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**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

DOCUMENTATION OF LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE AND NEPA ADEQUACY

NUMBER: LLCON02000-2011-0030-DNA

PROJECT NAME: Junction Butte Ditch Rehabilitation

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T. 1 N., R. 80 W., Sec. 15 & 16, 6th P.M.

APPLICANT: BLM

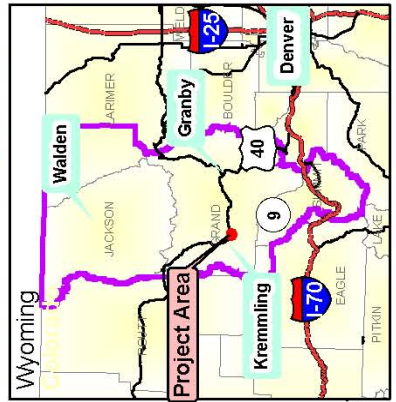
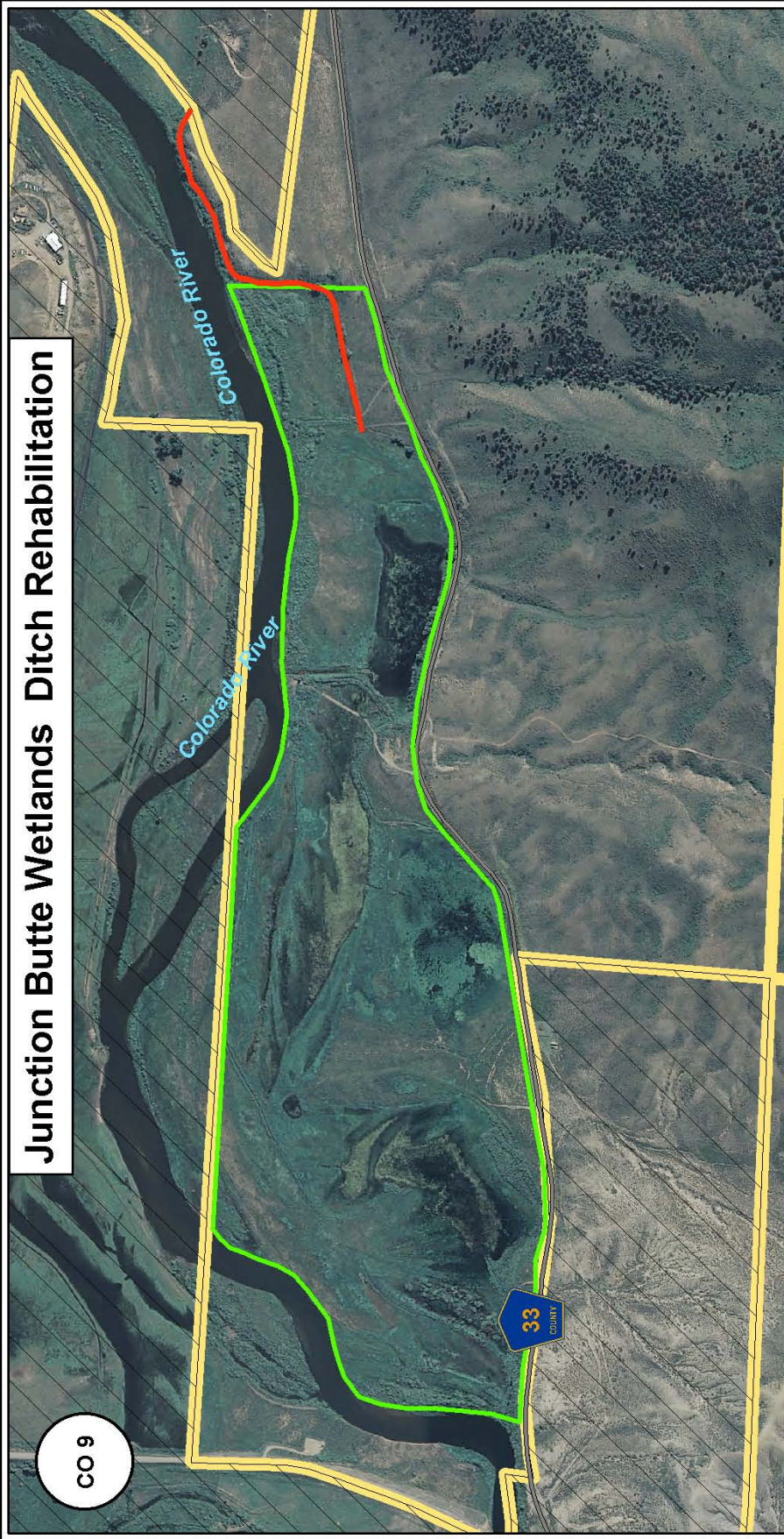
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The proposed project involves using a backhoe or similar heavy equipment to install black, corrugated, poly tubing within a porous section of irrigation ditch. Approximately 1,800-2,100 ft. of ditch would be improved, likely over several years depending on cost. The ditch would need to be excavated to fit the pipe and some re-grading of the ditch to obtain proper elevation would be needed to successfully transport water. Fill from the ditch banks would be used to cover the pipe. A flare inlet and trash rack would be installed at the start of the pipe where water enters. In addition, due to the length of the pipe and amount of water, two watertight "T"s would be installed to prevent siphoning.

