KINGMAN FIELD OFFICE SCOPING FORM

Proposal: Roadside Mine Remediation
NEPA Document Number: DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2015-0033-CX
NEPA Document Location: S:\BLMshare\AML\NEPA\2015
NEPA Document Name: C010_2015_0033_CX_Roadside
Land Description: G&SR Meridian, Arizona, T.21N., R.21W, sec. 12.
Applicant: N/A
Date Initiated: 07/07/2015

INVOLVEMENT: Indicate in the left column which disciplines need to provide information into the EA/CX.

Needed Input (X)	Discipline	Signature
	Lands	
X	Minerals	/s/ W. Todd 09/21/2015
	Range	
	Wild Horse and Burro	
	General Recreation	
	Cultural and Paleontological Resources	
	Wilderness	
	Soils	
	Surface and Groundwater Quality/Water Rights	
X	Migratory Birds	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 9/21/2015
X	Wildlife	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 9/21/2015
X	Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 9/21/2015
	Air Quality	
	Surface Protection	
	Hazardous Materials	
	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	
X	Visual Resources	/s/ Matthew Driscoll 9/21/2015
	Socio-Economics/Environmental Justice	
	General Botany/Noxious Weeds	
	Energy Policy	

Writer: /s/ Maria Troche Date: 09/21/2015

Environmental Coordinator: Victoria Anne Date: 09/21/2015

Field Manager: Donald McClure Date: 09/21/2015

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
COMPLIANCE RECORD FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS (CX)
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management

PART I. – PROPOSED ACTION
BLM Office: Kingman Field Office **NEPA No.: C010-2015-0033-CX**
Case File No.: N/A

Proposed Action Title/Type: Roadside Mine Remediation

Applicant: BLM

Location of Proposed Action: Black Mountains, Mohave County, Arizona

Description of Proposed Action: This project is for the fencing of the Roadside Mine (aka. On-and-On). The Roadside mine working is located within the following described public lands: Gila & Salt River Meridian, Arizona, T. 21 N., R. 21 W., sec 12. The site encompasses approximately two acres near Bullhead City, Mohave County, Arizona.

The mine consists of a large open stope with two inclined adit openings separated by a pillar. One opening is 6 meters (m) high and 7.5 m wide, the other 6 m high and 17 m wide. These two openings access a large stope approximately 10 m high, 25 m long and 30 m wide. Current features existing within the mine are two flooded shafts and two short adits. Due to the climate of the area, the Roadside Mine is ideal habitat for bats throughout the year. Up to 10,000 bats utilize the mine as a migratory roost. Arizona Game & Fish Department survey identified four bat species using the mine: the big-brown, cave myotis, Townsend's big-eared, and Mexican free-tailed bat.

Heavy erosion from wind, water, and mining activity is evident within and surrounding the mine workings. The instability of the mine and its proximity to residences and areas of heavy recreation creates a hazard to the public. The flooded shafts are within a very dark section of the mine and contain a significant amount of bat guano. The steep sloping gravel edges of the shafts create a risk for accidental falls, and provide no opportunity to escape without rescue. The entrance into the mine is approximately 10 m below the surface of the ground. The weight of the 10 m collar, in combination with erosion and gravity, have potential for collapse. In several locations the ceiling is eroding upwards towards the ground surface posing a significant potential for falls from above.

Due to safety concerns, the Bureau of Land Management / Kingman Field Office would be constructing a prison-style fence around the mine entrance and underworkings. The fence would be approximately 1,400 feet in length and 8 feet in height. Materials would be anti-climb chain-link fencing with concertina wire (razor wire) along the entire top rail of the fence. Remediating this dangerous abandoned mine working with a fence would reduce the potential for accidental injury or death, while providing protection of the bat habitat.

Part II. – PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW
This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan(s): Kingman Resource Management Plan/EIS

Decisions and page nos.: "Hazardous Materials Management
The objective is to reduce hazards to the public and natural resources on public lands from toxic materials."
Date plan approved/amended: March 1995

This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with these plans (*43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM Manual 1601.04.C.2)*.

PART III. – NEPA COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION REVIEW

A. The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 Appendix 4, J (8) – Installation of minor devices to protect human life, (e.g., grates across mines), and, Appendix 4, J (10) -- Removal of structures and materials of no historical value, such as abandoned automobiles, fences, and buildings, including those built in trespass and reclamation of the site when little or no surface disturbance is involved;

And

B. Extraordinary Circumstances Review: In accordance with **43 CFR 46.215**, any action that is normally categorically excluded must be subjected to sufficient environmental review to determine if it meets any of the 12 Extraordinary Circumstances described. If any circumstance applies to the action or project, and existing NEPA documentation does not adequately address it, then further NEPA analysis is required.

