UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BLM

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

EMERY COUNTY ROAD #332 REALIGNMENT

DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2021-0006-EA

April 2021

Location:
Salt Lake Meridian, Utah; T. 20 S., R. 11 E, sec. 22.

Applicant/Address:
Emery County Commission
PO Box 629
Castle Dale, UT 84513

Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501
435-636-3600

Cost of Producing this Analysis: < $10,000

EMERY COUNTY ROAD #332 REALIGNMENT

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EMERY COUNTY ROAD #332 REALIGNMENT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to disclose and analyze the environmental consequences of Emery County road #332 Realignment as proposed by Emery County. The EA is a site-specific analysis of potential impacts that could result from the implementation of a proposed action or alternatives to the proposed action. The EA assists the BLM in project planning and ensuring compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and in making a determination as to whether any "significant" impacts could result from the analyzed actions. "Significance" is defined by NEPA and is found in regulation 40 CFR 1508.27. An EA provides evidence for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a statement of "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI). If the decision maker determines that this project has "significant" impacts following the analysis in the EA, then an EIS would be prepared for the project. If not, a Decision Record may be signed for the EA approving the selected alternative, whether the proposed action or another alternative. A Decision Record (DR), including a FONSI statement, documents the reasons why implementation of the selected alternative would not result in "significant" environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in the Price Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP) as detailed (*October 2018*).

BACKGROUND

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Price Field Office (PFO) received an application from Emery County to realign a section of county 'B' road #332, also known as Buckhorn Draw and Tan Seeps Road. Located in the San Rafael Swell, this road carries traffic out of Buckhorn Draw and south of the Swinging Bridge Campground. This road is an RS-2477 road currently under an administrative right-of-way (ROW; UTU-66124-aa).

This section of the road is cherry-stemmed between the boundaries of Sid's Mountain and Mexican Mountain wildernesses (see figure 1). The proposed project location is an s-shaped curve in the road, located approximately 0.8 miles south of the Swinging Bridge Campground. The proposed project would aim to reduce hazardous driving conditions on County road #332 and increase sight distance for drivers by eliminating the tight s-curve and reconstructing the road.

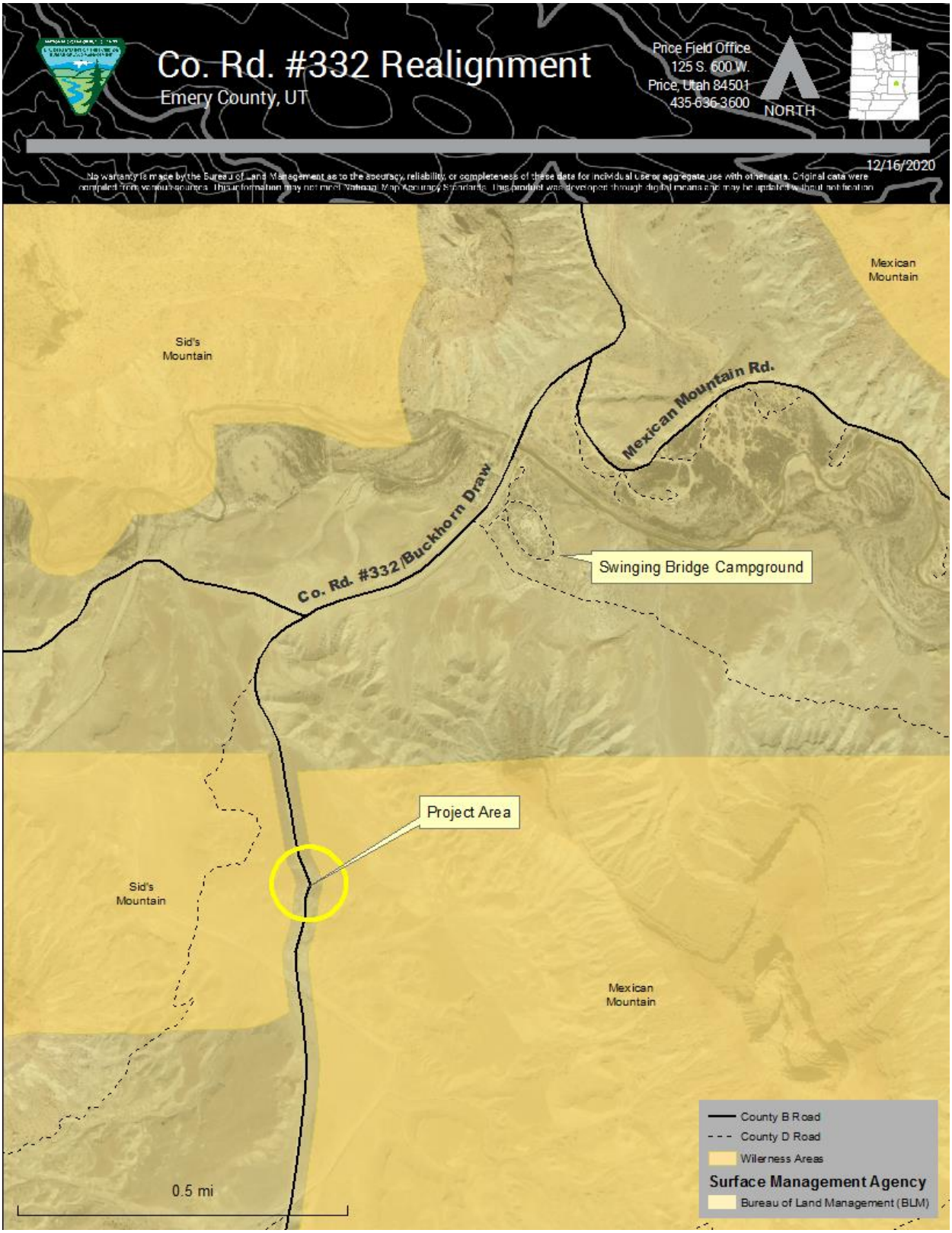

FIGURE 1 PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATION

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of the BLM action is to consider and respond to Emery County's Right of Way Application to realign a section of Emery County Road #332, located in township 20 S, Range 10 East, section 22.

The need for the action is established under the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) and Rights of Way Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act regulations found at 43 CFR 2800. As stated under 43 Code of Federal Regulations (43 CFR) 2801.2:

"… it is the BLM's objective to grant rights-of-way to any qualified individual, business, or government entity and to direct and control the use of rights-of-way on public lands."

The decision to be made is whether or not to authorize the ROW and under what terms and conditions.

CONFORMANCE WITH BLM LAND USE PLAN(S)

The proposed action and alternatives described below are in conformance with the Price Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved October 2008.

1) They conform to decision LAR-28, on page 120, which states:

> *"Additional ROWs will be granted consistent with RMP goals and objectives."*

2) Although the proposed action and alternative(s) are not specifically mentioned in the plan, they are consistent with its objectives, goals, and decisions as they relate to the Lands and Realty Program as stated on page 115 of the RMP. These goals and objectives state:

> *"Goals:*
>
> *Make public lands available through ROWs [rights-of-way] or leases for such purposes as transportation routes, utilities, transmission lines, and communication sites, in coordination with other resource goals.*
>
> *Objectives:*
>
> *Maintain availability of public lands to meet the habitation, cultivation, trade, mineral development, recreation, and manufacturing needs of external customers and the general public.*
>
> *Make public lands available to meet the needs for smaller ROWs (e.g., roads or pipelines for oil fields)."*

It has been determined that the proposed action and alternative(s) would not conflict with other decisions throughout the plan.