The purpose of the project is to facilitate water transport within the Junction Butte Wetland. This wetland provides important habitat for waterfowl, big game, and sensitive amphibians.

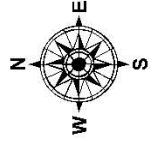
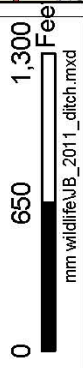
The work would be contracted out, in the fall of 2011.

Junction Butte Wetlands Ditch Rehabilitation



Legend 1:9,000

- KB Ditch Repair, 2100 ft
 - Junction Butte Wetlands
 - Bureau of Land Mgt
 - Private
- T 1N R 80W**
Sec 15, 16



Maps: 2005 NAIP Imagery
BLM, Kremmling FO 5/12/2011

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

LAND USE PLAN (LUP) CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to the following plan:

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

X 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 decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

Decision Language: Wildlife Habitat Management, Including Threatened and Endangered Species pages 8 and 9.

“Manage public land habitat to support optimum wildlife population levels as determined by the Colorado Division of Wildlife’s Strategic Plan.”

“Emphasis will be placed on intensively managing critical and important wildlife habitats, including....3,000 acres of wetlands...”

The proposal would occur in an area identified in the Resource Management Plan with *wildlife* land use priority. The proposal is compatible with this priority (Identified as part of the Land Acquisition/Land Use Priorities RMP Amendment, June 2000).

REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document: CO-120-02-33 EA. Junction Butte Wetlands Ditch Rehabilitation and Bank Stabilization

Date Approved: 4/16/2002

Name of Document: CO-120-03-01EA. Junction Butte Wetlands Ditch Maintenance

Date Approved: 2/18/2003

Name of Document: CO-120-2008-38-EA Junction Butte Wetlands Prescribed Burn and Fence.

Date Approved: 4/22/2008

NEPA Adequacy Criteria	Yes	No
1. Is the Proposed Action substantially the same action and at the site specifically analyzed in an existing document?	X	

<p>Explanation: In CO-120-03-01-EA, the action included the cleaning and re-grading of the existing ditches within the Junction Butte Wetland to allow water to flow more efficiently through the wetlands area. The proposed action is substantially the same type of action as those analyzed, and at the same site specifically analyzed, in the previous EA.</p> <p>In CO-120-2008-38-EA the action included burning the ditches and/or using heavy equipment, such as a backhoe, to facilitate transport of water through the wetland. The proposed action is essentially similar to those analyzed, and at the same site specifically analyzed, in the previous EA.</p> <p>In CO-120-02-33 EA, the action included reconstruction of an existing water conveyance ditch within the Junction Butte Wetland to allow water to flow more efficiently through the wetlands area. The proposed action is essentially similar to those analyzed, and at the same site specifically analyzed, in the previous EA.</p>		
<p>2. Was a reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Action analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s), and does that range and analysis appropriately consider current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?</p> <p>Explanation: A reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Action was analyzed in the existing NEPA documents, and the range and analysis appropriately considered the current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values.</p>	X	
<p>3. Does the information or circumstances upon which the existing NEPA document(s) are based remain valid and germane to the Proposed Action? Is the analysis still valid in light of new studies or resource assessment information?</p> <p>Explanation: The information and circumstances upon which the existing NEPA documents are based remain valid to the Proposed Action. There have been no new studies or resource assessment information that has changed the existing analysis.</p>	X	
<p>4. Does the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the Proposed Action?</p> <p>Explanation: The methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA documents continues to be appropriate for the Proposed Action.</p>	X	
<p>5. Are the direct and indirect impacts that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?</p> <p>Explanation: The direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Action are unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA documents.</p>	X	
<p>6. Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?</p> <p>Explanation: The cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the</p>	X	

Proposed Action are unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA documents.		
7. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the Proposed Action? Explanation: The public involvement and interagency review associated with the exiting NEPA documents remains adequate for the Proposed Action.	X	

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	T & E, Wildlife	5/16/2011
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	6/10/2011
Bill B. Wyatt	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation	6/20/2011
Bill B. Wyatt	Archaeologist	Paleontology	6/20/2011

REMARKS:

None.

MITIGATION: None.

COMPLIANCE PLAN (optional): None.

NAME OF PREPARER: Megan McGuire

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Susan Cassel

DATE: 6/20/2011

CONCLUSION

DOI-LLCON02000-2011-0030-DNA

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the land use plan and that the NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: /s/ Susan Cassel

DATE SIGNED: 6/20/2011

Note: The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision.