

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Little Snake Field Office
455 Emerson Street
Craig, CO 81625-1129

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

EA-NUMBER: CO-100-2006-095 EA

PERMIT/LEASE NUMBER:

PROJECT NAME: New Irish Canyon Rock Art Trail

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T.10N., R.101W, NENW, Sec 34

APPLICANT: BLM

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The proposed action is subject to the following plan:

Name of Plans: Little Snake Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision

Date(s) Approved: April 26, 1989

Results: The proposed action is in conformance with the plan. The proposed action is in M.U. 13B.

NEED FOR PROPOSED ACTION: This project will provide the public with an additional Native American Cultural rock art interpretative opportunity across from the existing rock art site at the entrance to Irish Canyon.

PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS: N/A

BACKGROUND: Recreation management objectives for the 1989 Little Snake RMP call for providing the public with high quality visitor services including interpretive information and opportunities. The management objectives for the Irish Canyon ACEC (MU 13B) include protection and enhancement of cultural resources. BLM is also beginning a new Cultural Resource Initiative in 2007 called "Preserving America: An Enduring Legacy" with objectives to support sustainable economic development, expand knowledge of and encourage the public to experience, enjoy, and appreciate cultural resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

The existing Irish Canyon rock art interpretive site is a popular feature with the public. The new trail on the West side of MOCO Road 10N will provide viewing and interpretive opportunities.

There are several rock faces over there with culturally significant petroglyphs which will be of interest to the public.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Develop a new rock art access trail on the West side of county road 10N across from the existing Irish Canyon rock art site. The trail will initially be cleared of brush and weeds by volunteers and staff with hand tools. A slight crown will be added to the trail with no crown where surface water will flow across the trail. It will be 4' wide by approximately 1,000' long. The trail will be marked with carsonite posts. When additional funding becomes available, the trail will be improved with 4" deep packed inch road base (3/4" crushed aggregate gravel). See attached trail location diagram (Attachment A)

The trail will be posted to restrict access to pedestrian and wheelchair use only. Standard recreational symbol signing will be installed where the trail leaves MCR 10N to bring the allowed and disallowed uses to the attention of the public. The trail restrictions will be designated as required in the RMP for MU 13B.

The trail will to be added to the BLM FIMMS (Facilities Information Maintenance Management System) database.

A 3' high post and pole fence will be installed around the rock art site at the end of the trail. Steel post information/interpretive signs will be placed approximately 2' to one side of the trail and located near the beginning and terminus of the trail. Placement holes for the post and signs will be dug approximately 24" to 36" deep, backfilled, and tamped.

The U.S Department of Transportation Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) will be followed for the pedestrian crossing. This will involve the installation of two pedestrian crossing approach signs on MCR 10N. This sign is the MUTCD W11-2, 30"X30", and will be installed 750' prior to the pedestrian crossing on each approach. Installation of this sign will conform to the MUTCD for location and break-away requirements.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES/MITIGATION MEASURES

CRITICAL RESOURCES

AIR QUALITY

Affected Environment: There are no special designation air sheds or non-attainment areas nearby that would be affected by the proposed action.

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

Affected Environment: The propose project is in M.U. 13 (Irish Canyon ACEC)

Environmental Consequences: None.

Mitigative Measures: Not applicable

Name of specialist and date: Jim McBrayer – 9/15/06

CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Affected Environment: Cultural resources, in this region of Colorado, range from late Paleo-Indian to Historic. For a general understanding of the cultural resources in this area of Colorado, see *An Overview of Prehistoric Cultural Resources, Little Snake Resource Area, Northwestern Colorado*, Bureau of Land Management Colorado, Cultural Resources Series, Number 20, *An Isolated Empire, A History of Northwestern Colorado*, Bureau of Land Management Colorado, Cultural Resource Series, Number 2 and *Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Northern Colorado River Basin*, Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists.

Environmental Consequences: The proposed project, a New Trail at the Irish Canyon Rock Art Interpretive Site, has undergone a Class III cultural resource survey: Keesling, Henry S. 2006 A New Trail at the Irish Canyon Interpretive Site, Moffat County, Colorado. BLM 10.8.06 BLM, Little Snake Field Office, Craig, Colorado.

The survey identified no eligible to the National Register of Historic Places prehistoric cultural resources. The proposed project may proceed as described in this EA with the following mitigative measures in place.