RELATIONSHIP TO STATUTES, REGULATIONS, OR OTHER PLANS

The Proposed Action is consistent with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and plans to the maximum extent possible, including the following:

- Title V of the FLPMA of October 21, 1976 (90 Stat. 2776, 43 U.S.C. § 1761) and the regulations issued there under at 43 CFR Part 2800
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969
- The Utah Noxious Weed Act, Section 4-17-2
- Title 54 U.S.C. § 306108 (commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act)

IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES

In March 2020, the Price Field Office Interdisciplinary Team of Resource Specialists (ID Team) received a presentation about the proposed action. The ID Team reviewed the proposed action to identify any issues, and did not identify any potential issues that would result from the proposed action. The external scoping process included public notification through the ePlanning site along with a 15-day public comment period.

SUMMARY

This chapter has presented the purpose and need of the proposed project, as well as the relevant issues, i.e., those elements of the human environment that could be affected by the implementation of the proposed project. In order to meet the purpose and need of the proposed project in a way that resolves the issues, the BLM has considered and/or developed a range of action alternatives. These alternatives are presented in Chapter 2.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

This chapter describes the alternatives considered by the BLM during preparation of this Environmental Assessment.

ALTERNATIVE A

Alternative A would realign a section of Emery County road #332 on lands administered by the BLM Price Field Office in Emery County, Utah as a straight line (see Figure 2). Figures 2 through 7 are located in Appendix C of this document. This section of road is currently s-shaped, and the proposed realignment would eliminate the s-curve and reconstruct it as a straight road.

The reconstructed section of road would be approximately 426-feet long, and the travel surface would be up to 28-feet wide. The disturbed area as a result of realigning the curve to a straight line would total 0.65 acres (see figure 3), which includes the decommissioning of the original road alignment disturbance and the topsoil stockpile storage. The authorized ROW would be approximately 2,043-feet long by up to 200-feet wide and would include portions of existing road, located both to the north and south of the proposed realignment (see figure 4). Including existing sections of road in the authorized ROW would allow for future road maintenance. The authorized ROW grant would be issued in perpetuity.

The current road surface would be buried and covered by excess granular borrow material. This borrow material would be generated by the excavation and creation of the new road alignment. Existing topsoil, up to 6-inches deep, in the new disturbance area would be removed and stockpiled on site prior to excavation. These stockpiles would be stored within the project area, as shown in Figure 5. After completion of the realignment, the topsoil would be used for reclamation and would be spread over the granular borrow over the present road surface. Slopes would be graded to 1:1 or less. Bar ditches, shoulders, and the travel surface would be created as indicated in Figures 6 and 7. These features would be designed to drain storm water away from the roadway.

It is not anticipated that traffic would try to travel on the original and buried road alignment. Should off-road travel be attempted on the buried road alignment, boulders would be placed to discourage off-road travel and to define the new travel surface.

Following all disturbance, reclaimed land and soil would be seeded with a BLM-approved seed mix (appendix B). This seed mix would be broadcast by hand, and after project completion, Emery County would monitor the ROW for noxious weeds. Should noxious weeds become established within the ROW, Emery County would notify the Price BLM Authorized Officer (AO) and treat the noxious weeds per direction of the AO. Equipment and personnel needed to complete the proposed action would be one dozer, one grader, three belly-dump truck and trailers, one water truck, one roller, one supervisor and seven

operators/drivers. Construction would take one week to complete and is anticipated to occur during Spring of 2021.

ALTERNATIVE B

Alternative B would realign a section of Emery County road #332 on lands administered by the BLM Price Field Office in Emery County, Utah as a gentle curve instead of a straight line (see Figure 2 and Figure 2a). This section of road is currently s-shaped, and the proposed realignment would eliminate the s-curve and reconstruct it as a slightly curved road.

The reconstructed section of road would be approximately 370-feet long, and the travel surface of the road would be up to 28-feet wide. The disturbed area as a result of realigning the curve would total approximately 0.52-acres (see figure 3), which includes the decommissioning of the original road alignment disturbance and the topsoil stockpile storage. The authorized ROW would be approximately 2,058-feet long by up to 200-feet wide and would include portions of existing road, located both to the north and south of the proposed realignment. Including existing sections of road in the authorized ROW would allow for future road maintenance (see figure 4). The authorized ROW grant would be issued in perpetuity.

All of the other design features and actions as listed under Alternative A would also apply to Alternative B.

ALTERNATIVE C – NO ACTION

Under the No Action alternative, Emery County's application to realign County road #332 would be rejected. Emery County would not receive a ROW, and the current s-curve would remain in place. Emery County would continue to maintain road #332 as currently is.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED

Within the range of alternatives to the proposed action, the ID Team did not identify additional resource conflicts that would require other alternatives. The proposal is to authorize realignment of the s-curve on Emery County road #332. No other alternative would serve the intended purpose.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This chapter presents the potentially affected existing environment (i.e., the physical, biological, social, and economic values and resources) of the impact area as identified in the Interdisciplinary Team Checklist found in Appendix A and presented in Chapter 1 of this assessment. This chapter provides the baseline for comparison of impacts/consequences described in Chapter 4.

GENERAL SETTING

The proposed project area is approximately 29-miles northwest of the town of Green River in Emery County, Utah. The project area is within the San Rafael Swell physiographic subdivision of the Colorado Plateau—specifically within Buckhorn Draw approximately 0.8 miles south of the San Rafael River. Elevation of the proposed project is approximately 6,200 feet. Average annual precipitation in the project area ranges from six to eight inches. Vegetative land cover is comprised of Colorado Plateau blackbrush-Mormon-tea shrubland, inter-mountain basins semi-desert grassland, and Colorado Plateau mixed bedrock canyon and tableland (Lowry et al. 2005). This area is also popular for outdoor recreation. While no traffic counter exists in Buckhorn Draw, a nearby BLM traffic counter on Mexican Mountain road—which is primarily accessed via Buckhorn Draw—was installed in 2018. This counter has since recorded yearly vehicle totals of 3,845 in 2018, 7,944 in 2019, and 12,560 in 2020.

RESOURCES/ISSUES BROUGHT FORWARD FOR ANALYSIS

The Proposed Action and No Action Alternative were reviewed by a BLM Interdisciplinary Team for issues such as: 1) effects of the alternatives with the potential for significance; and 2) information necessary to make a reasoned choice between alternatives. No such issues were identified by the team review. Therefore, no detailed analysis was determined to be necessary for this EA. For the team's rationale for dismissing potential resource related issues, see Appendix A – Interdisciplinary Team Checklist.

4.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

INTRODUCTION

The issue identification section of Chapter 1 identifies those issues analyzed in detail in Chapter 4. The issues were identified through the public and agency involvement process described below. The proposed project was posted to the BLM public notification website, the ePlanning site on November 27, 2020.

PERSONS, GROUPS, AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

Table 5-1 lists the persons, groups, and agencies that were coordinated with or consulted during the preparation of this project. The table also summarizes the conclusions of those processes.

