

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NV-040-06-29

CHERRY CREEK RIPARIAN EXCLOSURE FENCE
AND SPRING DEVELOPMENT

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Ely Field Office

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July 2006

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This environmental assessment (EA) incorporates by reference and is tiered to the Proposed Egan Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/FEIS), dated December 24, 1983, and the Egan Resource Area Record of Decision (ROD) which was finalized on February 3, 1987. This EA fulfills the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirement for a site-specific analysis. Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration were developed by the Nevada Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council and were approved by the Secretary of the Interior on February 12, 1997.

Need for the Proposal

The need for the proposed project is to restore two unnamed springs and the adjoining riparian zone to proper functioning condition, protect the spring and riparian area from future livestock overgrazing and provide livestock and wildlife a clean, suitable water source. The proposed project is located on the Cherry Creek Allotment in T25N, R64E, S.19 SESE and T25N, R64E, S.29 NWNE. The project would assist the Bureau and permittees in meeting the multiple use management objectives established for the Cherry Creek Allotment. The proposed project would also assist the Bureau and permittees in meeting the standards for riparian and wetland sites established by the Nevada Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC) for the Northeastern Great Basin Area on the Cherry Creek Allotment.

Relationship to Planning

The project is in conformance with the Egan Resource Area Record of Decision (ROD) signed February 3, 1987, and with the goals outlined in the ROD page 3, which states, in part, "...develop and implement range improvements which emphasize greatest return on investment in relationship to resource needs..."

The project is also in conformance with the Proposed Egan Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/FEIS), dated December 24, 1983. The implementation of rangeland improvement projects is listed as a long-term management action (5-20) years on page 20 of the RMP/FEIS.

The project is also consistent with the White Pine County Land Use Plan (May 1998) which states, "The federal government should continue to make the public rangelands economically and realistically available for livestock grazing, along with the other multiple use objectives" (pg. 7).

The project would help meet the District's goal of being consistent with the Northeastern Great Basin RAC Standards and Guidelines for Grazing Administration, approved by the Secretary of the Interior on February 12, 1997. Standard 2 (Riparian and Wetland Sites)

states, in part, "...riparian and wetland areas exhibit a properly functioning condition and achieve state water quality criteria. Natural springs, seeps, and marsh areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation is present to facilitate water retention, filtering, and release as indicated by plant species and cover appropriate to the site characteristics."

Issues

No major issues were identified during internal scoping.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Proposed Action

The proposed action is for the BLM Ely Field Office (or an authorized contractor) to construct a livestock enclosure fence around two unnamed springs and associated riparian areas, install a springbox and/or other collection system at one or both springs, and a pipeline from the springbox to a livestock trough(s) outside the fenced riparian zone. Two 14 foot cattleguards would be installed across the main BLM access road leading to the spring sites. This area is located in east-central Nevada in White Pine County within the Cherry Creek Allotment in Steptoe Valley at T25N, R64E, S.19 SESE and T25N, R64E, S.29 NWNE.

The enclosure would be approximately 2 to 3 acres in size. The fence would be a standard Bureau 4-wire fence. It would consist of three strands of barbed wire on top and one strand of smooth wire on the bottom. Wire spacing would be 16", 6", 8" and 12" from bottom to top. The fence would be 42" high from ground level to the top wire. White-topped steel posts would be spaced 16' apart with stays in between. White flagging would be attached to the top wire between posts during construction to alert wildlife and livestock to the existence of the new fence. A gate(s) would be installed to allow access to the spring. The fence would be built to BLM specifications and standard operating procedures as outlined in the District Fenceline Environmental Assessment No. EA-NV-040-5-27. Fence construction and cattleguard installation may involve the use of pick-up trucks, post-hole diggers attached to tractors or backhoes, transport vehicles and other equipment as necessary. The area of ground disturbance resulting from fence construction will be approximately 10 to 15 feet wide.

The springbox and/or collection system, discharge pipe and trough would be designed and installed to standard Bureau specifications for these structures. The discharge pipeline conveying water to the stocktank would be approximately 500 feet in length or less. Spring development could include the use of heavy equipment (i.e. backhoe-loader tractors) as well as pickup trucks.