Mitigative Measures: The following standard stipulations apply for this project:

1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are encountered or uncovered during any project activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate vicinity of the find and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO) at (970) 826-5000. Within five working days, the AO will inform the operator as to:

- Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- The mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the identified area can be used for project activities again; and
- Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) (Federal Register Notice, Monday, December 4, 1995, Vol. 60, No. 232) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone at (970) 826-5000, and with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony.
- Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

Name of specialist and date: Gary D. Collins July 19, 2006

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Affected Environment: The project would not directly affect the social, cultural, or economic well being and health of Native American, minority or low-income populations. The project area is relatively isolated from population centers, so no populations would be affected by physical or socioeconomic impacts from the project.

Environmental Consequences: None.

Mitigative Measures: None.

Name of Specialist and Date: Louise McMinn, Realty Specialist 07/26/2006

FLOOD PLAINS

Affected Environment: No large floodplains would be affected by the proposed trail.

Environmental Consequences: No threat to human safety, life, welfare and property will result from the proposed action.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

INVASIVE, NONNATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: Invasive species and noxious weeds occur within the affected area. Cheatgrass and halogeten are common along road disturbances and other areas which do not have adequate perennial plant communities to inhibit their annual establishment. Canada thistle and other biennial thistles are fairly common and can be established in the affected area.

Russian knapweed, houndstongue and hoary cress (whitetop) are finding their way into the vicinity of the project and would also be capable of establishing in disturbed areas. Other species of noxious weeds are not known to be a problem in this area, but they can always be introduced by vehicle traffic, livestock and wildlife. The BLM and Moffat County, along with livestock operators and the general public will be able to easily monitor the site for invasive and noxious weeds.

Environmental Consequences: The surface disturbing activities will create an environment for invasive species, especially cheatgrass and other noxious weeds to become established. The gravel sources brought in for surfacing, any vehicles and equipment brought onto the site and people traffic on the trails can introduce these weed species. Wind, water, recreation vehicles, livestock and wildlife will also assist with the distribution of weed seed into the newly disturbed areas. The BLM will control any invasive and/or noxious weeds that become established within the disturbed areas resulting from constructing and maintaining the trail. All principles of Integrated Pest Management will be employed to control noxious weeds on public lands.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment: The proposed trail is located in sagebrush-grass and greasewood plant communities. Sagebrush communities typically provide nesting habitat for a large array of migratory birds during the breeding season. Two sagebrush obligate species, sage sparrow and Brewer's sparrow, are listed on the USFWS's Bird of Conservation Concern List. However, because this site is next to a frequently used county road, habitat quality for these two species is marginal. Additional birds that may nest in the area include the vesper sparrow and sage thrasher.

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action has a low potential to result in the 'take' of any migratory bird. Nesting attempts may be disrupted and some nests may be accidentally destroyed if the trail is constructed during the breeding season (May – July). Once construction of the trail is complete, there would be no further potential to interfere materially with nest substrate. Occasional visitors to the trail would be unlikely to displace migratory birds from the project area. The Proposed Action would have little influence on the abundance or distribution of breeding migratory birds at a landscape level.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Desa Ausmus 7/14/06

NATIVE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS CONCERNS

A letter was sent to the Uinta and Ouray Tribal Council, Southern Ute Tribal Council, Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council, and the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs on January 21, 1999. The letter listed the projects that the BLM would notify them on and projects that would not require notification. No comments were received (Letter on file at the Little Snake Field Office). This project requires no additional notification.

Name of specialist and date: Gary D. Collins July 19, 2006

PRIME & UNIQUE FARMLANDS

Affected Environment: There are no Prime or Unique Farmlands present in the affected area of the project.

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

T&E SPECIES - SENSITIVE PLANTS

Affected Environment: There are no BLM sensitive plant species within the area that would be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Hunter Seim 7/12/06

T&E SPECIES – ANIMALS

Affected Environment: There are no threatened or endangered animals known to inhabit or derive important benefit from the project area. The project area provides general habitat for greater sage grouse, a BLM sensitive species. This habitat is utilized during non-critical times of the year or when moving to and from winter or nesting habitat.

