CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

Consultation

The Bishop Field Office has consulted with Tribes of the Eastern Sierra regarding the Proposed Action since the beginning of project development. There have been multiple opportunities for Tribes to raise concerns regarding any potential for affects to their cultural values including multiple field trips to the project site. These field trips included visits to sites treated with the same methods as proposed here to demonstrate the potential effects. The Field Office has incorporated the feedback received in consultation and does not believe that there will be negative impacts to Native American Cultural Values. See also the analysis of effects to Cultural and Historic Resources on pg. 229 above.

Environmental Assessment Preparers

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APPENDICES

A. Glossary and List of Acronyms

ACEC: Area of Critical Environmental Concern.
BIFO: Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office.
BLM: Bureau of Land Management.
CDFG: California Department of Fish and Game (Now California Department of Fish and Wildlife).
Desired Plant Community (DPC): A vegetation association as defined in the Bishop RMP with associated goals for management.
EA: Environmental Assessment (NEPA document).
Ecological Departure: The departure of vegetation states from the Natural Range of Variability (See Natural Range of Variability).
Ecological resilience: Properties of an ecosystem that allow it to withstand disturbance without changes in processes and structures occurring that are of sufficient magnitude to result in new alternative states.
Ecological system: Recurring groups of biological communities that are found in similar physical environments and are influenced by similar dynamic ecological processes, such as fire or flooding. They are intended to provide a classification unit that is readily mappable, often from remote imagery, and readily identifiable by conservation and resource managers in the field (NatureServe).
FRCC: Fire Regime Condition Class. A metric for describing ecological departure that is the percentage departure from the modeled distribution of seral classes under the natural range of variability.
GIS: Geographic Information System.
Go-No-Go Checklist: Prescribed fire Burn Boss checklist to identify all agency contacts, and to ensure that resource concerns and objectives are addressed prior to ignition.
Invasive plants: Non-native plants whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. (Based on the definition provided in Executive Order 131121). Non-native annual grasses such as cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) or red brome (*Bromus madritensis*) are also included in this definition.
Key Observation Point (KOP): A viewpoint from which observers are likely to view the project or treatment which is used in analysis of potential visual impacts.
Management Area (MA): A planning unit defined in the Bishop Resource Management Plan.
MIST: Minimum impact suppression techniques for controlling fire used in sensitive areas such as WSAs.
Natural Range of Variability (NRV): The variation of vegetation states across the landscape due to the natural biotic or abiotic processes without intervention from industrial societies.
Non-native plants: Refers to plants introduced to North America or more specifically the Great Basin region from other parts of the world or from a different geographic region. Non-native plants are not necessarily an invasive plant.
NRV: Natural Range of Variability.
NRCS: Natural Resource Conservation Service.
Appendix A: Glossary and List of Acronyms

**RMP:** Resource Management Plan.  
**Seral class or stage:** The series of plant communities that develop during ecological succession.  
**Surface disturbance:** In reference to management of WSAs, surface disturbance is defined as new disruption of the rock, soil, or vegetation, including vegetative trampling, that would necessitate reclamation, rehabilitation, or restoration in order for the site to appear and function as it did prior to the disturbance (BLM Manual 6330 1.6.C).  
**TNC:** The Nature Conservancy.  
**Uncharacteristic vegetation state:** A vegetation condition that would not have occurred under natural conditions such as invasion by non-native plants or vegetation resulting from an altered or missing disturbance regime.  
**USGS:** United States Geological Survey.  
**VDDT:** Vegetation Dynamics Development Tool. A computer program for modeling the change over time of seral classes. Used to calculate FRCC under different scenarios. See Provencher 2009.  
**VRM Class:** (Visual Resource Management Class) Standards defined in the Bishop Resource Management Plan for maintenance of visual resources.  
**WNv:** West Nile Virus.  
**WSA:** Wilderness Study Area.  
**WSR:** California Statewide Wilderness Study Report, 1990, Part 4, Volume One.
B. Ecological System Descriptions

Definitions of the vegetation classes for the target ecological systems in the Bodie Hills as described in Provencher et al, 2009.

