilderness Characteristics	X			Not present and not affected by the action

3.1. Recreation

The Twilight Zone Trail System contains approximately 18 miles of trails that are designated for hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian use. The trail system is located in the northern portion of RRCNCA and runs north and south of State Route 157, Kyle Canyon road. There are three designated trail heads and three main designated roads located within the trail system.

There are approximately 29 miles of designated roads available for OHV use in the North La Madre/Twilight Zone area.

Visitation to the Twilight Zone Valley Trail System is less than 5 percent of the total within the RRCNCA, which receives over 2 million visitors per year. No new upgrades to the parking area have occurred since it was discontinued as a staging area for equestrian use in 2010. The parking area has been used over the last couple years as a material storage area for the Nevada Department of Transportation during the State Route 157 upgrades and repaving. Public Access has been provided during this time as well.

The highest use period tends to be during the spring and early summer when temperatures in the Southern RRCNCA start to rise and before the Spring Mountain National Recreation Area trails become snow free.

The area on the south of SR157 and approximately 640 acres north of SR157 were effected by the Carpenter fire in 2013. As a result of this fire, the adjacent dirt road, the Harris Springs road, has been closed and not open to other uses starting approximately two miles south of the Twilight Zone Parking area. The trails on the north side of SR157 have remained open. These same trails are also accessible by the Grapevine Canyon Road in the RRCNCA.

There has been consistent unauthorized use by OHV vehicles on user created trails through this area, primarily motorcycle and ATVs.

3.2. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate Species and Critical Habitat

Threatened and endangered species are placed on a federal list by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and receive protection under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The only federally protected species known to occur in the vicinity of the project area is the threatened Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). The proposed project is not within desert tortoise critical habitat.

The Mojave desert tortoise occurs primarily on flats and bajadas with soils ranging from sand to sandy-gravel. They are also found on rocky terrain and slopes. Tortoises occur in saltbush scrub, creosote scrub, and blackbrush scrub habitat types. Within these vegetation types, desert tortoises can potentially survive and reproduce provided their basic habitat requirements are met. These requirements include a sufficient amount and quality of forage species; shelter sites for protection from predators and environmental extremes; suitable substrates for burrowing, nesting, and overwintering; various plants for shelter; and adequate area for movement, dispersal, and gene flow.

Historical survey data indicate that the area surrounding the project site is low density tortoise habitat. Desert tortoise sign (burrows) has been found within the vicinity of the project site.

Chapter 4. Environmental Effects:

This page intentionally
left blank

4.1. Proposed Action- Alternative A

4.1.1. Recreation

The proposed action will be in a previously disturbed area which receives very little use. The operations plans provides sufficient public access. There are other locations which provide access to this same trail system.

The Twilight Zone Trail System of RRCNCA was designed for hiking, mountain biking and equestrian use.

The Proposed Action could impact recreation user experience in the trail system during its high use season. Although the area will not be closed to casual use during the event, it may affect the users' experience. Additionally, the activity could decrease the opportunity for solitude at the trail head.

The trail head parking area could see additional impact from runners wandering away from the parking lot. This could result in additional spread of weeds and increased erosion potential.

The proposed action could generate additional interest in the Twilight Trail System of RRCNCA by exposing participants to the area for the first time. The additional recreation use could also contribute to trail widening, increase of trash, and additional unauthorized trails being created. It could also increase the potential for conflicts between recreational users.

4.1.2. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate Animal Species and Critical Habitat

The proposed project must comply with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) for consultation with the USFWS on effects to federally listed species. The proposed action has a may affect, likely to adversely affect determination for the federally threatened desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) and no effect for its designated critical habitat, as the project is outside of this range. The proposed project will have no effect on any other federally protected species or designated critical habitat due to absence of the species and/or habitat.

The primary direct impacts of the proposed action on the desert tortoise would be killing or maiming of ground dwelling animals, displacement of individuals, and increased potential for harassment of wildlife. Indirect impacts could include increased noise, introduction and spread of weeds, and increased erosion potential. If not noticed and avoided during race related activities, desert tortoises could be either injured or killed (by crushing) or harassed (by being moved out of harm's way). These activities may contribute to displacement of individuals, increased potential for harassment of federally protected species, increased human presence leading to death or harm to individuals or collection, increased weeds and increased access to area by general public.