Environmental Consequences: The proposed action would disturb a very small amount of sage grouse habitat. Sage grouse may be displaced from the site during trail construction due to noise and an increase in human presence. It is likely that grouse would utilize the project area again once the trail is completed. The proposed action would have no measurable influence on the abundance or distribution of sage grouse in the area.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Desa Ausmus 7/17/06

T&E SPECIES – PLANTS

Affected Environment: There are no federally listed threatened or endangered plant species within the area that would be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Hunter Seim 7/12/06

WATER QUALITY - GROUND

Affected Environment: PNI

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Robert Ernst 7/12/06

WATER QUALITY - SURFACE

Affected Environment: PNI

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

WASTES, HAZARDOUS OR SOLID

Affected Environment: If the release does occur, the environment affected would be dependent on the nature and volume of material released. If there are no releases, there will be no environmental impact.

Environmental Consequences: Consequences will be dependent on the volume and nature of the material released. In most every situation involving hazardous materials, there are ways

to remediate the area that has been contaminated. Short-term consequences will occur, but they can be remedied, and long-term impacts will be minimal.

Mitigative Measures: None:

Name of specialist and date: D. Johnson 7/11/06

WETLANDS/RIPARIAN ZONES

Affected Environment: There are no riparian systems present in the affected area of the project.

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

WILD & SCENIC RIVERS

Affected Environment: Not present.

Environmental Consequences: Not applicable.

Mitigative Measures: Not applicable

Name of specialist and date: Jim McBrayer – 9/15/06

WILDERNESS, WSAs

Affected Environment: Not present.

Environmental Consequences: Not applicable.

Mitigative Measures: Not applicable

Name of specialist and date: Jim McBrayer – 9/15/06

NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS

PALEONTOLOGY

Affected Environment: The geologic formation at the surface is the Tertiary age Browns Park Formation (Tbp). This Miocene age formation is a white, light-gray, and tan, poorly to

moderately consolidated, generally crossbedded, tuffaceous sandstone with subordinate conglomerate, siltstone, white crystal-poor rhyolitic air-fall tuff, and minor limestone. Mostly of fluvial and eolian origin and is characterized by abundant volcanic clastic material. Especially near base may contain red, orange, and yellow beds with abundant clasts of the Uinta Mountain Group (Yu) and subordinate Paleozoic limestone. Tbp has been deposited mostly north and east of the Uinta Mountains. Maximum thickness is highly variable but is considered to be about a maximum of 500 meters. This formation has been classified a Class Ia formation for the potential for occurrence of scientifically significant fossils.

Environmental Consequences: Scientifically significant fossils are found abundantly within this formation (Armstrong & Wolney, 1989). The potential for discovery of significant fossils within this formation is considered to be high; however, potential for discovery of fossils through a surface survey on this location is considered low because of the specific facies of the Browns Park Formation. Potential for buried fossils is considered moderate to low. If any such fossils are located here, construction activities could damage the fossils and the information that could have been gained from them would be lost. The significance of this impact would depend upon the significance of the fossil. The proposed action could also constitute a beneficial impact to Paleontological resources by increasing the chances for discovery of scientifically significant fossils.

Mitigative Measures: Ceasing operations and notifying the Field Office Manager immediately upon discovery of a fossil during construction activities will effectively mitigate the potential impact to Paleontological resources. An assessment of the significance is made and a plan to retrieve the fossil or the information from the fossil is developed.

Standard Discovery Stipulation: "If cultural or Paleontological resources are discovered during exploration operations under this license, the licensee shall immediately notify the Field Office Manager and shall not disturb such discovered resources until the Field Office Manager issues specific instructions.

- a. Within 5 working days after notification, the Field Office Manager shall evaluate any cultural resources discovered and shall determine whether any action may be required to protect or to preserve such discoveries.
- b. The cost of data recovery for cultural resources discovered during exploration operations shall be borne by the licensee, if the licensee is ordered to take any protective measures. Ownership of cultural resources discovered shall be determined in accordance with applicable law."

References

- Armstrong, Harley J. and Wolney, David G., 1989, Paleontological Resources of Northwest Colorado: A Regional Analysis, Museum of Western Colorado, Grand Junction, CO, prepared for Bur. Land Management, Vol. I of V.

Miller, A.E., 1977, Geology of Moffat County, Colorado, Colo. Geol. Surv. Map Series 3, 1:126,720.

