

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ROSEBURG DISTRICT

**DECISION RECORD**

BLM Office: Roseburg District  
Swiftwater Field Office  
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd  
Roseburg, Oregon, 97471  
Phone: 541-464-4930

CX#: **DOI-BLM-OR-R040-2014-0002-CX**

**Action Title:** **DFPA Smoke Detection System and Tower - Yellow Butte.**

**Location of Proposed Action:** NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 27, T. 23 S., R. 6 W., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon.

**Decision:** Based upon the attached Categorical Exclusion, I have determined that the proposed DFPA Communication Lease for the Yellow Butte Communication Site involves no significant impacts to the human environment and no further environmental analysis is required.

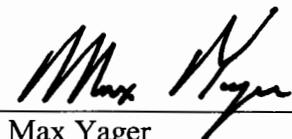
**Appeal Procedures:**

The decision to implement the DFPA Communication Lease on Yellow Butte is a Rights-of-Way decision under 43 CFR 2800 and is subject to the following appeal procedures.

The decision is effective immediately upon signing by the authorized officer and shall remain in effect pending an appeal. This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4.. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed in this office (at the above address) within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

For further information, contact Max Yager, Field Manager, Swiftwater Field Office, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd. Roseburg, OR 97471, (541) 440-4930.

Authorizing Official: \_\_\_\_\_



Max Yager  
Field Manager  
Swiftwater Field Office

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4-17-14

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ROSEBURG DISTRICT

**NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW**

**A. Background:**

BLM Office: Roseburg District, Swiftwater Field Office  
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd  
Roseburg, Oregon, 97470  
Phone: 541-464-4930

**NEPA Document No. DOI-BLM-OR-R040-2014-0002-CX**

**Proposed Action Title: DFPA Smoke Detection System and Tower - Yellow Butte.**

**Location of Proposed Action:** NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Section 27, T. 23 S., R. 6 W., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon.

**Description of Proposed Action:**

The Douglas Forest Protective Association (DFPA) on behalf of the State of Oregon Department of Forestry is requesting a Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) Communication Site Lease to install, operate, maintain, and terminate a communication facility on Yellow Butte Communication site. DFPA is proposing to install an Automated Smoke Detection System and Automated Vehicle Locator System. The automated systems include the installation of: one – 80-foot steel lattice self-supporting tower on a concrete foundation; one - buried lightning grounding system; one-array of three solar panels; one – equipment locker; and one - 400 watt wind turbine and generator. The authorization would be granted for a twenty-five (25) year term.

The new tower will be placed directly adjacent to the site of the existing Oregon Department of Forestry fire lookout in the existing parking area. This proposed action would also include the removal of the existing Oregon Department of Forestry fire lookout which has reached the end of its useful life. Once the fire lookout is removed, the new 80-foot tower will be placed in the same footprint.

*(See attached Exhibits A Operation and Construction Stipulations; Exhibit B Plan of Development; Exhibit C Photos, Construction Typical(s), and Maps.*

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance:**

This proposed action is subject to and in conformance with the *Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* approved on December 30, 2008. It is specifically states “Provide needed rights-of-way, permits, leases, and easements over BLM-administered lands in a manner that is consistent with federal and state laws”. (ROD/RMP, p. 45).

### C. Compliance with NEPA:

The proposed action has been identified as a categorical exclusion under Bureau of Land Management Categorical Exclusions 516 DM 11.9, (E) (12): Grants of right-of-way wholly within the boundaries of other compatibly developed rights-of-way.

This proposed action is categorically excluded from further analysis or documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment as documented in the following table. The proposed action has been reviewed in the following table, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