4.2. Alternative B- No Action

4.2.1. Recreation

With a No Action-Alternative B there would be no use by the permittee. The event may still continue if another area is found outside of the RRCNCA suitable for the event. Access for casual users would still be effected by the traffic issues if the rest of the event continues.

If the event were not permitted by the other agencies, the area would be open for casual use and fewer conflicts would occur.

4.2.2. Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate Animal Species and Critical Habitat

No associated impacts as no permit would be issued.

4.3. Cumulative Effects- Alternative A-Proposed Action

This section describes the potential cumulative effects of past, current, and foreseeable future actions in the geographic scope of the Twilight Zone Trail head and trail system, in addition to the proposed action.

Table 4.1. Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Planning and Projects

Factor	Action	Description	Area Affected
Past Planning	RRCNCA RMP(2005)	RMP describes the appropriate uses and development of the conservation area as it provides management and guidance and identifies land use decisions to be implemented for management.	198,000 acres of public lands in the RRCNCA in Clark County.
Past Project	Red Rock Scenic Drive Road and Trail System	A 13– mile one-way paved road and 46 miles of unpaved trails.	Located within the core area, the Red Rock Scenic Loop Drive is for visitors to drive, bike, or hike. The remaining miles of trail system provide access to other areas within the core area and beyond. The Red Rock Scenic Loop Drive and Trail system is used for casual use as well as permitted activities. The system of trails continues to be maintained today.

Past Project	Cottonwood Valley Trail System(1996)	Approximately 60 miles of trails in Cottonwood Valley area.	Located adjacent to the core area, the Cottonwood Valley Trail System provides a network of access to the area south of the core area. It is used for casual recreation as well as for permitted activities. The system of trails continues to be maintained today.
Past Project	SR-159 Corridor Trail Feasibility Study and Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA)(2010)	The PEA analyzed a network of trails intended to enhance connections from the municipalities and the county into Red Rock Canyon. Inter-connectivity to the trails in other municipalities and federal lands. The Zone 2 trail is consistent with the planned systems trails that would make connections to non-motorized trails outside of the RRCNCA. In addition, the Zone 2 trail would connect to widely used existing on-road bicycle un-designated routes.	Planning for this project included consultation with trail planners from Clark County to accomplish these means. The proposed trail alignment is intended to connect nodes within RRCNCA, including both ends of the Scenic Drive. In the next phase of the design, the proposed trail segments will add connection to the campground, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, and Bonnie Springs.
Current Planning	Transportation Feasibility Study	Analysis of the current core area transportation infrastructure (Scenic Drive, trails, trail heads, and parking) to find solutions to current transportation concerns and potential future issues due to increased visitor use.	The core area of the RRCNCA including the Scenic Drive, adjacent facilities, and transportation infrastructure.
Past Project	Special Recreation Permits for the Cottonwood Valley Trail System(2012)	EA analyzing a number of Special Recreation Permits for issuance over a given period of time within the Cottonwood Valley Trail System. Facilities and trails are identified and clarified for specific types of recreational uses to meet current and future Special Recreation Permits for the next five years.	Located adjacent to the core area, the Cottonwood Valley Trail System provides a network of access to areas south of the core area and permitted activities occurring there.

Past Project	Red Rock Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project	Treatment using herbicide, mowing, blading or combination of these methods to remove invasive/noxious weeds and to create fuel breaks	Fuels reduction treatments in and around the core area of RRCNCA would treat invasive/noxious weeds adjacent to roads, trails, and in previously burned areas to create fuel breaks and limit potential spread of fire in the event of a wildland fire. Native plant species would be avoided.
Future Planning	Transportation and Travel Management Plan	Analyzing, defining, and designating current and future roads, trails, signs, and information systems within the RRCNCA	198,000 acres of public lands in the RRCNCA in Clark County.

4.3.1. Recreation

Past, present, and future designated trails, trail heads, roads, parking areas, facilities, and infrastructure within the RRCNCA have been developed to provide access and recreational opportunities for visitors and cumulatively have improved the number of recreational opportunities in the RRCNCA.

