

RFO & HMS PROJECT INITIATION FORM

Project Name: Marysvale River Road Realignment

Project Description/Proposed Action:

The Richfield Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to respond to a request from Marysvale City and the Paiute Trail Committee to realign a short section of River Road, which is located in T. 27 S., R. 3 W., Section 21 (see maps). If approved, Marysvale City would start and complete construction in summer 2016.

The BLM's need is to respond to a request from Marysvale City and the Paiute Trail Committee to realign a portion of River Road in order to resolve a long-time dispute and restore public access along BLM route 0095. River Road has been historically used by the public to connect from Marysvale, along the east side of the Sevier River, to the Dry Creek Road. This route is identified as Trail #37 on the Paiute Trail Map and was getting frequent use by the public until around 2010. In approximately 2010, a private landowner complained about ATV riders harassing livestock on a section of River Road that crossed his private property. He subsequently locked a gate and denied public access through his land, resulting in a lengthy court process between the landowner and local Government (Piute County and Marysvale City, representing the interests of the public).

An agreement was reached between the parties in November of 2013 to avoid further court actions and additional costs to all parties involved. In the agreement, the landowner agreed to allow Marysvale City to reroute the road through his property (upslope and farther east of the river) and connect back to the existing road at his southern property line. In order to accomplish the goals set forth in the agreement, a short section (approximately 864 feet) of road would need to be rerouted on BLM (see project map).

Marysvale City and the Paiute Trail Committee have approached the BLM and asked that we proceed with analysis on their proposal. Management recognizes the need and public support of this route and has agreed to move forward with required project analysis.

As stated, the proposed action is to restore public access on River Road by constructing 864 feet of road on land administered by the BLM. Construction of the relocated road would be done by Marysvale City under the direction of the BLM.

Best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented to stabilize the soils within the new corridor. These practices include seeding, weed management, erosion control methods, and topsoil management. During construction, topsoil would be stripped, stockpiled, and redistributed over the newly constructed slopes. Marysvale City would be responsible to properly finish and clean up the project corridor to maximize the likelihood that the existing limited vegetation would be reestablished. Reseeding specifications will be outlined during the NEPA process.

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After construction, Marysvale City would maintain the roadway on a regular basis, according to their standard operating procedures. The county has agreed to take care of the continued maintenance of the road once constructed.

NOTE:

It should be noted that a great deal of discussion has gone on about the possibility of a similar dispute with one of the other private landowners along the route to the south. The town of Marsvale and Piute County both insist that this won't be an issue. As such, BLM management has informed both the town of Marysvale and Piute County that, if approved, this is the only road realignment that would be considered along the route. Should another similar dispute arise in the future, the county would be called upon to find a solution that doesn't include realignment on public lands. The county and town have both acknowledged this arrangement.

***River Road is a "B" road claimed by the county under RS2477.

General Project Location: East of Marysvale

Legal Description:

Salt Lake Meridian, Utah
T. 27 S., R. 3 W.,
sec. 21, NW1/4SE1/4.

File/Serial Number: UTU-91521

Charge Code: Marysvale Town is exempt from cost recovery fees as provided for in 43 CFR §2804.16 (a) citing local government establishments.

Project Lead/Author: Michael Utley, Realty Specialist

Plan Conformance:

Land Use Plan Name: Richfield Field Office, Resource Management Plan
Date Approved/Amended: October 31, 2008