1. Basin Wildrye-Basin Big Sagebrush
   A Early: 0-20% cover of basin wildrye
   B Mid–Closed: 21-80% cover of basin wildrye
   C na
   D Late-open: 11-20% cover of big sagebrush; <75% cover of basin wildrye
   E na
   U ShAG; Shrub-Annual-Grass; 11-20% cover of big sage; 11-30% basin wildrye; <30% cover of cheatgrass
   U AG: Annual-Grass; 10-40% cover of cheatgrass
   U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 10-40% cover of pinyon/juniper; <10% herbaceous cover
   U TrAG: Tree-Annual-Grass; 10-40% cover of pinyon/juniper; 5-20% cover annual grasses
   U EXF: Exotic-Forbs; 20-100% exotic forbs (knapweed, tall whitetop, purple loosetrife)
   U ESH: Early-Shrub; 0-40% cover of rabbitbrush species

2. Low Sagebrush
   A Early: 0-10% herbaceous cover; 0-10% cover of rabbitbrush
   B Mid-open: 11-20% cover of low sage <0.5m; 10-20% herbaceous cover
   C na
   D na
   E Late1-open: cover of trees 0-10% <5m; 15-25% cover of low sage; 5-20% herbaceous cover
   U ShAP: Shrub-Annual-Grass-Perennial-Grass; 5-20% cover of low sage <0.5m; 5-20% native herbaceous cover; 5-15% cheatgrass cover
   U AG: Annual-Grasses; 5-20% cheatgrass cover
   U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 10-30% cover of trees; <5% herbaceous cover

3. Montane Sagebrush Steppe
   A Early: 0-10% canopy of mountain sage/mountain brush; >50% grass/forb cover
   B Mid–open: 11-30% cover of mountain sage/mountain shrub; >50% herbaceous cover
   C Mid–closed; 31-50% cover of mountain sage/mountain brush; 25-50% herbaceous cover, <10% pinyon/juniper sapling cover
   D Late-open: 10-30% cover pinyon/juniper <10m; 25-40% cover of mountain sage/mountain brush; <30% herbaceous cover
   E Late-closed: 31-80% pinyon/juniper cover 10-25m; 6-20% shrub cover; <20% herbaceous cover
   U ESH: Early-Shrub; 0-40% cover rabbitbrush species
   U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 31-80% pinyon/juniper cover 10-25m; <5% shrub cover; <5% herbaceous cover
   U DPL: Depleted; 31-50% cover of mountain sage/mountain brush; <5% herbaceous cover; <10% pinyon/juniper sapling cover
   U ShAG: Shrub-Annual-Grass; 31-50% cover of mountain sage/mountain brush; 5-40%
cheatgrass cover; <10% pinyon/juniper sapling cover
U ShAP: Shrub-Annual-Grass-Perennial-Grass; 31-50% cover of mountain sage/mountain brush; 5-30% cover of native grass; 5-10% cheatgrass cover; <10% pinyon/juniper sapling cover
U AG: Annual-Grass; 10-30% cover of cheatgrass

4. Mountain Shrub
A Early: 0-40% shrubs <0.5m tall
B Mid1–closed: 10-30% cover shrubs 0.5-2.9m tall
C Late1–closed: 30-60% cover shrubs 0.5-2.9m tall
D Late1–open: 5-15% cover pinyon/juniper 5-24m tall
U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 31-80% pinyon/juniper cover 10-25m, <5% shrub cover, <5% herbaceous cover
U ESH: Early-Shrub; 0-40% cover rabbitbrush species

5. Wyoming Big Sagebrush: loamy
A Early: 20-40% herbaceous cover, <10% cover of rabbitbrush species and Wyoming big sage
B Mid1-open: 11-20% cover Wyoming big sagebrush; 10-40% herbaceous cover
C Late1-closed: 20-40% cover of Wyoming big sage; <20% native herbaceous cover
D Late2-open: 0-10% pinyon or juniper <5m tall, 20-30% cover of Wyoming big sage; <10% native herbaceous cover
E Late2-closed: 11-60% pinyon or juniper <10m tall, 10% cover of Wyoming big sage; <10% native herbaceous cover
U ShAP: Shrub-Annual-Grass-Perennial Grass; 10-30% Wyoming big sage <0.5m, 5-20% native grass cover; 5-20% cover cheatgrass
U ShAG: Shrub-Annual-Grass; 10-30% Wyoming big sage <0.5m; 10-30% cover cheatgrass
U DPL: Depleted; 10-40% Wyoming big sage <1.0m; herbaceous cover <5%
U AG: Annual-Grass; 10-40% cover of cheatgrass
U ESH: Early-Shrub; >10% cover of rabbitbrush; native grass cover variable
U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 11-60% cover of trees 5-9m; <5% cover of cheatgrass; <5% cover of native grass
U TrAG: Tree-Annual-Grass; 11-60% cover of trees 5-9m; 5-20% cheatgrass cover