Name of specialist and date: Robert Ernst 7/12/06

SOILS

Affected Environment: The rock art loop trail will be constructed entirely on soils mapped as Chroder sandy loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes. This is a very deep sandy loam soil derived from eolian deposits. The soil is non-saline and non-sodic. Important soil properties associated with using this soil type for a trail include low potential for shrink-swell, moderately rapid infiltration and percolation and low runoff potential. The soil should be a fairly easy dig for fence and sign posts.

Environmental Consequences: The soil materials are suited for using as a trail. The gravel surface applied will help to retain the soil from runoff events and from being tracked up by people traffic. The trail should improve access to the rock art sites and decrease accessing the sites from various routes. (The trail should include a slight crown for drainage of water to either side and where surface water flow is expected to cross, an un-crowned, hardened low water crossing should be established to reduce trail maintenance.)

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

Affected Environment: The trail will require a pedestrian crossing of Moffat County Road (MCR) 10N. The trail will be an addition of a system trail to the BLM facility assets. Allowed uses of the trail will be determined.

Environmental Consequences: None (affected environment issues addressed in proposed action)

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Jim McBrayer 9/7/06

VEGETATION

Affected Environment: The proposed trail is located in sagebrush-grass and greasewood plant communities. Dominant species present include Wyoming big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata wyomingensis*), greasewood (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*), green rabbitbrush

(*Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*), needle-and-thread (*Stipa comata*), squirreltail (*Sitanion hystrix*), and Sandberg bluegrass (*Poa sandbergii*). The area also contains copious amounts of nonnative cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*).

Environmental Consequences: The proposed trail would remove very small amounts of native vegetation. This removal would be inconsequential within the larger plant community. The presence of the trail would perpetuate some of the weed presence in the area but due to the other impacts present, this cumulative impact would be extremely minor.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Hunter Seim 7/12/06

WILDLIFE, AQUATIC

Affected Environment: There is no habitat for aquatic wildlife located in the project area.

Environmental Consequences: None

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of Specialist and Date: Desa Ausmus 7/14/06

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL

Affected Environment: The project area provides habitat for a number of wildlife species, including mule deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, small mammals, birds and reptiles. The project area does not provide critical habitat for any wildlife species.

Environmental Consequences: Trail construction would impact a small amount of wildlife habitat. Wildlife species may be displaced from the project area during trail construction due to noise and an increase in human presence. Most species would return after trail construction and are unlikely to be displaced by the occasional visitor to the trail. The proposed action would have no conceivable influence on the distribution or abundance of wildlife species on a landscape level.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Desa Ausmus 7/14/06

VISUAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: Visual Resource Management (VRM) classifications for the proposed project area include: Class II (low levels of landscape change allowed - low

levels of landscape change allowed and should not attract the attention of casual observers. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant features of the landscape)

Environmental Consequences: The proposed action will not impact existing VRM classifications.

Mitigative Measures: None

Name of specialist and date: Jim McBrayer - 9/15/06

OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS: For the following elements, those brought forward for analysis will be formatted as shown above.

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not Present	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for Analysis
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Fluid Minerals		RE 7/12/06	
Forest Management	DJ 8/2/06		
Hydrology/Ground		RE 7/12/06	
Hydrology/Surface		OO 8/17/06	
Paleontology			RE 7/12/06
Range Management		HS 7/12/06	
Realty Authorizations		LM 7/26/06	
Recreation/Travel Mgmt			RS 7/13/06
Socio-Economics		LM 7/26/06	
Solid Minerals		RE 7/12/06	
Visual Resources			JDM 7/24/06
Wild Horse & Burro Mgmt	DJ 8/2/06		

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY: None

STANDARDS

PLANT AND ANIMAL COMMUNITY (animal) STANDARD:

Public lands in the project area provide productive wildlife habitat for a variety of big game, small mammal, raptor and songbird species. The proposed action is not expected to impact these species or their habitat. The Proposed Action would not preclude this standard from being met.

Name of specialist and date: Desa Ausmus 7/14/06

SPECIAL STATUS, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES (animal) STANDARD:

Public lands in the project area provide habitat for one BLM sensitive species, greater sage grouse. The proposed action would have no measurable influence on the abundance or distribution of sage grouse in the area. The Proposed Action would not preclude this standard from being met.