The project is proposed for completion by 2007. The BLM would supply all materials and be responsible for completing construction. Maintenance responsibilities would be

assigned to the permittees. A co-op agreement would be initiated detailing the maintenance responsibilities.

Normal maintenance of fences is defined as the labor and materials needed to keep an existing fence in a condition adequate to prevent livestock movement through, under, or over the fence. At this time maintenance responsibility would consist of:

1. Ensuring that all strands of fence wire between fence posts are tightly stretched and secured to the fence posts by metal clips or staples as appropriate for the type of post.
2. Ensuring that all fence posts are securely in place and that bent, broken, or missing posts and stays are replaced as needed.
3. Ensuring that all wooden stretch panels, corner braces, and gateposts are securely in place and in sound condition. Rotten or broken posts must be replaced as needed.
4. Ensuring that all strands of fence wire and fence spacing wire or wood poles which form the gates are properly stretched and secured. Each gate should have a mechanical latch for secure closure of the gate.
5. Ensuring that the appropriate Bureau standards are maintained.
6. Ensuring that the spacing of all wires is maintained as built to original specifications.

Normal maintenance and upkeep of spring developments and pipelines is defined as the labor and materials needed to keep an existing springs and pipelines in a condition adequate to satisfy the proper distribution and maintenance of livestock. This includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Cleaning the springbox, inlet and overflow pipes, and troughs of debris and moss.
2. Repair broken and split pipe.
3. Ensure proper attachment of bird ladders in stock troughs.
4. Repair or replace trough braces.
5. Repair leaks in stock troughs.
6. Replacing dirt, gravel or rock fill around troughs.
7. Replacing those items above ground which will require replacement due to normal use.

Normal maintenance and upkeep of cattleguards includes:

1. Cleaning the pit under the cattleguard to the extent required to prevent livestock movement over it and to ensure adequate drainage.
2. Any rails that are cut or damaged would be returned to original Bureau standards.
3. Any wings that are cut or damaged would be returned to original Bureau standards. This also includes keeping wires taut that are stretched between the wings and posts.

Mitigation

Several proposed mitigating measures from the Programmatic EA are applicable to this proposed action and are as follows:

White flagging would be attached to the top wire between white-topped steel posts to alert wildlife and livestock to the existence of the new fence.

To protect migratory birds during the nesting period, fence construction would be in accordance with Instruction Memorandum No. 040-2001-02 "Ely District Policy Management Actions for the Conservation of Migratory Birds" dated May 23, 2001 which states "...actions, which may impact migratory birds, are not allowed during the critical nesting period. The critical nesting period is established as May 1 through July 15. Activities may not occur during this period without special authorization, and only after breeding bird surveys have been conducted by the field office wildlife team."

To help minimize and/or prevent the spread of invasive and nonnative species (including noxious weeds) the following terms and conditions for construction would include: Wash all of the construction equipment prior to entering the work site in accordance with the Ely District noxious weed prevention schedule and inspect and clean equipment for plant material daily.

Avoid cultural resource sites during the survey and design phase. There is some leeway in exactly where the fence is placed. The archaeologists should be involved in the planning and designing phase. If cultural resources may be impacted through fence construction, these impacts can be mitigated in various ways. Consideration should be given to: a) creating a traffic corridor through the site, b) recording and mapping the site, c) surface collection, d) excavation, and/or e) having an archaeologist present during construction.

Monitoring will be conducted in the form of compliance checks during and after construction of the project.

Compliance

The project inspector (PI) or representative from the BLM would make periodic site visits to check on compliance of specifications and progress during the construction phase. Upon completion of the project, a final inspection would be made to ensure

construction and installation specifications were met. Periodic compliance checks would be made following project completion by the rangeland management specialist to ensure the project remains in proper functioning condition and good working order.

No Action

The impacts from construction and installation of the fence, cattleguards and spring development as described above would not occur if the project is not implemented. Without the proposed riparian fence and spring development, livestock would continue to have access to the spring and riparian zone resulting in the continuation of the historical use (trampling and heavy use) to the riparian area.