TABLE 5-1: COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
Utah State Historic Preservation Office	Consultation for undertakings, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 USC 470)	A consultation letter was submitted to the SHPO via e106 on July 24, 2020 describing the proposed undertaking, issuing a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected". The SHPO concurred with the determination of effect on July 31, 2020.
Northwestern Band of Shoshone Nation Southern Ute Tribal Council Eastern Shoshone Tribe Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Pueblo of Zuni Ute Mountain Tribe Hopi Tribal Council Ute Indian Tribe Navajo Nation Paiute Indian Tribe	Consultation as required by the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 (42 USC 1531) and NHPA (16 USC 1531)	A tribal consultation letter was mailed on March 19, 2020 to describe the proposed action and to provide the opportunity to comment. On March 19, 2020, the Navajo Nation replied with no concerns and permission to proceed with no further consultation. On March 20, 2020, The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah responded with no objections, stating they are not aware of any sites, practices, or locations of importance that would be affected by this undertaking. On April 9, 2020, the Santa Clara Pueblo replied by email requesting more information on the Section 106 progress and results. On April 9, 2020, the BLM replied with requested Class III results and documents. On April 16, 2020, their Land and Cultural Resources Tech conveyed they have no concerns with the project after reviewing the provided materials. The

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
		standard inadvertent discoveries stipulations were requested. On May 4, 2020, the Southern Ute replied with no concerns and a deferral to the Uintah Ouray Ute for any pertinent decisions. No response was received from the Uintah Ouray Ute. No areas of concern or religious significance were identified by the tribes consulted and no historic properties were discovered during the Class III survey that tribal governments would be concerned with. No other responses were received.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public was notified of this project by its being posted on the BLM's NEPA Register on November 27, 2020. A 30-day public comment period was offered in April 2021. No issues were identified by the BLM Interdisciplinary Team, as documented in the Interdisciplinary Team Checklist, which is attached to this document as an Appendix.

LIST OF PREPARERS

The specialists listed in the following table(s) assisted in the preparation of this EA.

TABLE 5-2 BLM PREPARERS

Name	Title	Responsible for the Following Section(s) of this Document
Joseph Rodarme	Planning and Environmental Specialist (NEPA Coordinator)	Quality Assurance
Veronica Kratman	Realty Specialist	Project Lead
Natalie Fewings	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources/Native American Religious Concerns

5.0 REFERENCES, GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

INTRODUCTION

The following sections list the references cited within this document, the terms used and their definitions, and the acronyms used and their meanings.

REFERENCES CITED

Lowry, J. H, Jr., R. D. Ramsey, K. Boykin, D. Bradford, P. Comer, S. Falzarano, W. Kepner, J. Kirby, L. Langs, J. Prior-Magee, G. Manis, L. O'Brien, T. Sajwaj, K. A. Thomas, W. Rieth, S. Schrader, D. Schrupp, K. Schulz, B. Thompson, C. Velasquez, C. Wallace, E. Waller and B. Wolk. 2005. Southwest Regional Gap Analysis Project: Final Report on Land Cover Mapping Methods, RS/GIS Laboratory, Utah State University, Logan, Utah.

Price Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan, October 2008.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AUTHORIZED OFFICER: The decision maker who has the delegated authority to for that decision.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: A suite of techniques that guide, or may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL: Conditions or requirements under which a decision is made.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: A concise public document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed action and provides sufficient evidence to determine the level of significance of the impacts.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: A detailed written statement of environmental effects of a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

IMPACT: A modification of the existing environment caused by an action (such as construction or operation of facilities).

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM: Representatives of various disciplines designated as members of a team which was created to prepare an environmental document.

MINIMIZE: To reduce the adverse impact of an operation to the lowest practical level.

MONITORING: The process of collecting and assessing data/information necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of a decision or its conditions of approval.

MULTIPLE USE: The management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people.

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE: The most likely condition to exist in the future if current management direction were to continue unchanged.

NOXIOUS WEEDS: A plant species designated by Federal of State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or nonnative, new, or not common to the United States.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE: Any motorized vehicle capable of or designed for travel on or immediately over land.

PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT: A plan developed by a project applicant that specifies the techniques and measures to be used during construction and operation of the project

PROJECT AREA: The area of land potentially affected by a proposed project.

SCOPING: The process of identifying the issues, management concerns, preliminary alternatives, and other components of an environmental document.

SIGNIFICANCE: A determination of the degree or magnitude of importance of an effect, whether beneficial or adverse.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

The below table contains a list of acronyms and their meanings that are frequently used by the BLM and which may have been used in the writing of this document.

TABLE 6-1: ACRONYMS

Acronym	Meaning
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACEPM	Applicant-Committed Environmental Protection Measure
AO	Authorized Officer
APD	Application for Permit to Drill
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern

Acronym	Meaning
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
CEQ	Council of Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIAA	Cumulative Impact Analysis Area
CO	Carbon Monoxide
COA	Condition of Approval
CWA	Clean Water Act
DAQ	Division of Air Quality
DR	Decision Record
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FO	Field Office
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
GIS	Geographic Information System
HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutants
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NAAQS	National and Utah Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NI	Not Impacted
NP	Not Present
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSO	No Surface Occupancy
OHV	Off-highway Vehicle
Onsite	Onsite Inspections per Onshore Order #1
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
PAC	Protected Activity Center
PIF	Partners in Flight

Acronym	Meaning
PUP	Pesticide Use Proposal
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976
RFD	Reasonable Foreseeable Development
RMP	Resource Management Plan
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	Right-of-way
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SDR	State Director Review
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SITLA	School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration
SMA	Surface Management Agency
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
SUPO	Surface Use Plan of Operations
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
UDOGM	Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
UDWaR	Utah Division of Water Rights
UDWR	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDI	U.S. Department of the Interior
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WSA	Wilderness Study Area

APPENDIX A: INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST

RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)

Project Title: Emery County Road #332 Road Realignment

NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2021-0006-EA

File/Serial Number: UTU-94843

Project Leader: Veronica Kratman

DETERMINATION OF STAFF: *(Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)*

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale column may include NI and NP discussions.

TABLE APPENDIX A-1: INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions	The emissions (including GHG) expected from this project will be short term (during construction only) and localized (in the project area) and will be of such a small amount that the emissions will not be distinguishable from background air quality by either monitors or models.	Joseph Rodarme	3/25/2020
NP	BLM natural areas	The Price Field Office RMP was reviewed, as were maps and GIS data. There are no identified natural areas within or near the project area.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NI	Cultural: Archaeological Resources	This project is determined to be a federal undertaking, per Title 36 CFR 800.16(y). As such, pursuant to Title 36 CFR 800.1(c), the project must undergo the NHPA Section 106 process prior to the approval. The Class III survey was conducted by Montgomery Archaeological Consultants on March 27, 2020 and resulted in the recording of one new NRHP-eligible historic site: Buckhorn Wash Road. The segment of Buckhorn Wash Road in the APE has been determined to be a non-contributing component of the site and therefore this undertaking will not alter, directly or indirectly, any characteristics of the historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP in a manner that	Natalie Fewings	7/31/2020

		would diminish its integrity. On July 31, 2020, the Utah SHPO concurred with the BLM's determination. In addition, standard inadvertent discovery processes will be stipulated for all ground disturbing activities.		
NP	Native American Concerns	Tribal Consultation letters were mailed to tribal governments who have affiliated themselves with this region for consultation in accordance with BLM Manual 1780 on March 19, 2020. The consultation period ended April 20, 2020. On March 19, 2020, the Navajo Nation replied with no concerns and permission to proceed with no further consultation. On March 20, 2020, PITU responded with no objections, stating they are not aware of any sites, practices, or locations of importance that would be affected by this undertaking. On April 9, 2020, the Santa Clara Pueblo replied by email requesting more information on the Section 106 progress and results. On April 9, 2020, the BLM replied with requested Class III results and documents. On April 16, 2020, their Land and Cultural Resources Tech conveyed they have no concerns with the project after reviewing the provided materials. The standard inadvertent discoveries stipulations were requested. On May 4, 2020, the Southern Ute replied with no concerns and a deferral to the Uintah Ouray Ute for any pertinent decisions. No response was received from the Uintah Ouray Ute. No areas of concern or religious significance were identified by the tribes consulted and no historic properties were discovered during the Class III survey that tribal governments would be concerned with.	Veronica Kratman Natalie Fewings	3/19/2020 7/31/2020
NP	Designated Areas: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	The Price Field Office RMP was reviewed, as were maps and GIS data. There are no designated ACECs within or near the project area.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NP	Designated Areas: Wild and Scenic Rivers	The Price Field Office RMP was reviewed, as were maps and GIS data. There are no wild and scenic rivers within or near the project area.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NI	Wilderness	The Price Field Office RMP was reviewed, as were maps and GIS data. There are no Wilderness areas within the project area.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020