IMPORTANT: Appropriate staff should review the circumstances listed in Part IV, comment and initial for concurrence. Rationale supporting the concurrence should be included in the appropriate block.

Part IV. – EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION

PREPARERS:	DATE:
/s/ Maria Troche	9/20/2015

/s/ Victoria Anne 11/16/2015
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST DATE

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215(a)-(l)) apply. The project would:

(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Yes	No	
	X	**Rationale:** Remediating this abandoned mine working will have a positive effect on public health & safety. The possibilty of accidental injury or death due to entry into the mine will be reduced by the installation of the fence. Preparer's Initials MT

(b) Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		
Yes	**No**	**Rationale:** The proposed action would not have a significant impact on any of the listed resources. The Roadside Mine area is previously disturbed as a result of years of mining activity, tenant occupancy, and due to the storage of equipment, vehicles and structures. The effect on wildlife living in mines, particularly bats, would only be disturbed during fence construction. After the fence is installed, the habitat would benefit from keeping people out of the mine. Preparer's Initials MT
	X	
(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102 (2) (E)].		
Yes	**No**	**Rationale:** The proposed action would not have a significant effect on the alternative use of available resources. Preparer's Initials MT
	X	
(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		
Yes	**No**	**Rationale:** The proposed action would not have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. Preparer's Initials MT
	X	
(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principal about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		
Yes	**No**	**Rationale:** The approval of the project would not set the precedent for other actions. All other mine closures would be evaluated individually. Preparer's Initials MT
	X	

(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		
Yes	**No** **X**	**Rationale:** This action would not have cumulatively significant actions in consideration of other actions in the vicinity. Preparer's Initials MT
(g) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.		
Yes	**No** **X**	**Rationale:** There are none of the listed in the Roadside Mine area. Preparer's Initials MT
(h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		
Yes	**No** **X**	**Rationale:** T&E species and critical habitat would be unaffected if the proposed project were to be approved. There is no critical habitat or T&E species present in the project area. Preparer's Initials MT
(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		
Yes	**No** **X**	**Rationale:** No laws or requirements would be violated if the project were approved. Preparer's Initials MT
(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		
Yes	**No** **X**	**Rationale:** The action would have no impact on low income or minority populations. There is a low-income housing community in close proximity to the mine. If the project were approved residents in this community would benefit from the fencing of a significant hazard near their residence. Preparer's Initials MT

(k) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		
Yes	**No**	**Rationale:** There are no known sacred sites in the project area.
	X	Preparer's Initials MT

(l) Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		
Yes	**No**	**Rationale:** Contractors would use designated routes to access the mine and cross-country travel would not be necessary; therefore, this action will not contribute to the spread of noxious weeds or non-native species.
	X	Preparer's Initials MT

PART V. –COMPLIANCE REVIEW CONCLUSION

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record, and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required.

MITIGATION MEASURES/OTHER REMARKS:

/s/ Ruth Zimmerman 11/16/2015
Acting Field Manager

APPROVING OFFICIAL: _____ DATE: _____

TITLE: _____

Note: The signed conclusion on this compliance record is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. A separate decision to implement the action should be prepared in accordance with program specific guidance.

Approval and Decision

DOI-BLM-AZ-CO10-2015-0033-CX

Compliance and assignment of responsibility: Maria Troche, AML Coordinator
Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: Maria Troche, AML Coordinator

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

Prepared by:
_____/s/ Maria Troche_____
Maria Troche
Project Lead

Reviewed by:
_____/s/ Victoria Anne _____
Victoria Anne
NEPA Coordinator

Reviewed by:
_____/s/ Ruth Zimmerman_____
Ruth Zimmerman,
Acting Field Manager
Supervisor

Project Description: The Bureau of Land Management - Kingman Field Office would be constructing a prison-style fence around the mine entrance and underworkings. The fence would be approximately 1,400 feet in length and 8 feet in height. Materials would be anti-climb chainlink fencing with concertina wire (razor wire) along the entire top rail of the fence. Remediating this dangerous abandoned mine working with a fence would reduce the potential for accidental injury or death, while providing protection of the bat habitat.

Decision: Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

Approved By: _____/s/ Ruth Zimmerman _____ **Date:** _____11/16/2015_____
Ruth Zimmerman
Acting Field Manager