Alternatives

No alternatives to the proposed action are necessary to be analyzed in response to unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.

Alternatives Considered but Eliminated From Detailed Analysis

Herding was considered as an alternative method for achieving management objectives. However, it was eliminated from detailed analysis because the permittees of the Cherry Creek Allotment have attempted to move their cattle off this riparian area before over-use occurs but the cattle have always drifted back soon after each herding event occurred.

Shifting livestock grazing use to other portions of the allotment already occurs. Cattle currently graze many areas of the Cherry Creek Allotment. To restrict or deny cattle from using this entire portion of the allotment just to prevent livestock use on the two springs is not a feasible or reasonable solution to the problem. It would result in an effective reduction in the permittees' active use and would not meet the need for the proposal.

Scheduling livestock grazing use on the Cherry Creek Allotment during a different time than the permitted season-of-use would not meet the need for the proposal. Without a physical barrier (fence) in place, it is highly probable cattle would still make use of the springs and the associated riparian areas whenever they are grazing within the vicinity.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Range

The Cherry Creek Allotment is a common use allotment with six permittees authorized to graze cattle on the allotment. Each permittee has a specific active use grazing preference for the allotment. The Cherry Creek Allotment has a total active use of 5,293 AUMs for all permittees combined. The season of use on the allotment is May 1 to February 28. Traditionally, four of the six grazing permittees graze livestock in the vicinity of the proposed project site where the two unnamed springs are located. Cattle may utilize this

area anytime during the authorized grazing season (May to February). Approximately 100 to 300 cows could be in the area and making use of the springs at any one time.

Vegetation

The Cherry Creek project would be built in a valley bottom site where the main vegetation type is a saline meadow grass/sedge/rush plant community. The range site is a saline meadow 6 -10 inch P.Z. (028BY002NV). The dominant vegetative species include alkali sacaton (Sporobolus airoides), alkali cordgrass (Spartina gracilis), sedge (Carex spp.), Baltic rush (Juncus balticus), inland saltgrass (Distichlis stricta), cinquefoil (Potentilla spp.), black greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus), Wyoming big sagebrush (Artemisia tridentate wyomingensis) and douglas rabbitbrush (Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus). Potential vegetation composition is about 85% grass and grass-likes, 10% forbs, and 5% shrubs. The elevation is 5,875 feet at the project area.

Soils

The project area lies within soil mapping unit 1130 Duffer-Equis soil association. These soils occur on floodplains and outer margins of floodplains adjacent to areas of springs and seeps. Slopes range from 0% to 2 %. The soils are deep to very deep and poorly to somewhat poorly drained. These soils are strongly salt and sodium affected in the upper profile with soil reaction and salinity decreasing with depth. Soil texture varies from silt loam to silty clay loam to silty clay. Runoff is slow to very slow and available water holding capacity is moderate to high.

Wildlife

The project area is located within Nevada Department of Wildlife Hunt Unit 121. Antelope is the primary big game animal using the two springs and this area of the Cherry Creek Allotment. Mule deer may make some use in this area during the winter months or early spring but probably not much.

Special Status Species (Federally listed, proposed or candidate Threatened or Endangered Species, and State sensitive species)

Special status species that can be found in the vicinity of the proposed project on the Cherry Creek Allotment is sage grouse which utilize the area as brooding habitat.

Wild Horses

The project area is located within a Cherry Creek Wild Horse Management Area (HMA). Usually no wild horses graze this portion of the Cherry Creek Allotment and the appropriate management level (AML) for wild horses has been set at zero.

Recreation

Hunting and off-road vehicle use are the primary recreational activities that occur in the vicinity.

Wilderness Values

The proposed project area is not located within a wilderness study area (WSA). The closest WSA to the project site is the Goshute Canyon WSA located approximately 2 miles to the west.

Cultural, Historical, and Paleontological Values

Evidence of past human activity is present at the spring sites. The remnants of an old concrete cistern are still present at the head of both springs.

Social and Economic Values

The site of the proposed project is located in a relatively unpopulated portion of federal range. Therefore, this proposed action would not have any adverse effect on the human health or environment of minority and low-income populations.