		The project is proposed to occur in an area where the road alignment is adjacent to Sids Mountain Wilderness Area on the west and Mexican Mountain Wilderness Area on the east. The existing road alignment is centered in a 200 foot corridor (100 foot on each side of centerline), intended to buffer it's presence and use from the Wilderness boundary. The proposed realignment stays well within the buffered corridor.		
NP	Designated Areas: Wilderness Study Areas	The Price Field Office RMP was reviewed, as were maps and GIS data. There are no designated wilderness study areas within or near the project area.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NP	Environmental Justice	No poverty or minority populations exist in or near the project area, so no disproportionate adverse effects are anticipated to occur.	Joseph Rodarme	3/25/2020
NP	Farmlands (prime/unique)	According to the NRCS soil surveys and knowledge of the area, there are no prime or unique farmlands present within the project area.	Stephanie Bauer	4/8/2020
NI	Fuels/Fire Management	Implementation of the proposed action would have no impact on Fuels/Fire Management because the project is small in scope and fuels are not continuous enough to sustain continuous fire growth. Future impacts would be negligible. Follow any seasonal fire restrictions at utahfireinfo.gov.	Stuart Bedke	4/2/2020
NP	Geology / Minerals / Energy Production	Based on existing GIS data, there are no locatable claims, salable minerals sites, or oil and gas leases located within the project area. This location is also stratigraphically well below any recoverable coal resources.	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NI	Lands/Access	A review of the Master Title Plat and LR2000 show that this proposed project is compatible with the existing land use authorizations.	Veronica Kratman	2/19/2020
NP	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	The Price Field Office RMP was reviewed, as were maps and GIS data. There are no identified lands with wilderness characteristics within or near the project area.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NP	Livestock Grazing & Rangeland Health Standards	The current livestock grazing operations in the area would not be affected by the proposed action. The project is limited in scope and would not affect soils, vegetation or ecological processes to a degree that would affect overall rangeland health standards.	Karl Ivory	3/31/2020
NI	Paleontology	Based on GIS data, the project area lies within a Class 2 area of the Potential Fossil Yield Classification System (PFYC). Class 2 are not likely to contain paleontological resources. If operations uncover vertebrate fossils, work should	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020

		immediately halt in that location and the Price Field Office should be notified.		
NI	Plants: Invasive and Noxious Weeds	Surface disturbing activities have the potential to introduce/spread invasive species/noxious weeds. There are currently no noxious weeds within the project area. There are invasive species such as cheatgrass, halogeton and prickly Russian thistle in disturbed areas and within barrow ditches within the project area. Because of the applicant committed measures in the proposed action and the project area being relatively small (.5 acres), it is expected that impacts to invasive species/noxious weeds would be negligible. Best Management Practices should be followed. Monitoring for noxious weed infestation should be done bi-annually after completion of the project. Proponent would be responsible for noxious weed infestation control within the ROW.	Stephanie Bauer	10/26/2020
NI	Plants: Native Communities	The proposed project would remove native vegetation. Applicant committed reclamation actions will re-seed native vegetation and help to hinder invasive/noxious weeds from becoming established. Due to the small size of the new disturbance (0.5 acres) and applicant committed measures, this project would not impact vegetation to the degree that additional analysis is necessary.	Stephanie Bauer	10/26/2020
NP	Plants: BLM Sensitive	Suitable or occupied habitat for the following UT BLM Sensitive plant species has been previously documented or is expected to occur within Emery County, UT: Aliciella tenuis, Astragalus pubentissimus peabodianus, Astragalus sabulosus, Astragalus sabulosus vehiculus, Camissonia bolanderi, Cryptantha creutzfeldtii, Eriogonum corymbosum smithii, Erigeron maguirei, Euphorbia nephradenia, Lygodesmia grandiflora entrada, Mentzelia multicaulis, Oreoxis trotteri, Psorothamnus polydenius jonesii, Sphaeralcea psoraloides, Phemeranthus thompsonii Based on analysis of geology, soils, elevation, surrounding plant communities, and occurrence data: Suitable or occupied habitat for Bolander's Camissonia (Camissonia bolanderi) and Jones Indigo Bush (Psorothmnus polydenius jonesii) is recorded, modeled, or has potential to be within the Project Area.	Kegen Benson	10/16/2020

		Surface disturbance has the potential to affect the habitat and known individuals of these species. Analysis also indicates that suitable habitat for the rest of the identified species is not present. Since suitable habitat is not present, these species are unlikely to be present in the Project Area, and as a result would not be impacted by the Proposed Action. Surveys completed in the area by a biological services consultation company contracted by Emery County found no BLM sensitives and, though habitat may be suitable, BLM has no records within the Proposed Project area and survey results were negative so species can be considered Not Present.		
NP	Plants: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate	Suitable or occupied habitat for the following Federally listed plant species has been previously documented or is expected to occur within Emery County, UT: Shoenocrambe suffrutescens, Carex specuicola, Cycladenia humilis jonesii, Erigeron maguirei, Sclerocactus wrightiae, Townsendia aprica, Pediocactus despainii, Pediocactus winkleri, Spiranthes diluvialis, and Schoenocrambe barnebyi. Based on analysis of geology, soils, elevation, surrounding plant communities, USFWS AOI and occurrence records: Suitable or occupied habitat for Pediocactus despainii, and Sclerocactus wrightiae is recorded, modeled, or has potential to occur in and around the Project area. Surface disturbance has the potential to affect the habitat and known individuals of these species. Analysis also indicates that suitable habitat for the rest of the identified species is not present. Since suitable habitat is not present, these species are unlikely to be present in the Project Area, and as a result would not be impacted by the Proposed Action. Surveys completed in the area by a biological services consultation company contracted by Emery County found no TEPC plants and, though habitat may be	Kegen Benson	4/6/2020

