

United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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Categorical Exclusion Not Established By Statute

DOI-BLM-UT-Y020-2016-0046-CX

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June 2016

Cattle guard for mountain bike access to bike trail on SITLA

*Locations:*

Salt Lake Meridian, Utah  
T. 30 S., R 20 E.,  
sec. 15, SE1/4SW1/4SE1/4.

*Applicant/Address: State of Utah*

Bureau of Land Management  
Monticello Field Office  
P.O. Box 7  
Monticello, UT 84535  
OFFICE 435-587-1500  
FAX 435-587-1518



## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION

### CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS NOT ESTABLISHED BY STATUTE

#### A. Background

**BLM Office:** Monticello Field Office

**Case File No:** NA

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Cattle guard for mountain bike access to bike trail on SITLA

**Locations of Proposed Action:** San Juan County, Utah

Approximately ¼ mile east of the entrance to Canyonlands National Park on Hwy-211.

#### **Description of Proposed Action:**

Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) lands are being operated for the Needles Outpost which consists of a campground and c-store. SITLA is planning on creating a new mountain bike trail on the property above the Needles Outpost that would service the customers visiting and staying at the Outpost. Because of topography, access to the proposed mountain bike trail would be from existing county roads (D0566 and D2717). The mountain bike trail access roads are part of the BLM's travel management plan. The main issue of concern for SITLA is there is a let-down gate along the paved road where the dirt road leaves the HWY-211.

SITLA proposes the installation of an OHV cattle guard next to the let-down gate in that section of the fence. This proposal is intended to avoid cattle getting out from the mountain bike users neglecting to put the gate back up. SITLA is proposing to purchase the OHV cattle guard and installing it.

#### B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Monticello Field Office RMP, Approved: November, 2008

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP Goals and Objectives:

Page 88 of the Monticello Field Office RMP reads as follows: "To provide for multiple recreational uses of the public lands and to sustain a wide range of recreation opportunities and potential experiences for visitors and residents while supporting local economic stability and sustaining the recreation resource base and other sensitive resource values"

#### C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 G(2) which states, "Installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, waterbars, gates, or cattleguards on/or adjacent to roads and trails identified in any land use or transportation plan, or eligible for incorporation in such plan."

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action is a paperwork action that transfers the existing right-of-way from the current holder to another. No additional rights beyond those granted by the original authorization will be transferred. No new disturbance, construction, or facilities are being added. For these reasons it is not necessary to document an interdisciplinary review of the proposed action per guidance in the Utah NEPA Guidebook July 2010, Chapter 6 Documentation Requirements.

**D. Signature**

Authorizing Official: Donald K. Hoffheins Date: 9/15/2016  
*Donald K. Hoffheins*  
*Field Manager*

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact

Chris Ransel  
Realty Specialist  
Monticello Field Office  
P.O. Box 7  
Monticello, UT 84535  
435-587-1522

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Categorical Exclusion Review Record,
- Map of trail and proposed cattle guard

