

CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Objective:

The objective of the BLM cultural resource program is to manage cultural resources in a stewardship role for public benefit. The Department of the Interior has issued instructions and regulations concerning management of cultural resources. The purposes of the system are to analyze the specific values of cultural resources, to incorporate cultural resources into the planning system, and to identify cultural resource information needs when existing documentation is inadequate to support land use decision making.

Actions:

Cultural and paleontological resources will continue to be inventoried and evaluated as part of project level planning and non-Bureau initiated actions. Such evaluation will consider the significance of the proposed projects and the sensitivity of resources in the affected area. Mitigation will be attached to project approvals, as appropriate, to assure compatibility of the projects with the management objectives for cultural and paleontological resources. For example, if a cultural site is located during construction operations, the operator will be required to cease work in that area and notify the appropriate agency official. Upon determination of significance, and if necessary, salvage or avoidance will be deemed appropriate through consultation between the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the BLM. The Bureau will evaluate sites, areas, and structures on a case-by-case basis as to their eligibility for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Sites. The operator will be allowed to continue work near the affected area. If the site is determined to be nonsignificant, the operator will be allowed to continue without any mitigation to the site.

Support

The cultural and paleontological resources program will be coordinated with the BLM Utah State Office and the State Historic Preservation Officer. Private consultants and universities will also be involved in contract and salvage work for these resources.

Specific Management Actions

Action	Priority	Year to Begin	Time Required In Work Months	Cost Estimate	Monitoring Method
Clearances for Minerals Activities	1	Annually	7.5 WM	\$14,300	Field observations; reviews of reports, records and inventories; mapping.
Clearance for Forage Projects	2	Refer to Forage Section	29 WM	\$75,400	Records check inventory and report, post project field checks.
Clearances for Watershed and Erosion Control Projects	3	Annually	2.5 WM	\$6,500	Field observations; reviews of reports, records and inventories; mapping.
Clearance for Wildlife Projects	4	Refer to Wildlife Section	15.5 WM	\$40,300	Records check inventory and report, post project field checks.
Statistical Sampling of the Book Cliffs (10-20 percent sample)	5	1	2 WM	\$85,000	District review, field check of observations.
Statistical Sampling of the Book Cliffs (continued)	6	2	2 WM	\$282,000	District review, field check of observations.

MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Management concerns are topics which are not considered as issues, but involve management decisions which could be made during the life of the RMP. They involve continuation of certain existing Management Framework Plan (MFP) decisions which are still valid, and also include possible actions which are foreseen as possible in the future, but which have not yet been developed as specific proposals.

In some cases, these concerns involve resource allocation on a conceptual basis only, because a specific action has not been proposed, but is foreseen as a likely possibility.

Additional environmental documentation will be prepared when specific proposals are developed for these concerns.

Withdrawal Review

Review of existing withdrawals including reclamation, oil shale, and powersite will be an ongoing process, scheduled to be completed in 1991 (Figure 2-1).

Land Use Authorizations

Land use authorizations such as agricultural leases will be processed on a case-by-case basis, as the need arises. Land use permits for a wide variety of uses will be processed regularly, on a case-by-case basis.

Desert Land Entries

Desert land entries will be processed periodically on a case-by-case basis.

Trespass Abatement

Cases of unauthorized use of public land will be processed as necessary. Highest priority will be given to abatement of the following unauthorized uses: 1. New unauthorized activities or uses where prompt action will minimize damage to public resources and associated costs; 2. Cases where delay could be detrimental to authorized users; 3. Cases involving special areas, sensitive ecosystems, and resources of national significance; and 4. Cases involving malicious or criminal activities.

Geothermal Leasing

Applications for geothermal leasing will be processed on a case-by-case basis.

Pest Control

The BLM will allow control of insects,

predators, noxious weeds, and diseases on public lands in cooperation with Federal, State, and local government control agencies, on a case-by-case basis. Tree beetles may be directly controlled by BLM on a case-by-case basis.

Naval Oil Shale Reserve II

The NOSRII will continue to be administered by the Department of Energy and be managed by the Bureau of Land Management under a cooperative agreement (Figure 2-1).

Wildlife Introductions

There is suitable habitat existing for both wild bighorn sheep and wild turkeys within this resource area. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has expressed interest in releases of these species, however, no specific numbers or locations have been proposed. Any proposed releases will be given a separate environmental review and be checked for consistency with the forage allocations for wildlife contained in this plan.