The 2005 RRCNCA RMP provides management guidance and land use decisions for recreation and resource protection. As growth in the Las Vegas Valley continues, visitation to the entire RRCNCA increases. The RRCNCA Transportation Feasibility Study and subsequent Travel and Transportation Management Plan will address current and future visitation conditions and provide plans to concentrate travel and transportation use to designated areas, helping to improve recreational opportunities throughout the RRCNCA.

The proposed action is expected to provide additional opportunities outside of the core area. It will help mitigate the increased use of the core area with recreational opportunities in other areas.

4.3.2. Threatened , Endangered or Candidate Animal Species

Running races and associated activities may increase other pedestrian and OHV traffic and increase the potential for direct and indirect effects on desert tortoises and sensitive species as well as the degradation of potential habitat, particularly during non-regulated racing events. Other types of recreation may increase as a result of bringing more people into the project area, including target shooting, hiking, and camping. Any increase in human activities in the project area would increase the potential for take of desert tortoise and/or sensitive species through intentional or unintentional killing, degradation of habitat, spread of weeds, and increase in the risks of wildfires, vandalism, and trash dumping, and poaching.

Under current conditions, effects associated with the proposed race would occur in a small portion of the overall habitat available for desert tortoise. BLM land use restrictions should reduce or mitigate potential cumulative effects to the species from activities associated with the race.

4.3.3. Cumulative Effects-Alternative B- No Action

4.3.3.1. Recreation

With the No Action alternative, fewer permits will be approved in the future for similar events. The core of RRCNA will continue to have the heaviest usage.

4.3.3.2. Threatened , Endangered or Candidate Animal Species

No associated impacts as no permit would be issued.

4.4. Mitigation Measures

In addition to the mitigation measures described in this section for recreation and threatened, endangered or candidate species, the proposed action SRP would be required to comply with the BLM SRP Stipulations in Appendix A and Red Rock Programmatic BO (1-5-04-F-526) Biological Opinion terms and conditions in Appendix B.

This page intentionally
left blank

Chapter 5. Tribes, Individuals, Organizations, or Agencies Consulted:

This page intentionally
left blank

Table 5.1. List of Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
Penney Towers	Management Analyst II Office of Administrative Services Special Events Las Vegas City	No issues by LVCity. (Conversation 4/21/16)
Thaddeus V Stephenson	Nevada Department of Transportation	No issues by NDOT. This will be permitted by NDOT.
Carol Hotchkiss	US Forest Service Special Uses Coordinator	This will be permitted by USFS. No issues.
Megan Holter	Clark County Liaison with Mt. Charleston Community	No issues by Mt Charleston town council.(phone conversation 4/20/16)

This page intentionally
left blank

Chapter 6. List of Preparers

This page intentionally
left blank

Table 6.1. List of BLM Preparers

Name	Title	Responsible for the Following Section(s) of this Document
Katharine August	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation, Visual Resources, Human Health and Safety
Lisa Christianson	Environmental Protection and Reclamation Lead	Wastes (hazardous or solid), Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Air Resources
Kerri-Anne Thorpe	Realty Specialist	Land/Access
Mark Boatwright	Archeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Concerns, Paleontology
Susan Farkas	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	Environmental Justice, Socio- Economics
Krystal Johnson	Wild Horse and Burro Specialist	Wild Horses and Burros, Rangeland Health Standards, Farmlands
Lorri Dee Dukes	Geologist	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production
Ashley Holcomb	Resources (GBI)	Vegetation Excluding Federally Listed Species, Woodlands/Forestry
Steve Leslie	Wilderness Specialist	Areas with Wilderness Characteristics, Wilderness/WSA, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Jimmy Linares	Natural Resources Specialist	Migratory Birds, Fish and Wildlife Excluding Federally listed Species
Boris Poff	Hydrologist	Wetlands/Riparian Zones, Water Resources/Quality, Soils, Hydrologic Conditions, Floodplains
Mark Slaughter	Supervisory Natural Resources	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species, Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species
Clay Stephens	Fire Management Officer	Fuels/Fire Management
Aletus Nafus	Weeds Specialist (Fire)	Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds

This page intentionally
left blank

Appendix A. Stipulations for REVEL Mt Charleston

1. The permittee shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws; ordinances; regulations; orders; postings; or written requirements applicable to the area or operations covered by the *Special Recreation Permit* (SRP). The permittee shall insure that all persons operating under the authorization have obtained all required Federal, State, and local licenses or registrations. The permittee shall make every reasonable effort to ensure compliance with these requirements by all agents of the permittee and all clients, costumers, participants, or spectators under the permittees' supervision.
2. A SRP authorizes special uses of the public lands and related waters and should circumstances warrant, the permit may be modified by the BLM at any time, including modification of the amount of use. The authorized officer may suspend or terminate a SRP if necessary to protect public resources, health, safety, the environment, or because of noncompliance with permit stipulations. Actions by the BLM to suspend or terminate are appealable.
3. No value shall be assigned to or claimed for the permit, or for the occupancy or use of Federal lands or related waters granted thereupon. The permit privileges are not to be considered property on which the permittee shall be entitled to earn or receive any return, income, price or compensation. The use of a permit as collateral is not recognized by the BLM.
4. Unless expressly stated, the SRP does not create an exclusive right of use of an area by the permittee. The permittee shall not interfere with other valid uses of the Federal land by other users. The United States reserves the right to use any part of the area for any purpose.
5. The permittee or permittees' representative may not assign, contract or sublease any portion of the permit authorization or interest therein, directly or indirectly, voluntarily or involuntarily. However, contracting of equipment or services may be approved by the authorized officer in advance, if necessary, to supplement a permittee's operations. Such contracting should not constitute more than half the required equipment or services. If equipment or services are contracted, the permittee shall continue to be responsible for compliance with all stipulations and conditions of the permit.
6. All advertising and representations made to the public and to the authorized officer must be accurate. Although the addresses and telephone numbers of the BLM may be included in advertising materials, official agency symbols may not be used. The permittee shall not use advertising that attempts to portray or represent the activities as being conducted by the BLM. The permittee may not portray or represent the permit fee as a special Federal user's tax. The permittee must furnish the authorized officer with any current brochure and price list if requested by the authorized officer.
7. In the event of default on any mortgage or other indebtness, such as bankruptcy, creditors shall not succeed to the operating rights or privileges of the permittees' SRP.
8. The permittee cannot, unless specifically authorized, erect, construct, or place any building, structure, or other fixture on public lands. Upon leaving, the lands must be restored as nearly as possible to pre-existing conditions.

9. The permittee must present or display a copy of the special recreation permit to an authorized officer's representative, or law enforcement personnel upon request. If required, the permittee must display a copy of the permit or other identification tag on equipment used during the period of authorized use.
10. The authorized officer, or other duly authorized representative of the BLM, may examine any of the records or other documents related to the permit, the permittee or the permittee's operator, employee, or agent for up to 3 years after the expiration of the permit.
11. The permittee must submit a Post Use Report to the authorized officer for every year the permit is in effect. If the post use report is not received by the established deadline, the permit will be suspended and/or fines assessed.
12. The permittee shall notify the authorized officer of any accident that occurs while involved in activities authorized by this permit which result in: death, personal injury requiring hospitalization or emergency evacuation, or in property damage greater than \$2,500. Reports should be submitted within 48 hours in the case of death or injury, or 10 days in accidents involving property damage.
13. Fees are due in advance of permit issuance. The competitive use fees shall be the prepaid \$105 minimum annual fee, \$5 per person per day, or 3% of gross receipts which ever is greater.
14. If additional fees are due based on under calculation of event participants, payments must be made to the BLM within 15 days after event completion. If payment is not received by the due date the account will be turned over to collections and future permit requests will be denied.
15. The Kyle Canyon Road, SR157 will have special traffic control during the event. Wrong way travel is prohibited unless approved or directed by the authorized officer or a Law Enforcement Officer.
16. All vehicle parking will be limited to the designated parking areas.
17. All vehicles will be limited to designated roads. Motorized cross-country travel is not authorized.
18. Any unauthorized disturbance as a result of the permitted activity is ground for denial of future permits.
19. Permittee shall not damage, collect, or introduce plants or animals at any location within Red Rock Canyon NCA without permission from the Authorizing officer.
20. The painting of rocks or the establishment of permanent markers or improvements is prohibited.
21. Trash, food items, and event related litter shall be promptly contained and removed from the area immediately upon completion of the event. No litter of any kind can be left on-site.
22. The permittee shall do everything possible to insure that participants do not harass or collect wildlife, or native plants. The permittee shall be responsible for informing all participants about the **Desert Tortoise**. Information will be provided by the BLM on the life history of the desert tortoise, its protected status, protocols for dealing with tortoises if and when they

are encountered, and the definition of "take". All those who participate must sign and date *The Threatened Desert Tortoise Acknowledge of Compliance* sheet. This shall be turned in with the Post Use Report.