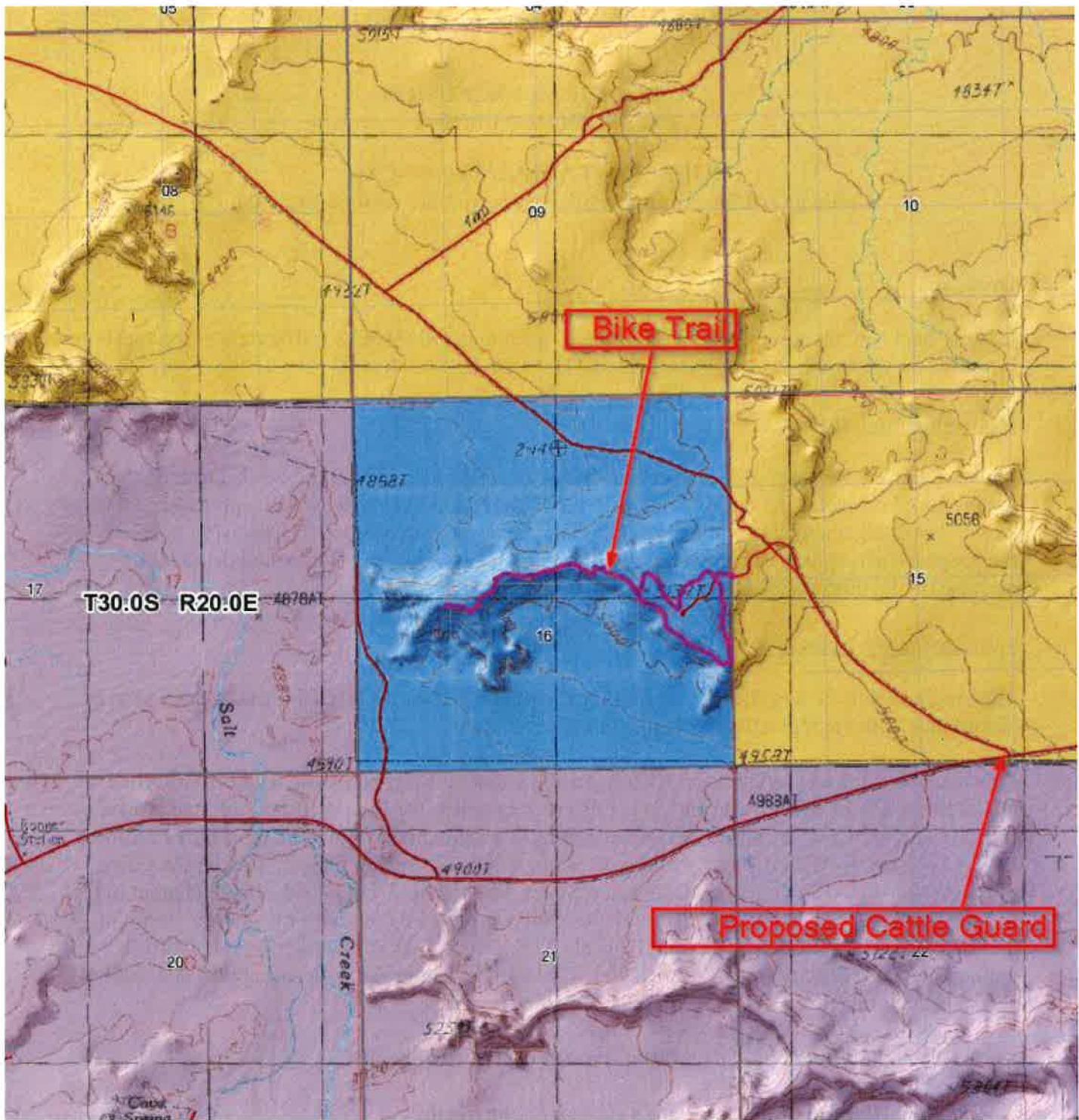
**Categorical Exclusion Review Record  
Cattle guard for mountain bike access to bike trail on State land  
DOI-BLM-UT-Y020-2016-0046-CX**

Resource	Yes/No*	Assigned Specialist Signature	Date
Air Quality	No	C. Giffen	5/19/16
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	No	C. Worth	5/19/16
Cultural Resources	No	D. Simonis	6/21/16
Environmental Justice	No	C. Ransel	5/19/16
Farm Lands (prime or unique)	No	Jed Carling	5/19/16
Floodplains	No	Jed Carling	5/19/16
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	No	Nephi Noyes	5/19/16
Migratory Birds	No	M. Scott	5/19/16
Native American Religious Concerns	No	D. Simonis	6/21/16
Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Species	No	M. Scott	5/19/16
Wastes (hazardous or solid)	No	J. Brown	6/21/16
Water Quality (drinking or ground)	No	M. Scott	5/19/16
Wetlands / Riparian Zones	No	Jed Carling	5/19/16
Wild and Scenic Rivers	No	C. Worth	5/19/16
Wilderness/WSA	No	C. Worth	5/19/16
Other:			

\*Extraordinary Circumstances apply.

  
Environmental Coordinator Donald K Haffner

Date: 9/15/2016



**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DECISION DOCUMENT**

**DOI-BLM-UT-Y020-2016-0046-CX  
Cattle guard for mountain bike access to bike trail on State land**

**Decision**

It is my decision to authorize the installation of a cattle guard for bike traffic only at the location proposed on the map included in DOI-BLM-UT-Y020-2016-0046-CX.

**Decision Rationale**

I have reviewed the plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the Monticello Field Office RMP, approved November 2008, and that no further environmental analysis is required. The decision to allow the proposed action does not result in any undue and unnecessary environmental degradation because the facility exists and no new disturbances are proposed.

**Administrative Remedies**

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4.

This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 2801.10). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR, part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at 365 North Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal and shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- 1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
- 2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- 3) The likelihood of irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted, and
- 4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and with the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 6201 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1180, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.

**Authorizing Official**

Authorizing Official:



*Donald K. Hoffheins*  
*Field Manager*

Date:

*9/15/2016*