### D. Categorical Exclusions - Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation:

| THE PROPOSED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ACTION WILL:   | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| 2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.  |     | X  |
| <b>Rationale:</b> The right-of-way is located in a remote rural area, and issuance of a right-of-way grant would not have an impact on public health or safety. The use will enhance public safety and communication during emergency situations.   |     |    |
| 2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.  |     | X  |
| <p><b>Rationale:</b> There will be ground disturbing activities with removal and/or modification of shrubs, small trees/seedlings, and forbs during the critical nesting/breeding season (April-July) of migratory birds. This would cause a loss of habitat and the potential direct loss of nests and/or young. These losses would be isolated and would affect those species that nest on the ground or within shrubs. However, this action will not affect migratory birds at the population level. The wind turbine, that will be installed at the 30 to 40 foot level on the tower, has been modified by using the color scheme for the blades and tail fin to create a pattern during blade movement that would reduce the possibility of motion blur when the turbine spins (2003 Hodos). Reducing the motion blur is designed to reduce the impacts of migratory birds and bats from impacting the rotating turbine.</p> <p>No prime farmlands, wetlands or floodplains will be affected.</p> <p>There are no parks, recreation sites, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, or national natural landmarks in the project area.</p> |     |    |
| 2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].  |     | X  |
| <b>Rationale:</b> The issuance of this right-of-way grant will not have any demonstrable environmental effects. A similar right-of-way has been in place for more than twenty years and issuance of this new grant does not involve any unresolved conflicts over alternative resource uses and is not considered controversial.  |     |    |
| 2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.   |     | X  |
| <b>Rationale:</b> The effects of issuing similar right-of-way grants have not been demonstrated to have highly uncertain or potentially significant effects, or involve unique or unknown risks.  |     |    |
| 2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.   |     | X  |
| <b>Rationale:</b> No precedence is being established by issuing a right-of-way lease. The issuance of right-of-way lease is a customary and routine procedure, and as noted above, a similar right-of-way has been in place in excess of  |     |    |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| twenty years.  |  |   |
| 2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.  |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> The issuance of this right-of-way lease is not tied to any other federal actions, and as such, is not related to other actions with cumulatively significant environmental effects.  |  |   |
| 2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.  |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> In a letter dated December 12, 2013, SHPO concurred with BLM's determination that the Yellow Butte Lookout tower is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, previous pedestrian surveys within and adjacent to the right-of-way have not identified any historic properties that could be impacted by the project (CRS# 048713 and SW0305). This project will have "No Effect" on documented cultural resources.  |  |   |
| 2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, as an Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.  |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> <i>Northern Spotted Owl</i> - The proposed project of placing a smoke detection system and tower would not cause removal or modification to suitable or dispersal habitat. The closest known spotted owl site is located approximately 634 yards from the proposed project. Therefore, noise disturbance to the spotted owl is not expected to occur due to noise produced by equipment that may be used for removing the fire lookout and/or erecting the tower during the spotted owl's critical breeding season (March 1 thru July 15). In addition, the proposed project occurs within 2012 Critical Habitat (ORC-5) for the northern spotted owl. However, the removal of the fire lookout and the erecting of the smoke detection system and tower would not remove Primary Constituent Elements within Critical Habitat. Therefore, the project would have <i>no effect</i> on the northern spotted owl or its Critical Habitat. <i>Marbled Murrelet</i> - The proposed project would not cause removal or modification to suitable habitat. The closest known occupied murrelet site is located in T23S-R06W-Section 03, approximately 3.4 miles from the proposed project area. The proposed project is not within 100 yards of unsurveyed suitable marbled murrelet habitat and therefore, noise disturbance to the marbled murrelet during the murrelet's critical breeding season (April 1 thru August 5) is not expected to occur due to noise produced by equipment that may be used for removing the fire lookout and/or erecting the smoke detection system and tower. Therefore, the proposed project would have <i>no effect</i> to the marbled murrelet. The proposed project is within Critical Habitat (OR-04-f) for the marbled murrelet. However, the removal of the fire lookout and the erecting of the smoke detection system and tower would not remove Primary Constituent Elements within Critical Habitat. Therefore, the project would have <i>no effect</i> on the marbled murrelet or its Critical Habitat. |  |   |
| 2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.  |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> The proposed action is in conformance with the direction given for the management of public lands in the Roseburg District ROD/RMP, which complies with all applicable laws, such as the Federal Land Policy Management Act, Endangered Species Act, Historic Preservation Act, Clean Water Act and others.  |  |   |
| 2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 2898).   |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> The issuance of this communication lease will not have a disproportionately high or adverse effect on low income or minority populations.  |  |   |
| 2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).   |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> There are no identified sacred, ceremonial or religious Indian sites in the resource area.   |  |   |
| 2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).   |  | X |
| <b>Rationale:</b> A Stipulation will be placed in the right-of-way grant requiring the Holder be responsible for weed control within the limits of the designated right-of-way area.   |  |   |