Noxious Weeds and Invasive, Non-Native Species

The proposed project has been surveyed for noxious weed occurrence. Whitetop, Canada thistle and Russian knapweed has been mapped at the spring site or in the vicinity of the proposed project.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Proposed Action

There would be no impacts to the following resources classified as “mandatory items”: floodplains, wilderness values, ACEC’s, wild and scenic rivers, prime or unique farmlands, environmental justice, water quality (drinking/ground), Native American religious concerns, and wastes hazardous wastes.

The following resources have received additional site specific impact analysis:

Range and Riparian

The enclosure fence would prevent livestock from accessing the springs and riparian zone and over utilizing the riparian vegetation and trampling the springs. The fence would assist in meeting the standards for riparian and wetland sites established by the Nevada Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council by returning the spring area to proper functioning condition. There would be some short-term impacts to the vegetation at and adjacent to the site due to fence construction and pipeline installation associated with the spring development. Also, there will be impacts to the vegetation immediately around the area where the livestock troughs are placed.

Soils

Implementing the proposed action would reduce the potential for soil erosion in the riparian area since there will be an increase in vegetative cover due to the exclusion of livestock grazing within the enclosure. Soil compaction around the spring source would cease also aiding to reduce soil erosion. Soils should maintain structure, water holding capacity, and percolation characteristics resulting in increased forage production and an improved ground cover.

Wildlife

The potential exists for antelope and deer to become entangled by the fence and become injured. However, since the enclosure fence would be constructed to big game habitat standards, impacts to wildlife would be minimized and these animals should be able to safely negotiate the fence in most circumstances. Also, wildlife would have access to water at the new trough site when livestock are using this portion of the allotment as well as at the springs.

Special Status Species and Migratory Birds

Migratory birds also use this area. No impacts are anticipated to these species since fence construction would be in accordance with Instruction Memorandum No. 040-2001-02 "Ely District Policy Management Actions for the Conservation of Migratory Birds" dated May 23, 2001.

Special status species and migratory birds would generally not be affected by the proposed project since the enclosure fence would be built to wildlife standards and other mitigating factors would be incorporated into the construction of the project (see Mitigation). Sage grouse present in the area would benefit from protecting the spring and riparian area from livestock use by increasing herbaceous vegetative production and cover. No special status plants are located in the project area, thus special status plants would not be affected by the proposal.

Visual Resource Management (VRM)

There would be minimal short-term impacts to the visual resources as a result of fence construction and pipeline/springbox installation activities. Visual Resource impact of the fence is minimal but long term. These impacts are identified in the Programmatic EA and are well within acceptable levels. The project area has not been given a visual class zone designation. However, once the district's new resource management plan (RMP) is finalized, this area should be rated a Class III visual class zone. In Class III, management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer.

Social and Economic Values

Construction of the fence and installation of the spring development and pipeline would primarily impact the permittees grazing livestock on the allotment. The proposed project would facilitate meeting riparian objectives established for the allotment by denying livestock access to the springs and riparian area thereby preventing livestock from trampling the spring and overgrazing the riparian vegetation. It would also reduce costs related to herding and supervision checks by the permittees and Bureau personnel.

Cultural, Historical, and Paleontological Values

A Class III cultural resources inventory for the project area will be completed prior to the initiation of construction activity.

Solid Wastes

All refuse, waste, and additional construction material (wire, posts, strays, pipe, etc...) will be cleaned up and removed from the project site upon project completion.

Air Quality

Vehicle and/or machinery activity during construction would cause some soil disturbance resulting in an increase in dust in the immediate vicinity of the project area. The impact should be minimal and temporary.

Invasive, Non-native Species (including Noxious Weeds)

Whitetop, Canada thistle and Russian knapweed have been mapped at the spring site or in the vicinity of the proposed project. The Risk Factor for spread of noxious weeds is moderate at the present time. To help minimize and/or prevent the spread of invasive and nonnative species (including noxious weeds) the following terms and conditions for construction would include: Wash all of the construction equipment prior to entering the work site and after all work is completed in accordance with the Ely District noxious weed prevention schedule and inspect and clean equipment for plant material daily. The disturbed area would be monitored on a regular basis for noxious or invasive weeds or nonnative species.