23. If a Desert Tortoise is encountered it must be avoided. No vehicle or participant shall approach any closer than five (5) feet of a tortoise. Participants must be instructed to check under their vehicles before driving off. (Tortoises often take cover under vehicles).
24. Section 7 Consultation for this project is covered under the Red Rock NCA Programmatic Biological Opinion (1-5-04-F-526) contingent on compliance with the terms and conditions. Terms and conditions and minimization measures in the above Biological Opinion contain measures to avoid and minimize potential impacts, including take, to desert tortoise. A copy of the terms and conditions is in Appendix B in the EA.
25. The NCA includes the Red Rock unit of the Spring Mountain Horse and Burro Management Area. Harassment, including feeding, of these protected animals is prohibited. Individuals will not harass (feed, pet, chase, etc.) wild horses and burros if encountered on or near the roads or race areas. If they do see any wild horses and burros, they should keep a safe distance, they are wild animals and can be unpredictable, especially during foaling and breeding season.
26. All access gates will remain closed to keep the animals off the roadways.
27. It is illegal to collect or disturb archaeological materials on public lands without a permit issued from the BLM. These permits are only granted to qualified archaeologists associated with institutions or contracting firms. No fossils may be collected within the boundaries of Red Rock Canyon NCA. Violators will be subject to criminal penalties.
28. No fossils may be collected within the boundaries of Red Rock Canyon NCA. Violators will be subject to criminal penalties.
29. Permittee is responsible for obtaining the information necessary to comply with the above stipulations.
30. The permittee must assume responsibility for inspecting the permitted area for any existing or new hazardous conditions, e.g., trail and route conditions, land slides, avalanches, rocks, changing water or weather conditions, falling limbs or trees, submerged objects, hazardous wildlife, or other hazards that present risks for which the permittee assumes responsibility.
31. Permittee shall place signs and other warning devices as deemed necessary by the Authorizing Officer to warn the public of the action taking place.
32. Permittee shall provide a minimum of 30 rest rooms at the main staging area or one restroom for every 50 participants of the half marathon. Rest rooms may be provided through rental of units, use of self-contained trailers or motor homes or any other means providing access to the general public in staging areas. If rest rooms other than rental units are used, adequate signage must be provided to make their presence known. All refuse must be removed from the event area and deposited in an approved treatment facility or landfill. **All rest room facilities must be removed from area within 48 hours after the event.**
33. Permittee will be responsible for ensuring adequate medical care is available at event site:

- a. EMT on site for running events;
 - b. The permittee shall insure that first aid services provided at this event have the capability to insure that any accident victim may be located, treated, and evacuated as needed. A reliable communication system shall be provided sufficient to provide immediate contact for the first aid provider (EMT) to local emergency dispatch centers.
34. This permit is automatically suspended and the permittee is not authorized to conduct the activity described in the SRP if the BLM does not have a copy of the permittee's certificate of insurance. The certificate of insurance must state the following: "The United States Government- Department of Interior-Bureau of Land Management is additionally insured." The minimal amount of insurance required is \$300,000 for bodily injury for any one person, \$600,000 for any one occurrence, and \$30,000 for property damage for any one occurrence.
 35. The event is limited to 700 participants.
 36. Vehicles and participants must stay single file on the right side of the road unless passing other vehicles or pedestrians or as directed by an authorized agent of the BLM.
 37. All staging and vehicle parking must remain within the Twilight Zone parking lot. Vehicles dropping off runners shall have a vehicle pass shown on their windshield. No more than 10 cars may stage at Twilight Zone after 6 a.m. The Twilight Zone Parking area will be cordoned-off by a physical barrier to keep participants in this location.
 38. Permittee will review the proposed course condition before the event and after the event. Permittee will be required to take care of any repair work that needs to be done as a result of the event.
 39. The permittee will receive an annual performance evaluation. Performance will be based upon compliance with the SRP stipulations, the Biological Opinion Terms and Conditions, compliance with the Permittees' Operating Plan, Permittees' protection of resource values, and the quality and safety of services provided to the public. Performance evaluation levels are:

A = Acceptable: Permittee is in compliance with permit stipulations; has taken prompt steps to rectify any performance issues and complaints; does not repeatedly violate conditions, or show a disregard for stipulations.