**E. Signature:**



Max Yager  
Field Manager  
Swiftwater Field Office

4-17-2014

Date

**F. Contact Person & Reviewers:**

For additional information concerning this Categorical Review, contact:

Anne Shirley, Realty Specialist (541) 464-3352  
Roseburg District Office, Bureau of Land Management  
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.  
Roseburg, OR 97470

| Reviewers       | Resource           | Initials       | Date          |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Anne Shirley    | Realty Specialist  | AS             | 4/9/14        |
| Melanie Roan    | Planner/NEPA       | MRR            | 4/10/14       |
| Angie Worthing  | Wildlife Biologist | Angie Worthing | 4/14/14       |
| Mike Hubbard    | Botanist           | MGH            | 4-2-14        |
| Molly Casperson | Archaeologist      | MRC MRC        | 4-1-14 4/1/14 |
| Jeff McEnroe    | Fisheries          | JRM            | 4/15/14       |
| Dan Dammann     | Hydrology          | DD             | 4/14/14       |
| Ariel Hiller    | Recreation         | AH             | 4-15-14       |
| Krisann Kosel   | Fire/ Fuels        | K→             | 4/3/14        |
| Allie Barner    | Soils              | Allie Barner   | 4/3/14        |

### **Exhibit A: Stipulation/Terms and Conditions**

***During construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the project, the lessee (or representative) must agree to the following:***

- a. Protect all survey monuments, witness corners, reference monuments, and bearing trees within the right-of-way against disturbance during construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation activities. If any monuments, corners, or accessories are destroyed, obliterated, or damaged during construction, the Lessee (or contractor) will restore said items to the satisfaction of the BLM Authorized Officer.
- b. Immediately stop all operations and notify the BLM upon becoming aware of, encountering, or discovering any objects or sites of cultural, historic, or prehistoric value within the designated right-of-way.
- c. Install, operate, and maintain all communication equipment according to the Motorola R-56 Standards and Guidelines for Communication Sites. Repairs and modifications to existing facilities/equipment must also meet Motorola R-56 Standards.
- d. The Lessee or (contractor) will comply with all Federal and State of Oregon fire laws, regulations, and requirements.
- e. Provide a written work schedule specifically detailing activities for all maintenance, construction, repair, or surface disturbing activities within the right-of-way (i.e. vegetation management, road maintenance, structural equipment replacement, etc.) six (6) months prior to the start of the activity.
- f. Notify the BLM authorized officer of any construction, maintenance, repairs, or surface disturbing activities (i.e. vegetation or tree management, road maintenance, structural equipment replacement, etc.) prior to taking any action on the right-of-way.
- g. Monitor and control noxious weed concentrations within the limits of the right-of-way, including access road. This includes noxious weed treatment, avoidance of noxious weed populations, and reducing the spread of noxious weeds. The Holder is responsible for consulting with the BLM for acceptable weed control methods.  
  
To minimize introduction of noxious weed seed sources to the right-of-way area, all vehicles and equipment (including undercarriage) will be cleaned off prior to operating on BLM lands. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required.
- h. Restrict vehicle and equipment movement outside the right-of-way to pre-designated sites, existing roads, or as approved by BLM. Areas for parking and stockpiling will be identified and flagged during the construction period.
- i. All Signage, except mandatory safety signs, must be approved by the BLM.
- j. The lessee shall post the lease or ROW serial number on all structures authorized by the lease.
- k. The Lessee shall submit a copy of all required permits, such as the Construction Permit, to the BLM prior to starting construction.
- l. Right-of-way area will be kept free of debris and garbage. Debris and garbage will be removed from BLM lands and disposed in an appropriate manner.

- m. Comply with project-specific terms, conditions, and stipulations.

***Construction Related***

- n. Notify the BLM authorizing officer five days prior to the start of any construction activities.
- o. Prior to the start any on-the ground project activities, pre-work meetings will be held with contractors, ODOT, and BLM to review project operation and lease stipulations/terms and conditions.
- p. Obtain prior written approval from the BLM for any construction modification not authorized in a previously approved plan.
- q. Restrict construction activity movement outside the right-of-way to pre-designated sites, existing roads, or as approved by BLM. Areas for parking and stockpiling will be identified and flagged during construction period.
- r. No excess or waste concrete shall be dumped on BLM lands. If concrete is accidentally spilled, it will be removed and disposed of properly.
- s. Upon completion of the work, all work areas, shall be re-graded, as required, so that all surfaces drain naturally, and blend with the natural terrain, and are left in a condition that will facilitate natural re-vegetation, provide for proper drainage and prevent erosion.