		suitable, BLM has no records within the Proposed Project area and surveys were negative so species can be considered Not Present.		
NI	Recreation	The road is used by various types of users, including recreationists. The road surface is not intended to change. The re-alignment will not create or eliminate any activities or opportunities.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NI	Socio-Economics	This project is so small and localized that it will not impact the social or economic status of the County or its communities.	Joseph Rodarme	3/25/2020
NI	Soils: Physical / Biological	The project area is within an existing county road ROW. In the short term, minimal impacts to soils are expected where some erosion could occur during the construction process. After completion of the project, it is expected that soils will become stabilized with reclamation of the area. There are no biological soil crusts within the project area. Due to the small size of the new disturbance (0.5 acres) this project would not impact soils to the degree that additional analysis is necessary.	Karl Ivory	3/31/2020
NI	Visual Resources	The proposed realignment is within VRM Class I. The management objective for VRM Class I is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. The proposed realignment is less than 400 feet. The old alignment is proposed to be reclaimed and recontoured. Because the action is minor in nature, a gravel road already exists within the landscape, and the old alignment is to be reclaimed, there would be no impacts to visual resources to the degree that additional analysis is necessary.	Myron Jeffs	3/31/2020
NI	Wastes (hazardous/solid)	No chemicals subject to reporting under SARA Title III will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of annually in association with the project. Furthermore, no extremely hazardous substances, as defined in 40 CFR 355, in threshold planning quantities, will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of in association with the project. Trash would be confined in a covered container and disposed of in an approved landfill. No burning of any waste will occur due to this project. Human waste will be disposed of in an appropriate manner in an approved sewage treatment center.	Joseph Rodarme	4/2/2020
NI	Water: Groundwater Quality	This project is not expected to have any impact on groundwater quality because it	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020

		is a surface operation and will not be encountering groundwater.		
NI	Water: Hydrologic Conditions (stormwater)	The operator will apply the mitigation measures, construction methods and stabilization/reclamation measures outlined for the proposed action. Hydrologic conditions are not expected to be impacted because there are no streams within 600 feet of the project area; therefore, detailed analysis is not required.	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NP	Water: Municipal Watershed / Drinking Water Source Protection	There are no Municipal Watershed/Drinking Water Source Protection Zones within or near the project area per GIS review.	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NP	Water: Steams, Riparian Wetlands, Floodplains	None of these resources are within or near the project area. Due to the limited surface disturbance and following best management practices, the proposed action is not expected to impact these resources lower in the watershed. Therefore, detailed analysis is not required	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NI	Water: Surface Water Quality	Due to the limited surface disturbance and following best management practices, the proposed action is not expected to impact surface water quality, therefore detailed analysis is not required.	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NP	Water: Water Rights	A review of Utah Division of Water Rights online map did not find any water rights within the project area.	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NP	Water: Waters of the U.S.	GIS review indicated no navigable waters or waters of the U.S. are within the project area.	Rebecca Anderson	3/19/2020
NI	Wild Horses	The proposed project is within the Sinbad Wild Burro Herd Management Area. However, it is on the north end of the HMA which is not frequented by burros, so that it will not affect wild burro management.	Mike Tweddell	4/20/2020
NI	Wildlife: Migratory Birds (including raptors)	Project area is outside of high value breeding habitat and no known raptor nests are within 0.5mi. Although suitable foraging habitat for migratory species may be present, the proposed project won't directly impact any individuals, increase habitat fragmentation, decrease habitat quality, or cause a change in human activities in the area, outside of the construction period, so no impacts to migratory birds are expected to occur as a result of this action.	Kegen Benson	4/6/2020
NP	Wildlife: Fish (designated or non-designated)	Since the project is outside of any perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral waterways, and does not require any water depletions, it is not expected to impact aquatic species or aquatic habitat as they are not present within the project area.	Kegen Benson	4/6/2020

NI	Wildlife: Non-USFWS Designated	Though the project area is within Pronghorn crucial yearlong habitat and is proximate to mule deer yearlong substantial habitat, no impacts are expected to result from this project because of the project's small footprint, simple nature (no structures) and proximity to and connection with an established, well-used roadway. Project won't directly impact any individuals, increase habitat fragmentation, decrease habitat quality, or cause a change in human activity in the area, outside of the construction period, so no impacts to area wildlife are expected to occur as a result of this action.	Kegen Benson	4/6/2020
NI	Wildlife: BLM Sensitive Species	Project Area has potential to be habitat for several BLM sensitive species: • Kit Fox • 3 bat species (CoTo, MyTh, EuMa) Species, if present, would make transient use of the habitat. This use would not be impacted by the minor construction. Project won't directly impact any individuals, increase habitat fragmentation, decrease habitat quality, or cause a change in human activity in the area, outside of the construction period, so no impacts to BLM sensitive wildlife are expected to occur as a result of this action.	Kegen Benson	4/6/2020
NP	Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate	USFWS IPAC Official Species list indicates potential occurrence for the following Federally listed species: - Mexican spotted owl - Yellow billed cuckoo Site visits, analysis of recorded occurrences, modeled habitat, vegetative community, and additional habitat requirements within the Project Area indicate that suitable habitat for these species is not present at the site because the site lacks the large riparian galleries needed for the YBCC as well as the canyon habitat elements associated with quality MSO habitat. Since suitable habitat is not present and there are no recorded occurrences these species are unlikely to be present in the Project Area, and as a result would not be impacted by the Proposed Action.	Kegen Benson	4/6/2020
NP	Woodlands/Forestry	After an onsite, there are no merchantable woodlands/forestry products within the project area.	Stephanie Bauer	1/12/2021

TABLE APPENDIX A-2: FINAL REVIEW

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator			
Authorized Officer			

APPENDIX B: SEED MIX

Emery County Road Realignment Seed Mix (Buckhorn Draw)		
Species	Common Name	Pounds Per Acre (PLS)
Achnatherum hymenoides	Indian Ricegrass	3
Sporobolus airoides	Alkali sacaton	0.5
Pleuraphis jamesii	Galleta	2
Atriplex confertifolia	Shadscale	1
Krascheninnikovia lanata	Winterfat	2
Artemisia bigelovii	Bigelow Sagebrush	0.5
Eriogonum umbellatum	Sulphur buckwheat	1
Cryptantha flavaculata	Roughseed cryptantha	0.5
Cleome serrulata	Rocky Mountain Beeplant	0.5
Sphaeralcea coccinea	Scarlet globemallow	1