Cumulative Impacts

According to the BLM handbook *Guidelines for Assessing and Documenting Cumulative Impacts* (BLM 1994), cumulative analysis is limited to those issues and resource values identified during scoping that are of major importance. No major issues were identified during the internal scoping process; therefore, the cumulative impact analysis focuses on the issue of the need for the proposed action (i.e., restore two unnamed springs and the

adjoining riparian zone to proper functioning condition, protect the spring and riparian area from future livestock overgrazing and provide livestock and wildlife a clean, suitable water source.)

Livestock Management

Past Actions

Domestic livestock has historically grazed the area in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project since the earliest settlement period in the late 1800's. Large herds of horses, sheep and cattle utilized this area on a more-or-less continuous basis prior to the establishment of the U.S. Grazing Service and the passage of the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934. It was not until the creation of the BLM by Congress in 1946 that specific grazing allotments were established and forage adjudications and allocations were set. Later, allotment specific management objectives were established for upland and riparian sites with respect to livestock management on the federal lands.

Present Actions

The two springs and adjacent native range are being grazed by livestock (cattle) in conjunction with several permittee's grazing operations on the Cherry Creek Allotment. The two unnamed springs and the adjoining riparian area have received heavy use. Currently, the springs do not meet standards set by the Nevada Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council for the Northeastern Great Basin Area nor riparian objectives established for the allotment. The proposed fence enclosure and spring development and pipeline project would assist the Bureau and permittees meet the riparian standards and objectives.

Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions

It can be reasonably anticipated that livestock will continue to graze the Cherry Creek Allotment in the vicinity of the two springs for the foreseeable future. No other projects or activities (grazing or non-grazing) are currently planned or anticipated within the immediate vicinity of the proposed project.

Conclusion-Cumulative Effects

Proposed Action

The proposed action will restore both springs and the adjoining riparian zone to proper functioning condition, protect the springs and riparian area from future livestock trampling and provide livestock and wildlife a clean, suitable water source. The project would assist the Bureau and permittee in meeting the multiple use management objectives established for the Cherry Creek Allotment. The proposed project would also assist the Bureau and permittee in meeting the standards for riparian and wetland sites

established by the Nevada Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council for the Northeastern Great Basin Area on the Cherry Creek Allotment.

Proposed Mitigation

Appropriate mitigation has been included as part of the Proposed Action. No additional mitigation is proposed as a result of the impact analysis.

Suggested Monitoring

Appropriate monitoring has been included as part of the Proposed Action. No additional monitoring is proposed as a result of the impact analysis.

V. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Intensity of Public Interest

There is a general public interest in the proper management of public lands. Several permittees on the Cherry Creek Allotment have a high degree of interest in this particular project. These include Turner and Irlbeck Ranch, Dave Perkins, Dan Hoots, Kay Lear, and Alan Sherman. The proposed project was posted on the Ely Field Office's web page on April 4, 2006 for public scoping. No comments were received. The proposed action will restore both springs and the adjoining riparian zone to proper functioning condition, protect the springs and riparian area from future livestock overgrazing and provide livestock and wildlife a clean, suitable water source.

Record of Persons, Group and Agencies Contacted

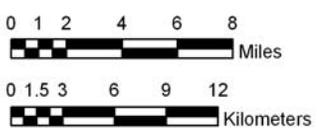
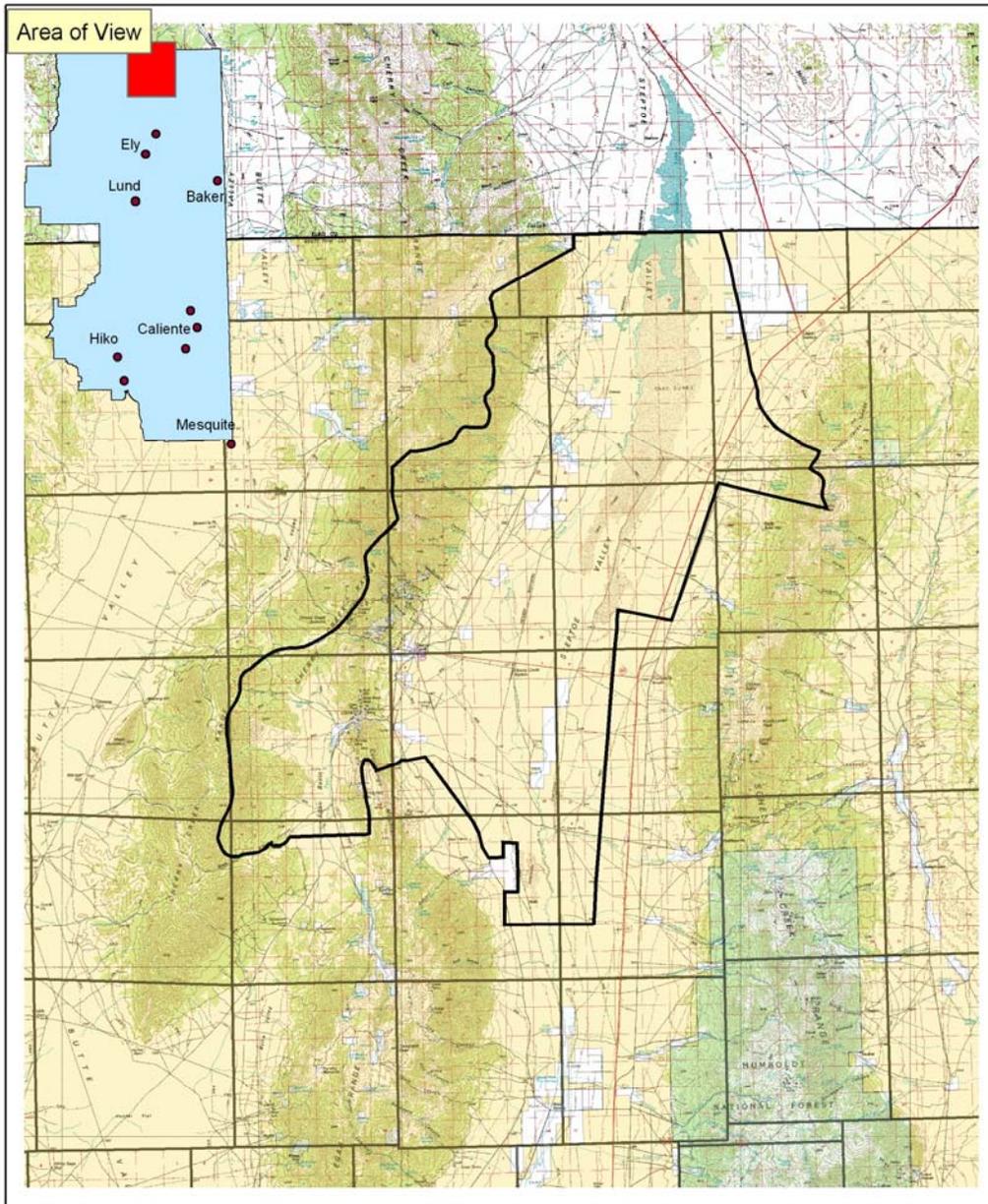
Kathy Bertrand, (permittee)
Alan Sherman, (permittee)
Dave Perkins, (permittee)
Dan Hoots, (permittee)
Kay Lear, (permittee)
Sterling Wines, (permittee)
Herb Stathes, (permittee)
Gordon V. Foppiano, (permittee)
Curt Baughman, Nevada Division of Wildlife
Steve Foree, Nevada Division of Wildlife
John McLain, Resource Concepts, Inc.
Betsy Macfarlan, Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition
Lincoln County Commissioners
Katie Fite, Western Watershed Project
Laurel Marshall, (interested party)
Nevada State Clearinghouse

Internal District Review

John Longinetti
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Larry Martin
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Carolyn Sherve-Bybee
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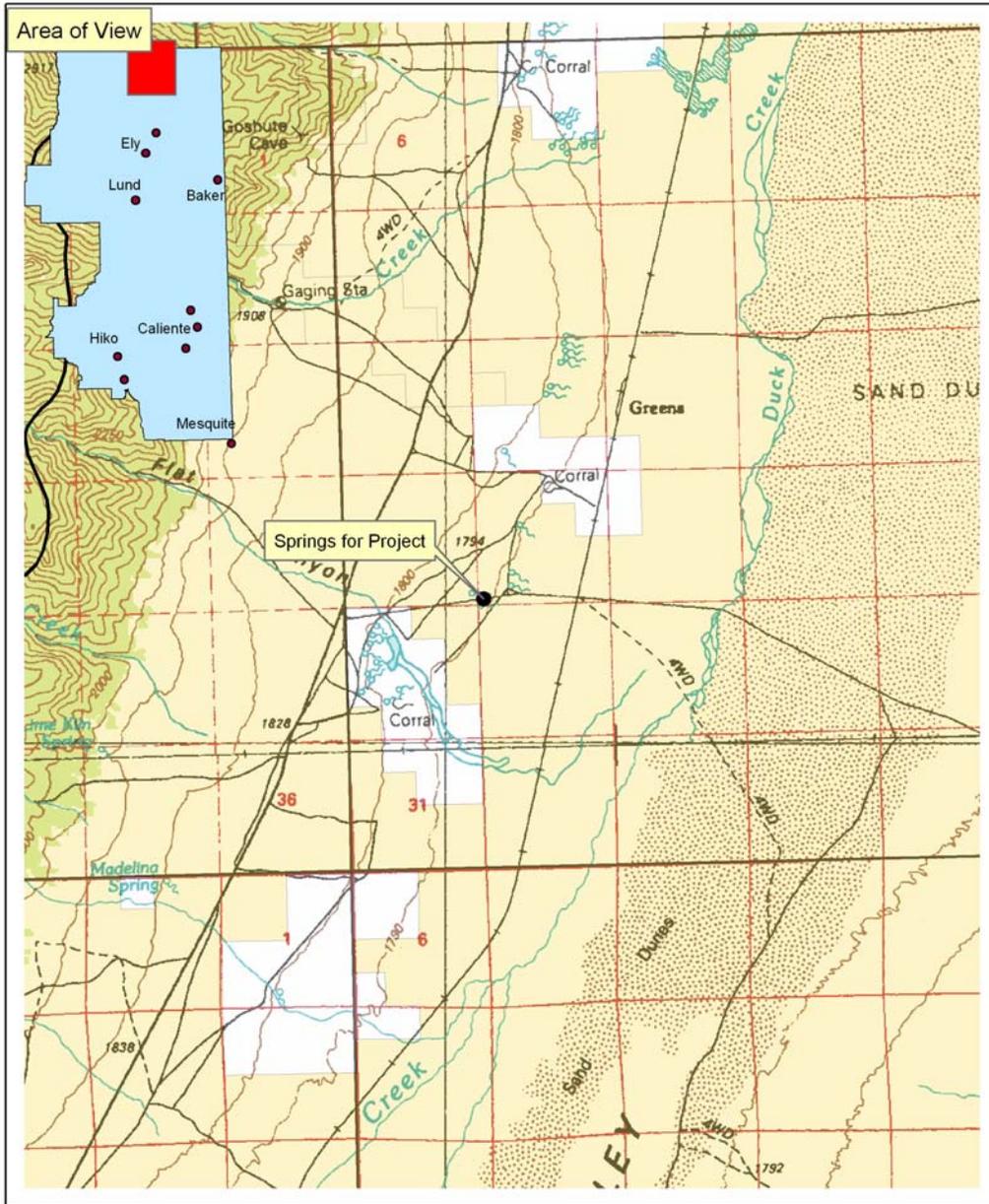
Range; Invasive, Non-Native Species
Wildlife; Riparian/Wetlands; Special Status Plants and
Animals; Migratory Birds
Cultural Resources
Operations
Recreation and Visual Resources
Environmental Coordinator
Wild Horses and Burros
Tribal Coordination



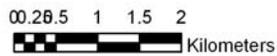
Cherry Creek

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Cherry Creek Riparian Project



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RISK ASSESSMENT FOR NOXIOUS WEEDS

On July 12, 2006, a Noxious Weed Risk Assessment was completed for the Cherry Creek Exclosure Fence and Spring Development project. The project is located within the Ely Bureau of Land Management Field Office Area, in the Cherry Creek Allotment, in White Pine County, Nevada. The legal location of the proposed project is:

T25N, R64E, Sec. 19, 20, 29, and 30 (portion of).