P = Probationary: There have been repeated violations or disregards for permit stipulations.

U = Unacceptable: Permittee willfully and/or repeatedly violated permit conditions to provide substandard service to the public. Conduct is lacking in reasonableness or responsibility to the point that it becomes reckless or negligent.
 40. Administrative penalties issued against the permittee by the authorized officer for failure to comply with one or more conditions or stipulations of this permit include but are not limited to the following:

Probation: Probation is defined as putting a permittee under special scrutiny for a specified period (one season of use) for failure to comply with one or more permit conditions or stipulations.

Suspension: Suspension is a temporary removal of all permit privileges. While operating in a probationary status, failure to comply with one or more operating conditions or stipulations will result in permit suspension.

Termination: Termination is a permanent removal of permit privileges. Based on a review of the violations(s) a permit in suspension status may be terminated.

41. Failure to comply with the stipulations of this permit will result in the cancellation of the permit, denial for future permits, and possible legal action.

This page intentionally
left blank

Appendix B. Red Rock Programmatic BO (1-5-04-F-526) Biological Opinion Terms and Conditions

DOI-BLM-NV-S020-2016-0004-EA

REVEL Mt. Charleston

Measures Proposed to Minimize the Effects of the Proposed Action:

1. *Speed limit:* Within Clark County, the speed limit is 25 miles-per-hour on un-posted County roads; this speed will be established for all activities at all times unless otherwise designated.
2. *Vehicles:* All project/event-related individuals shall check underneath stationary vehicles before moving them.
3. *Vehicle traffic:* Shall be restricted to existing access roads, unless otherwise authorized by BLM and the Service.
4. *Litter-control:* Will be implemented and enforced by the project proponent or BLM. Trash containers shall remain covered, must be raven-proof, and emptied frequently enough to prevent overflow of materials. Trash, litter, project debris, etc. shall be transferred to a designated solid waste disposal facility. Vehicles hauling trash must be secured to prevent litter from blowing out along the road.
5. *Tortoise mortality/injury:* BLM wildlife staff (702/515-5000) and the Service (702/515-5230) must be notified of any desert tortoise death or injury due to the project implementation by close of business on the following work day. In addition, the Service's Division of Law Enforcement shall be notified in accordance with the reporting requirements of this biological opinion.
6. *Tortoise activity:* The period of greatest tortoise activity is generally defined as March 1 – October 31. However, unseasonably warm weather and/or precipitation outside this period may result in tortoise activity, particularly by hatchling and juvenile tortoise, and thus warrant adherence to requirements established for periods of greater activity. Similarly, BLM may determine that additional measures are appropriate for projects planned for the end or beginning of either period if conditions are suitable for desert tortoises to be active.
7. *Education Program:* A BLM/Service-approved biologist (as defined below) shall present a tortoise education program to all foremen, workers, permittees and other employees or participants involved on projects covered under this opinion. The program will consist of either a presentation or fact sheet as determined by project level consultation between BLM and the Service. The program or fact sheet will include information on the life history of the desert tortoise, legal protection for desert tortoises, penalties for violations of Federal and State laws, general tortoise activity patterns, reporting requirements, measures to protect tortoises, terms and conditions of the biological opinion, and personal measures employees can take to promote the conservation of desert tortoises. The definition of "take" will also be explained. Workers and project associates will be encouraged to carpool to and from the project sites. Specific and detailed instructions will be provided on the proper techniques

Appendix B Red Rock Programmatic BO
(1-5-04-F-526) Biological Opinion Terms
and Conditions

to capture and move tortoises which appear on-site if appropriate, in accordance with Service-approved protocol. Currently, the Service-approved protocol is Desert Tortoise Council 1994, revised 1999.