**For broadcast seeding, rate should be doubled.*

APPENDIX C: FIGURES AND MAPS

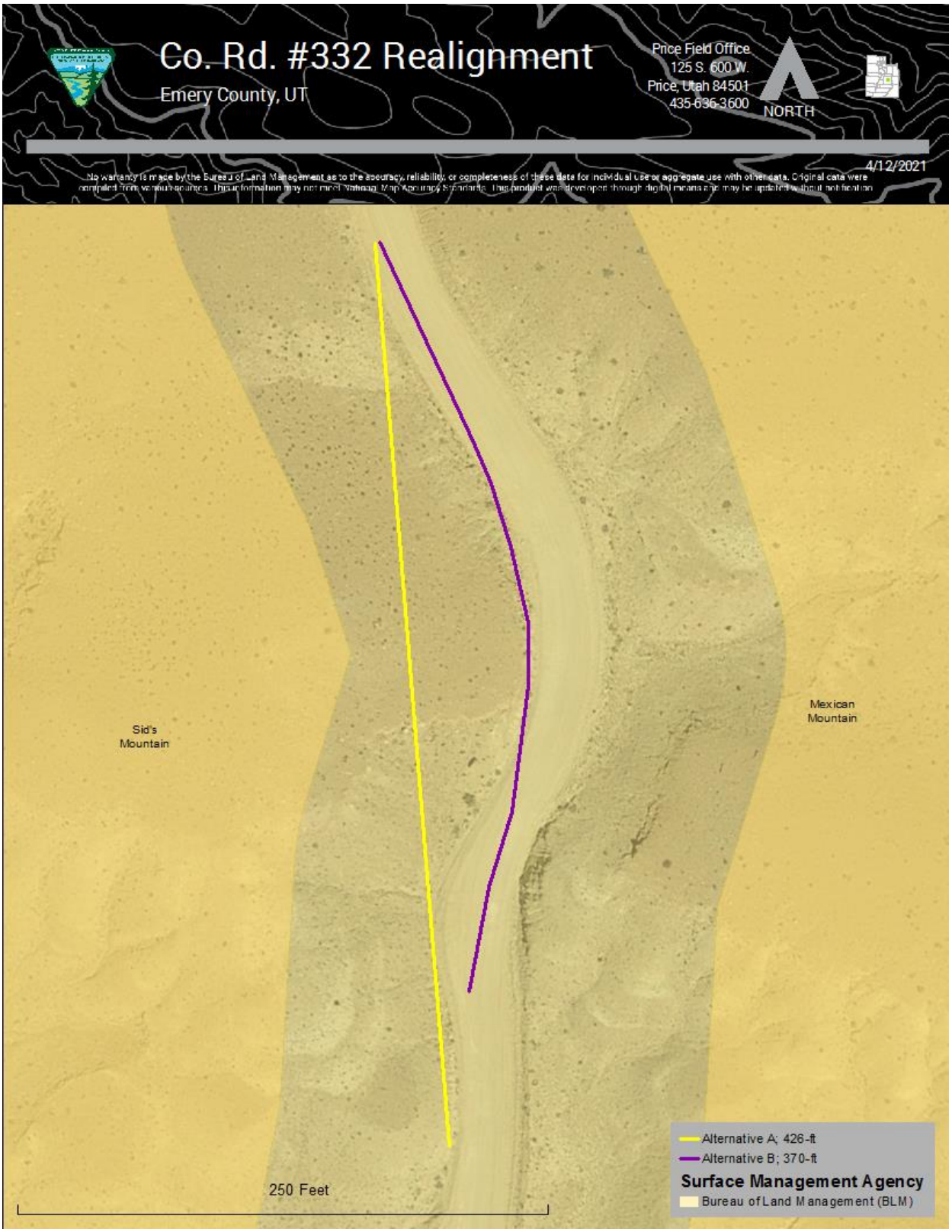

Figure 2 Proposed Alternative A and B Road Realignments

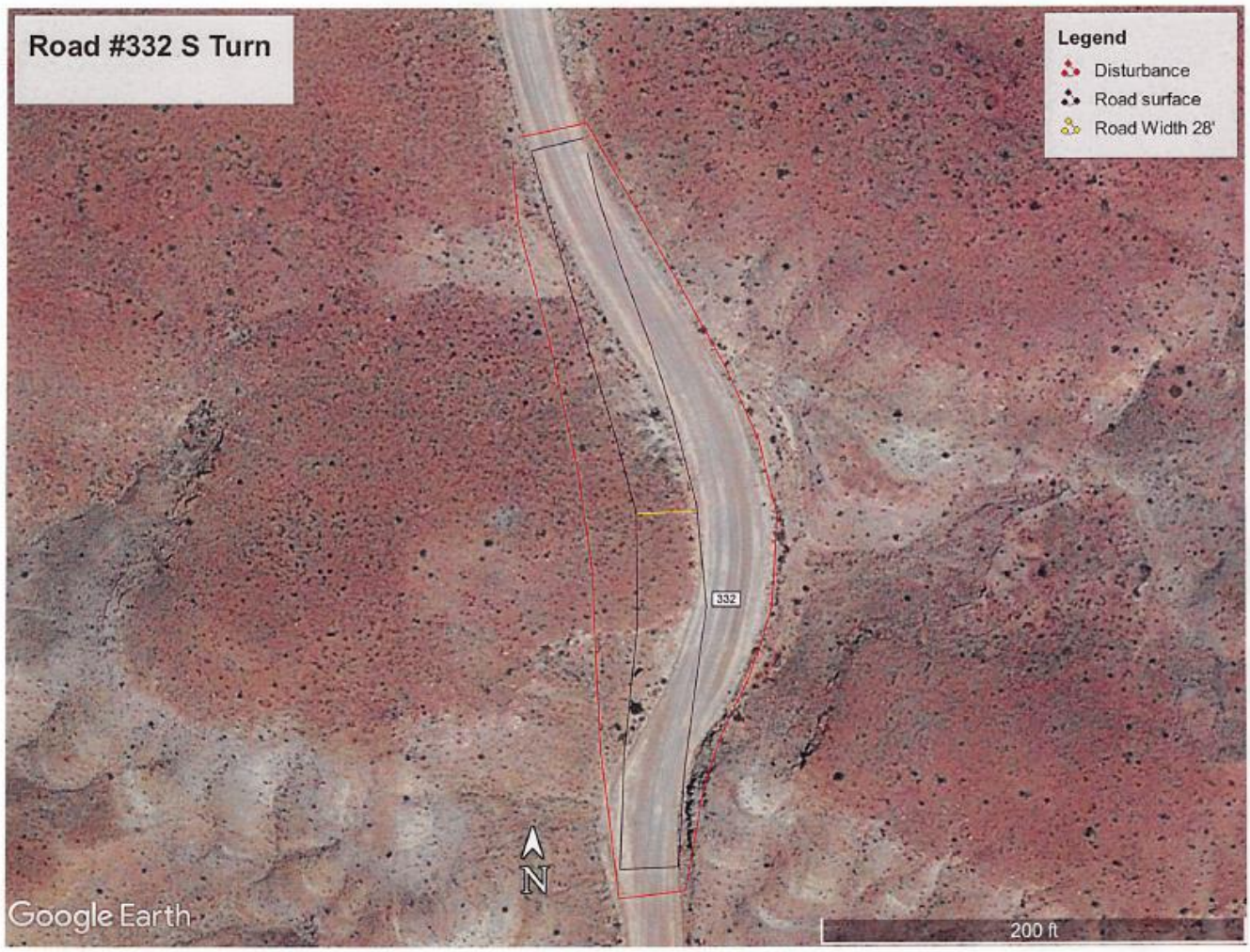

FIGURE 2A. PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE B MAP SUBMITTED BY EMERY COUNTY