Name of specialist and date: Desa Ausmus 7/14/06

PLANT AND ANIMAL COMMUNITY (plant) STANDARD:

While this specific area has not been formally assessed for meeting this standard, it is likely currently not meeting this standard due to the high amounts of non-native annual plants present. However, impacts related to vegetation removal and localized disturbance from use of the trail would not preclude future efforts to address weed issues. Given the small cumulative impact that the Proposed Action would have relative to the presence of the road, powerline, livestock trailing, and other human activities in the area, the Proposed Action would meet this standard, in that, it would not prevent this standard from being met in the future.

The No Action Alternative would also meet this standard as no additional disturbance from trail construction or use would occur.

Name of specialist and date: Hunter Seim 7/12/06

SPECIAL STATUS, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES (plant) STANDARD:

There are no federally listed threatened or endangered or BLM sensitive plant species that would be impacted by the Proposed Action. This standard does not apply.

Name of specialist and date: Hunter Seim 7/12/06

RIPARIAN SYSTEMS STANDARD: Riparian systems are not present in the area affected by the proposed action. This standard does not apply.

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

WATER QUALITY STANDARD: The proposed action will meet the public land health standard for water quality. Vegetation clearing will only be done for the width of the trail. The gravel surface will insure stability and reduce soil erosion from the site. Minimizing the area to be disturbed and surfacing the trail are considered to be Best Management Practices that will help to reduce accelerated erosion of the site. No stream segments near this project are listed as impaired.

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

UPLAND SOILS STANDARD: The proposed action will not meet the upland soil standard for land health, but it is not expected to be met while the trail exists and the surface disturbance remains un-reclaimed. The trail will not exhibit the characteristics of a healthy soil. Over time the trail will hopefully become compacted with gravel sized rock embedded to provide additional stability. This should reduce infiltration and reduce the potential for vegetation and weed growth. However, the stable trail should not affect the adjacent upland soils from remaining healthy and it will encourage people to view the cultural resources present from one route.

Name of specialist and date: Ole Olsen 8/17/06

PERSONS/AGENCIES CONSULTED: Uintah and Ouray Tribal Council, Colorado Native American Commission, Colorado State Historic Preservation Office.

FONSI

The environmental assessment, analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed action, has been reviewed. With the implementation of the attached mitigation measures there is a finding of no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

1. Beneficial, adverse, direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts have been disclosed in the EA. Analysis indicated no significant impacts on society as a whole, the affected region, the affected interests or the locality. The physical and biological effects are limited to the Little Snake Resource Area and adjacent land.
2. Public health and safety would not be adversely impacted. There are no known or anticipated concerns with project waste or hazardous materials.
3. There would be no adverse impacts to regional or local air quality, prime or unique farmlands, known paleontological resources on public land within the area, wetlands, floodplain, areas with unique characteristics, ecologically critical areas or designated Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.
4. There are no highly controversial effects on the environment.
5. There are no effects that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risk. Sufficient information on risk is available based on information in the EA and other past actions of a similar nature.
6. This alternative does not set a precedent for other actions that may be implemented in the future to meet the goals and objectives of adopted Federal, State or local natural resource related plans, policies or programs.

7. No cumulative impacts related to other actions that would have a significant adverse impact were identified or are anticipated.
8. Based on previous and ongoing cultural surveys, and through mitigation by avoidance, no adverse impacts to cultural resources were identified or anticipated. There are no known American Indian religious concerns or persons or groups who might be disproportionately and adversely affected as anticipated by the Environmental Justice Policy.
9. No adverse impacts to any threatened or endangered species or their habitat that was determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act were identified. If, at a future time, there could be the potential for adverse impacts, treatments would be modified or mitigated not to have an adverse effect or new analysis would be conducted.
10. This alternative is in compliance with relevant Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and requirements for the protection of the environment.

Mitigation:

Cultural: The following standard stipulations apply for this project:

1. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are encountered or uncovered during any project activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate vicinity of the find and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO) at (970) 826-5000. Within five working days, the AO will inform the operator as to:

- Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- The mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the identified area can be used for project activities again; and
- Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) (Federal Register Notice, Monday, December 4, 1995, Vol. 60, No. 232) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone at (970) 826-5000, and with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony.
- Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have determined that construction of the trail and installation of signage and fencing is in conformance with the approved land use plan. It is my decision to approve the proposed trail project with the above mitigation measures. The project is for construction of a rock art interpretive trail and associated facilities on public land in T.10N., R.101W, NENW, Sec 34. It will be 4' wide by approximately 1,000' long. The trail will be marked with carsonite posts. When additional funding becomes available, the trail will be improved with 4" deep packed road base (3/4" crushed aggregate gravel). This project will provide the public with an additional Native American Cultural rock art interpretative opportunity across from the existing rock art site at the entrance to Irish Canyon.