8. *Biologist approval*: Not required for this project.
9. *Biologist qualifications*: Not required for this project.
10. *Tortoise in harm's way*: If a tortoise is found within the project/activity site in harm's way, all potentially harmful activity shall cease until the tortoise moves or is moved out of harm's way by an authorized biologist. If a desert tortoise is in *imminent danger*, the tortoise shall be moved out of harm's way and on to adjacent BLM land, using techniques described in the tortoise education program.
11. *Moving tortoises*: Tortoises that are moved off-site and released into undisturbed habitat on public land, must be placed in the shade of a shrub, in a natural unoccupied burrow similar to the hibernaculum in which it was found, or in an artificially constructed burrow in accordance with the tortoise handling protocol. Tortoises encountered shall be treated in a manner consistent with the appropriate measures in this biological opinion.
12. *Permits*: All appropriate State and Federal permits, including NDOW and Service permits for handling desert tortoises or their parts, must be acquired by the tortoise biologists or other personnel before project initiation and prior to handling any desert tortoise or their parts, or conducting any activity requiring a permit.
 1. *Project oversight*: A BLM representative(s) shall be designated who will be responsible for overseeing compliance with the reasonable and prudent measures, terms and conditions, reporting requirements, and reinitiation requirements contained in this biological opinion. The designated representative shall provide coordination among the permittee, project proponent, BLM, and the Service.
 1. *Desert tortoise burrows*: Will be avoided whenever possible; if not, the burrow will be cleared in accordance with the measures set forth in this biological opinion.
 1. *Heat stress*: Desert tortoises encountered experiencing heat stress will be placed in a tub, by an authorized tortoise biologist, with one inch of 76-90°F water for at least 20 minutes or until heat stress symptoms are no longer evident.
 2. *Temperature restrictions*: Desert tortoises shall be treated in a manner to ensure that they do not overheat, exhibit signs of overheating (*e.g.*, gaping, foaming at the mouth, etc.), or are placed in a situation where they cannot maintain surface and core temperatures necessary to their well-being. Desert tortoises shall be kept shaded at all times until it is safe to release them. No desert tortoise shall be captured, moved, transported, released, or purposefully caused to leave its burrow for whatever reason when the ambient air temperature is above 95°F (35°C). Ambient air temperature shall be measured in the shade, protected from wind, at a height of 2 inches (5 centimeters) above the ground surface. No desert tortoise shall be captured if the ambient air temperature is anticipated to exceed 95°F (35°C) before handling and relocation can be completed. If the ambient air temperature exceeds 95°F (35°C) during handling or processing, desert tortoises shall be kept shaded in an environment that does not exceed 95°F (35°C), and the animals shall not be released until ambient air temperature declines to below 95°F (35°C).

3. *Reporting:* The project proponent, permittee, or project lead if an internal action, must submit a document to BLM wildlife biologist within 30 days of completion of the project showing the number of acres disturbed, remuneration fees paid, and number of tortoises observed or taken, which includes capture and displacement, killed, injured, or harassed by other means, during implementation of programmatic actions.
4. *Previous disturbance:* Overnight parking and storage of equipment and materials, including stockpiling, shall be within previously disturbed areas or within areas cleared by a tortoise biologist to minimize habitat destruction.
5. *Project boundaries:* Project activity areas will be clearly marked or flagged at the outer boundaries before the onset of construction. All activities shall be confined to designated areas. When new access routes have been identified for development, routes will be flagged by the tortoise biologist prior to surface disturbance.
6. *Unauthorized introductions:* The permittee shall not damage, collect, or introduce plants or animals to any location, unless specifically permitted by BLM.
7. *Existing disturbance:* All motorized vehicles, parking and activities are restricted to existing roads and existing disturbed areas; no additional ground disturbance will be allowed.
8. *Marking/infrastructure:* Painting of rocks or establishment of permanent markers or installation of permanent infrastructure is not allowed with these activities.
9. *Removal of materials:* The applicant is responsible for removal of any project-related materials such as flagging, markers, etc. within one week of the activity, project, or study conclusion except horse trail and endurance rides where all materials shall be removed immediately following the event. With the exception of horse endurance rides, any flagging used will be discretely placed so as not to attract the attention of the casual user.
10. *Reports:* Will be submitted to BLM wildlife staff representative following the end of the permit period (or yearly if a multiple year permit is issued) showing the number of desert tortoises injured, killed, collected, encountered or moved as a result of the permitted activity. Additional information for collections and research permits would include the UTM coordinates or GIS coverage of the collection sites, the number and location species of collected associated with permitted activities.