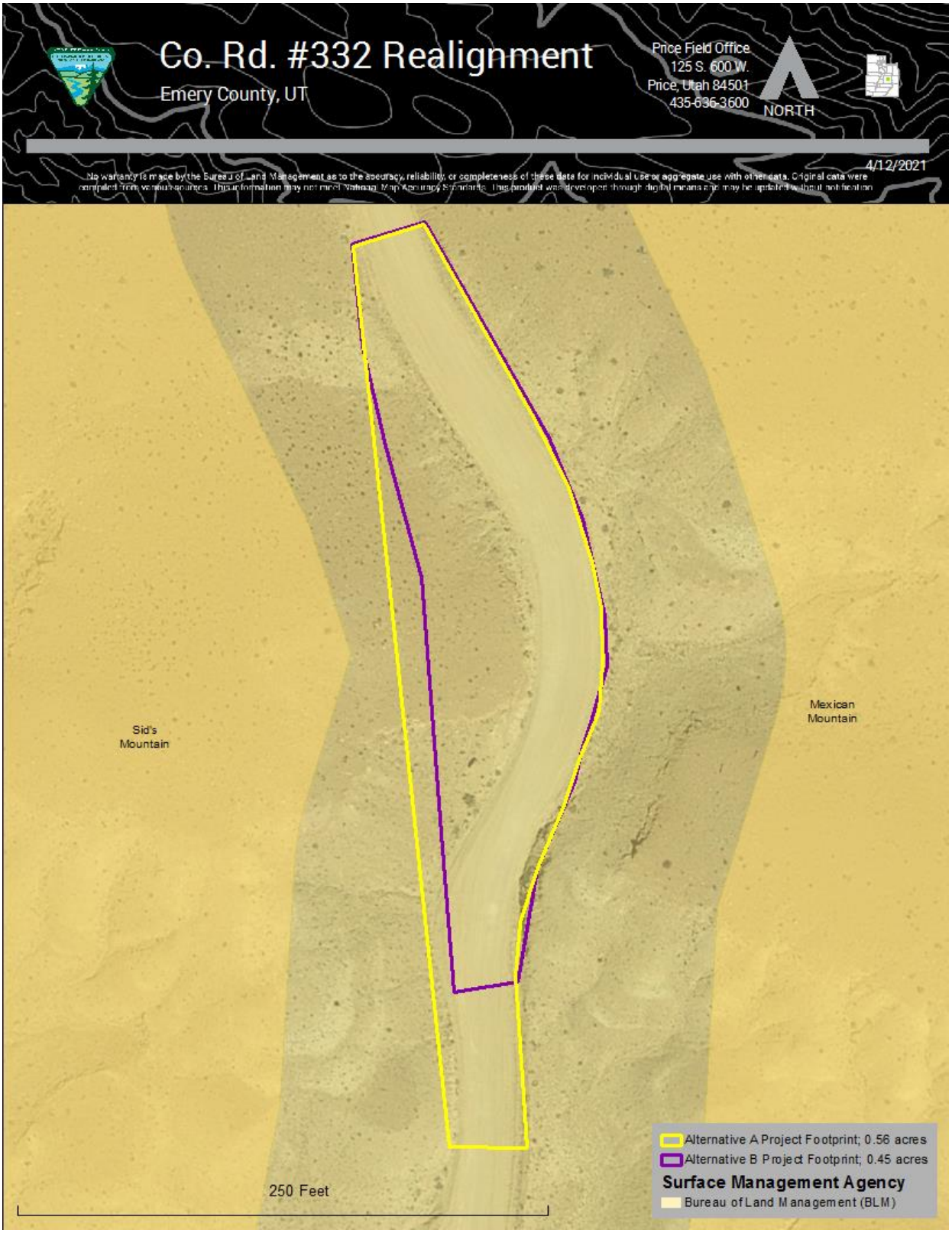

Figure 3 Alternative A and B Project footprints

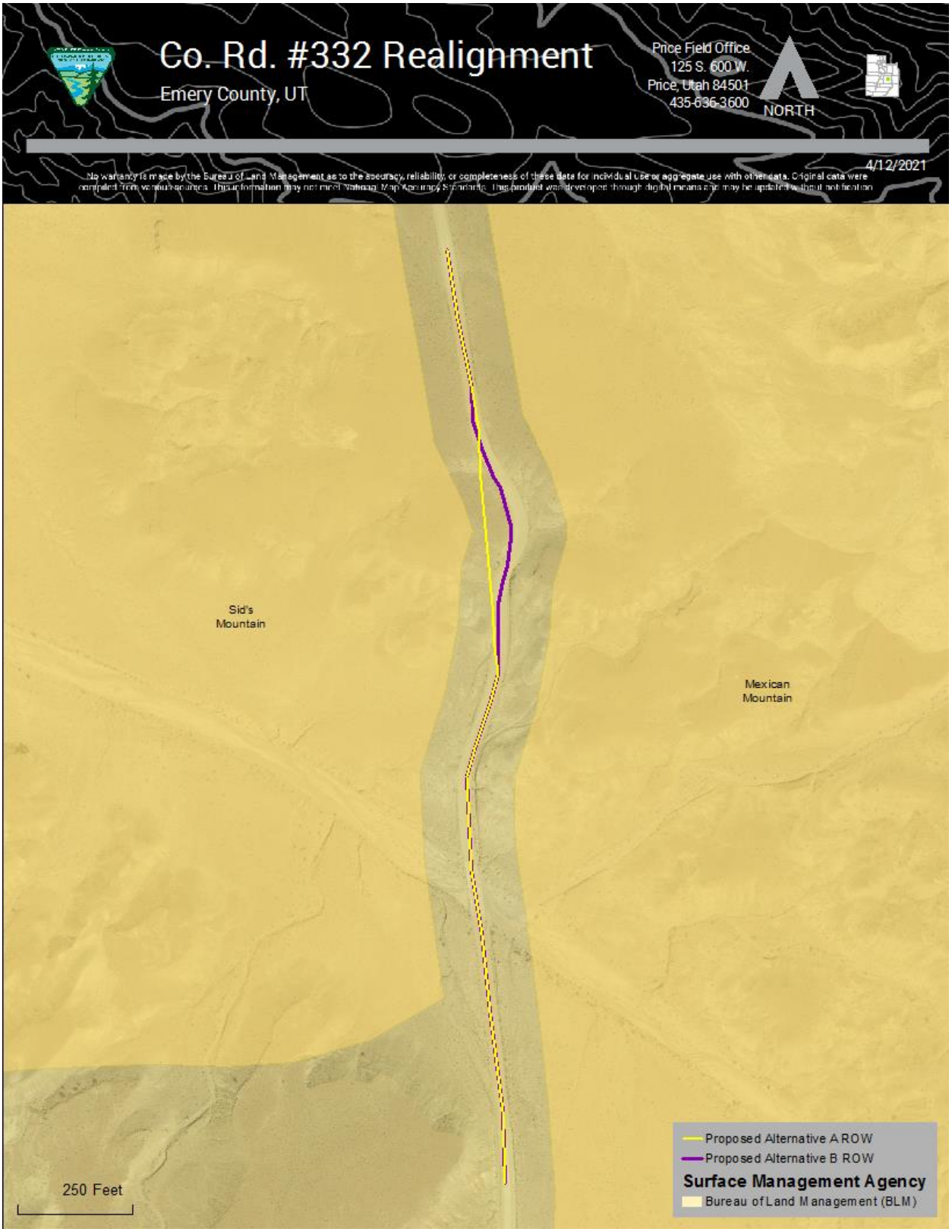

Figure 4 Overview of total ROW length