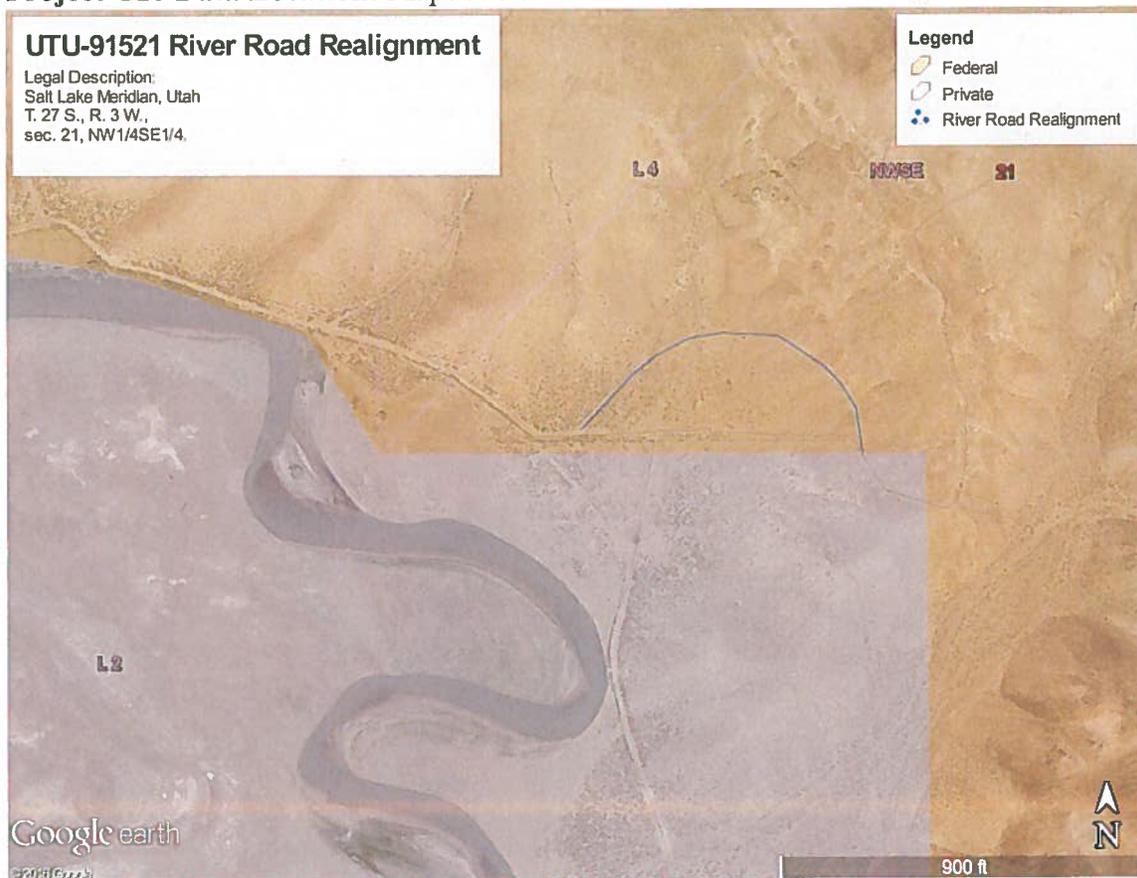
The proposed action is subject to the Richfield Field Office (RFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved on October 31, 2008 and does not appear to conflict with any of the existing land use goals, objectives or decision in the RMP or significantly change or alter the way the affected public lands are presently managed. The proposed action, although not specifically addressed, is in conformance with the RMP because it is clearly consistent with the following RMP decision (Decision Record Page 31; and Goals and Objectives Table 18, Page 128), which states: "Provide effective public land management and to improve land use, productivity, and utility through the authorization of legitimate uses of public land by processing use authorizations such as rights-of-way,

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leases, permits, and state land selections in response to demonstrated public needs; and assist in orderly resource management through processing special land designations and rights-of-way corridor designations.”

Since the proposed action is consistent with existing land use decisions and with Bureau policies, regulations, and decisions, it is considered to be in conformance with the existing RFO RMP.

Project GIS Data Location: Maps and a KMZ saved in N: Drive Folder



Rest of document to be filled out by Manager

Assign NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-UT-C020-2016-0029

Engineering Required: yes pre-NEPA yes post-NEPA no

If Yes, Projected Timeframe:

Document Type: CX DNA EA

NEPA Prepared: In-House Contractor

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PROJECT
INITIATION FORM**

Accept or Reject Initiation of NEPA

ePlanning: Public Scoping Period Duration? 15 30 Other
Public Comment Period? yes no If Yes, how long? _____ days
Sage Grouse Habitat? yes no

ID Team: RFO Staff

ID Team Meeting Needed? yes no
Site Visit Needed? yes no

Identify any potential Stakeholders/Partners/Key Players: Marysville Town, Piute Trail Committee, Piute County.

Management decisions & notes:

X Wayne A. Wetzel
Richfield Field Office Manager

20 May 2016
Date