SIGNATURE OF PREPARER: Jim McBrayer

DATE SIGNED: 09/1/06

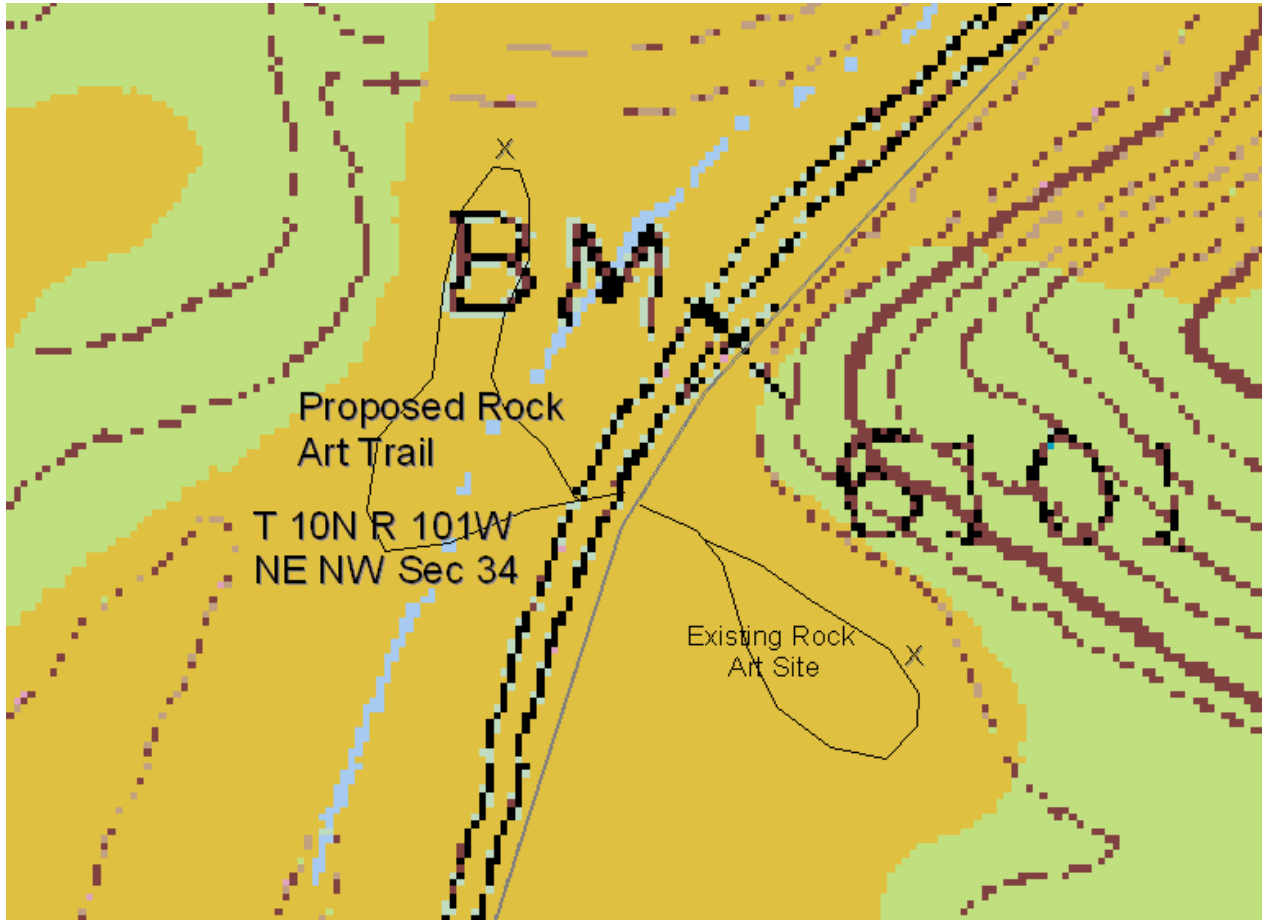
SIGNATURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWER:

DATE SIGNED:

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

DATE SIGNED:

ATTACHMENT A



Proposed new Irish Canyon rock art trail.