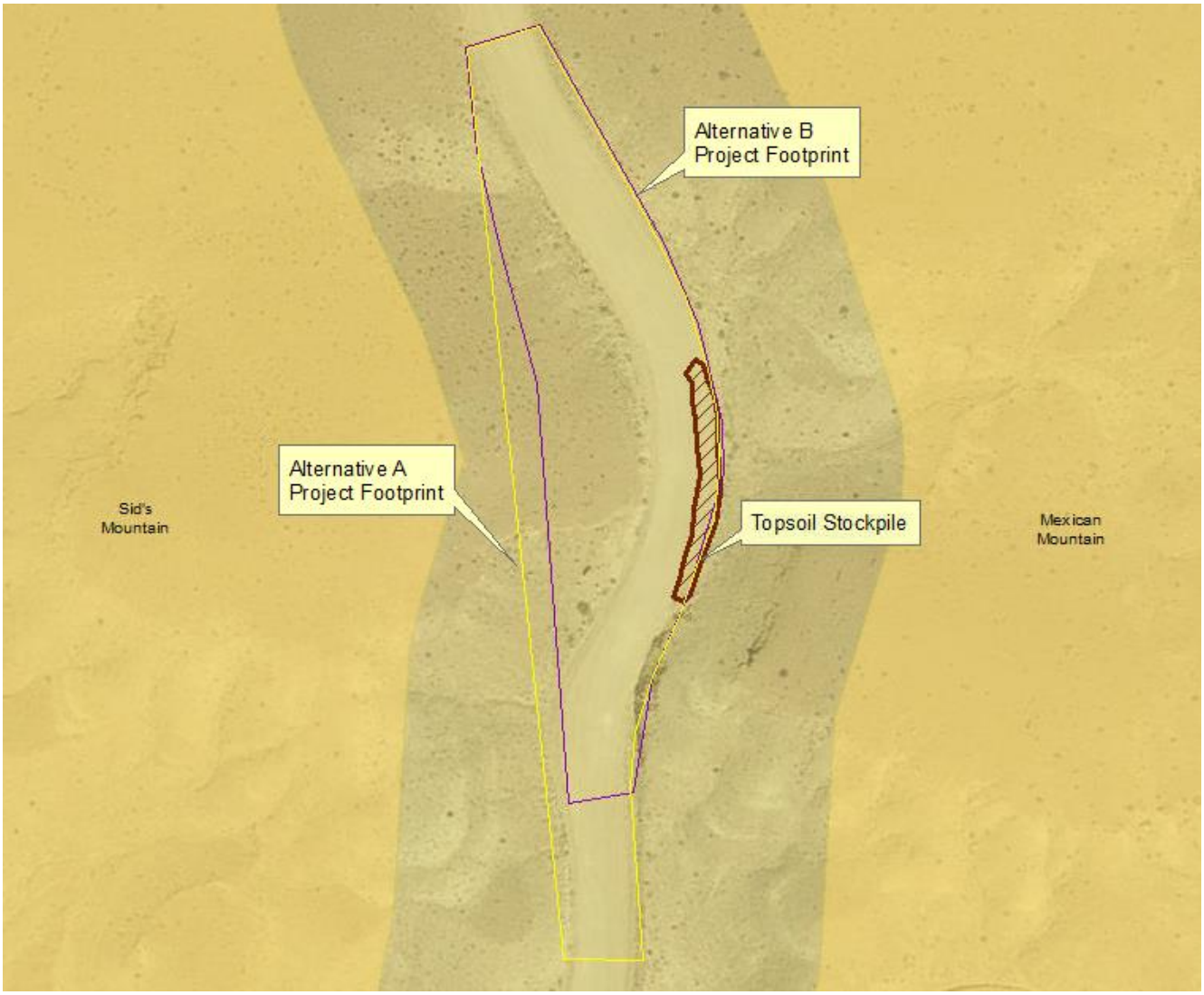

FIGURE 5 LOCATION OF TOPSOIL STOCKPILES

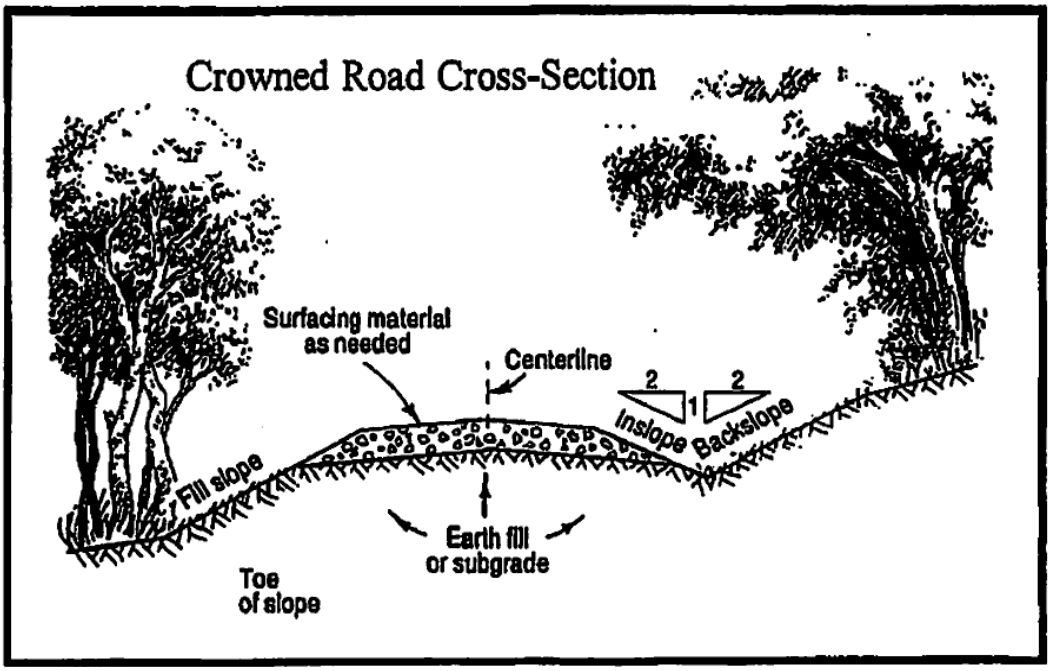

FIGURE 6

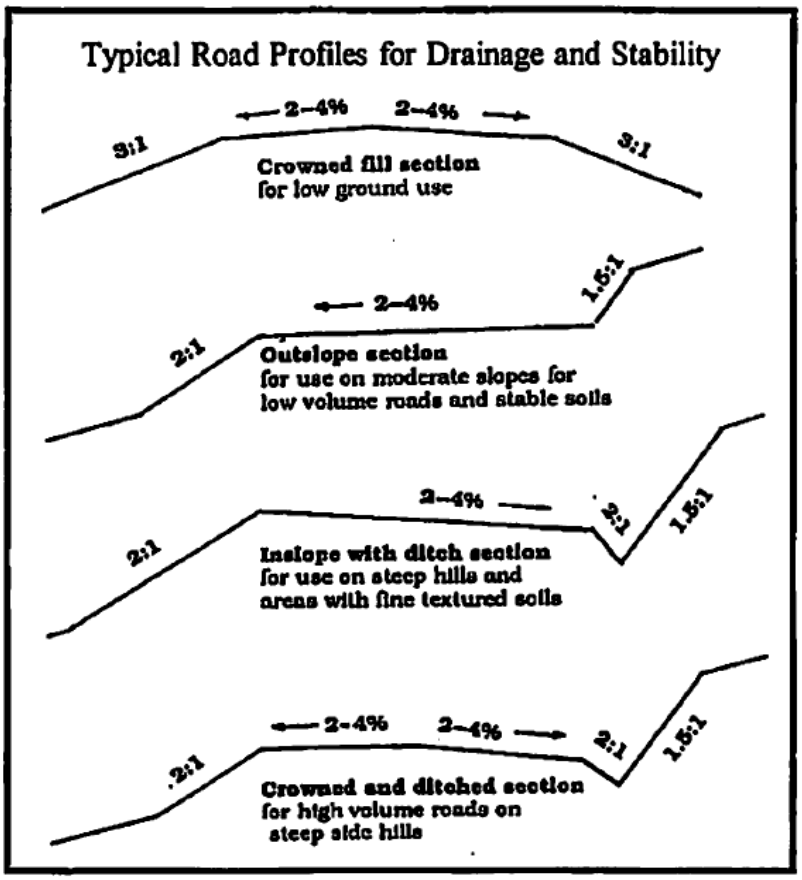

FIGURE 7