6. Wyoming Big Sagebrush: sandy
A Early: 10-25% herbaceous cover, <10% cover of rabbitbrush species and Wyoming big sage
B Mid–open: 11-20% cover Wyoming big sagebrush; 10-25% herbaceous cover
C Late-closed: 20-40% cover of Wyoming big sage; <15% native herbaceous cover
D Late2-open: 0-10% pinyon or juniper <5m tall, 20-30% cover of Wyoming big sage; <10% native herbaceous cover
E Late2-closed: 11-60% pinyon or juniper <10m tall, 10% cover of Wyoming big sage; <10% native herbaceous cover
U DPL: Depleted; 10-40% Wyoming big sage <1.0m; herbaceous cover <5%
U DPL: Depleted; 10-40% Wyoming big sage <1.0m; herbaceous cover <5%
U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 10-40% cover of pinyon or juniper

7. Montane-Subalpine Riparian
Appendix B: Ecological System Descriptions

A Early: 0-50% cover of riparian shrubs (willow, cottonwood, buffaloberry); <3m
B na
C Mid1-open; 31-100% cover of riparian trees <10m
D na
E Late1-closed; 31-100% cover of riparian trees 10-24m
U SFEnc: Shrub-Forb-Encroached; 0-30% cover of shrubs and trees >3m
U EXF: Exotic-Forbs; 20-100% cover of exotic forbs (knapweed, tall whitetop, purple loosestrife), salt cedar, or Russian olive
U DES: Desertification; Entrenched river/creek with 10-50% cover of upland shrubs (e.g., big sage)

8. Stable Aspen
A Early; 0-100% cover of aspen <5m tall
B Mid1-closed; 40-99% cover of aspen <5-10m
C Na
D Late1-open; 0-39% cover of aspen 10-25 m; 0-25% conifer cover 10-25 m
E Late1-closed; 40-99% cover of aspen 10-25m; few conifer in mid-story
U DPL-Open: 10-50% cover of older aspen 10-25m; no or little aspen regeneration; few conifer in mid-story
U NAS-all: No Aspen; dead clone of aspen; 5-50% cover of mountain sagebrush/mountain shrub; <50% herbaceous cover
U Uncharacteristic: includes several uncharacteristic NAS classes as observed in montane sagebrush steppe biophysical setting

9. Wet Meadow
A Early-open: 0-60% herbaceous cover
B Mid-closed: 61-100% herbaceous cover
C Na
D Late-open: 0-10% tree-shrub cover; 60-80% herbaceous cover
E Na
U SFEnc-All: Shrub-Forb-Encroached; 0-10% cover of less palatable grasses and forbs; Bare ground cover 10-30% cover
U EXF: Exotic-Forbs; 20-100% exotic forbs (knapweed, tall whitetop, purple loosestrife)
U DES: Desertification; Entrenched water table with 10-50% cover of sagebrush
U AG: Annual-Grass; 10-30% cover of cheatgrass; < 10% shrub cover
U TrEnc: Tree-Encroached; 31-80% conifer cover 10-25m; <5% shrub cover; <5% herbaceous cover
Appendix B: Ecological System Descriptions

C. References


Andrews, Raymond. 2013. Personal communications regarding Mono Lake Kuzedikaa ethnographic names and tribal affinity to the Bodie Hills.


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California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 1998. An Assessment of Mule and Black-tailed Deer Habitats and Populations in California.

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). 2011. Public Notice for Consideration of the Petition to list the American Pika (Ochotona princeps) as threatened.


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Centennial/Dressler Ranch website: http://www.rangelandtrust.org/conservation-centennial_dressler_ranch.php (accessed on 10/01/12)


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Appendix B: Ecological System Descriptions


Hunewill ranch: http://www.hunewillranch.com/2012%20NewsletterEmail.pdf (accessed on 10/01/12)


Appendix B: Ecological System Descriptions


King, Jerome, M.A. 2008 Archaeological Survey of Habitat Restoration Units in the Bodie Hills, Mono County, California BLM Project No. CA-170-08-37 on File at Bishop BLM Field Office. Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. Davis, California


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Weston, Henry G. Jr. and David Johnston. 1980. Summer and fall censoring of bird populations