A field reconnaissance of the project site was conducted of May 18, 2006. The Ely Field Office weed survey data was also reviewed for the presence of noxious weeds. The project area is within a BLM weed surveyed area.

Factor 1 assesses the likelihood of noxious weed species spreading to the project area.

For this project, the factor rates as Moderate (4) at the present time. This means that noxious weed species are located immediately adjacent to or within the project area. Project activities are likely to result in some areas becoming infested with noxious weed species even when preventative management actions are followed. Noxious weeds were identified at the site and/or in the project vicinity include whitetop, Canada thistle and Russian knapweed.

None (0)	Noxious weed species not located within or adjacent to the project area. Project activity is not likely to result in the establishment of noxious weed species in the project area.
Low (1-3)	Noxious weed species present in areas <u>adjacent to but not within the project area. Project activities can be implemented and prevent the spread of noxious weeds into the project area.</u>
Moderate (4-7)	Noxious weed species <u>located immediately adjacent to or within the project area. Project activities are likely to result in some areas becoming infested with noxious weed species even when preventative management actions are followed.</u> Control measures are essential to prevent the spread of noxious weeds within the project area.
High (8-10)	<u>Heavy infestations of noxious weeds are located within or immediately adjacent to the project area. Project activities, even with preventative management actions, are likely to result in the establishment and spread of noxious weeds</u> on disturbed sites throughout much of the project area.

Factor 2 assesses the consequences of noxious weed establishment in the project area.

For this project, the factor rates as Moderate (4). This means that there are possible adverse effects on the site and possible expansion of infestation within the project area. Cumulative effects on native plant communities are likely, but limited.

Low (1-3)	No cumulative effects expected.
Moderate (4-7)	Possible adverse effects on the site and possible expansion of infestation within the project area. Cumulative effects on native plant communities are likely, but limited.

High (8-10) Obvious adverse effects within the project area and probable expansion of noxious weed infestations to areas outside the project area. Adverse cumulative effects on native plant communities are probable.

The Risk Rating is obtained by multiplying Factor 1 by Factor 2.

For this project, the Risk Rating is Moderate (16). This means that preventative management measures need to be initiated for the proposed project to reduce the risk of introduction or spread of noxious weeds into the area. Therefore, the following terms and conditions for construction would include: Wash all of the construction equipment prior to entering the work site in accordance with the Ely District noxious weed prevention schedule and inspect and clean equipment for plant material daily. The disturbed area would be monitored on a regular basis for noxious or invasive weeds or nonnative species.

None (0) Proceed as planned.

Low (1-10) Proceed as planned. Initiate control treatment on noxious weed populations that get established in the area.

Moderate (11-49) Develop preventative management measures for the proposed project to reduce the risk of introduction or spread of noxious weeds into the area. Preventative management measures could include modifying the project to include seeding the area to occupy disturbed sites with desirable species, encouraging project advocate to watch for and report or eradicate any small weed patches in their project area, incorporating weed detection into project compliance inspection activities, encouraging the advocate to attend weed identification workshops when offered, washing vehicles prior to entering project areas, and other actions as appropriate. Monitor the area for at least 3 consecutive years and provide for control of newly established populations of noxious weeds and follow-up treatment for previously treated infestations.

High (50-100) Project must be modified to reduce risk level though preventative management measures, including seeding with desirable species to occupy disturbed sites and controlling existing infestations of noxious weeds prior to project activity, washing all work vehicles before entering the site and at regular intervals throughout the project, requiring project advocate to watch for, report, and eradicate any small weed patches in their project area, incorporating weed detection into project compliance inspection activities, encouraging the advocate to attend weed identification workshops when offered equipment. Project must provide at least 5 consecutive years of monitoring and follow up weed treatment, for previously treated infestations.

Reviewed by: _____

Date: _____