**Exhibit B**  
**DFPA/ODF – Plan of Development – Yellow Butte**

**Description of Use:**

**1. What will be built?**

*It is proposed that the DFPA will construct an engineered 80' self-standing metal tower within the current BLM communications site on the summit of Yellow Butte. Mounted on the tower will be a Smoke Detection Camera, ISE, Solar Panels, wind generator, and 3 antennas for transmitting & receiving data on a 5.8 MHz signal. Also located on the tower will be an Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) system that utilizes a hop relay type of infrastructure and operates on UHF frequency of 453.225 Mhz. The tower will have a lightning grounding system that will provide protection for personnel and equipment and will meet or exceed Motorola R56 Standards. Construct a 6' chain link security fence around the site.*

*Images and/data from this system will be relayed to the nearest existing receiver (Harness Mountain or Old Blue site) and directed via landlines to the DFPA control center in located in Roseburg. The system is designed to operate off of a 24 volt battery system that will be charged from an array of 170 watt solar panels and a 400 watt wind generator located on the tower (see attached for wind generator details). The batteries will be stored at ground level in an equipment locker.*

*Access to the site will be limited by an existing gate on the lower third of the access road.*

**2. What is the use?**

*A smoke detection camera will assist in the detection of forest fires. This proposed tower will allow for the replacement and decommissioning of the aging current wooden lookout tower. The current wooden lookout tower has reached the end of its effective lifespan. The camera system will provide the same function as a manned tower at a reduced cost to the landowners and for a greater duration of time. The camera system is a part of an integrated and coordinated system of smoke detection cameras that are monitored by the Douglas Forest Protective Association that has protection responsibilities on BLM lands in the area.*

*The new site will provide new collocation opportunities that may improve radio repeater systems for several other governmental agencies including the Oregon Department of Forestry, Douglas County Communications, Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon State Police.*

**3. Legal Description location. Attach Survey plat or detailed map plat.**

*In order to minimize the area of disturbance this tower will be located on the existing footprint of the current lookout site on the summit of Yellow Butte. No ground disturbance will occur outside of the current footprint of the lookout tower and parking area. Existing roads and parking areas will be utilized. The legal location of the site is: NW¼NW¼ Section 27, T. 23 S., R. 06 W., and Lat 42 32 48 Long 123 24 13.*

**4. Attach map (schematic) of site. (Include length, width of site and location of improvements with distance from existing monument.)**

*See attached site plan*

**5. Attach drawings of tower, shelters, equipment lockers, and guy wires (may use typical tower installation drawings.)**

*See attached drawings*

## **Exhibit B – continued**

**6. What are the colors of the tower and associated improvements.**

*Tower shall addition will be standard cold galvanized silver color. The wind turbine will be painted a color scheme developed by the BLM wildlife biologist. See attached pictures.*

**7. Attach Technical Data information.**

*See attached FCC license for UHF frequencies.*

**8. ROW grant holders/lessees of communication site authorizations on BLM land must install, maintain and operate their equipment in accordance with Motorola R-56 Standards. Does your communication use proposal meet these standards?**

*The new metal tower and its' components will be grounded to Motorola R56 Standards. All additional structural additions and components will meet the same R56 Standards. The proposed future communications shelter will house the communications equipment and batteries for the system in a UL approved storage system.*

**9. List all required associated rights-of-way, including access roads, power lines, and gates.**

*The DFPA request a right-of-way area 40' feet by 30' (estimated at 0.03 acres in size) for the summit of Yellow Butte, and access from County Road 71 (Anderson Creek) up BLM Rd. 23-6-2 approximately 3.5 miles to BLM access road 23-6-15.1, up BLM Rd 15.1 approximately 2.10 miles to BLM access road 23-6-12, up BLM Rd.12 approximately .30 miles to the summit access spur, up access spur .2 miles to the summit of Yellow Butte and permission to maintain the existing gate on said access road.*

**10. Invasive species management plan. (Include equipment/vehicle cleaning prior to entering BLM public lands.**

*All equipment will be required to be cleaned before entering BLM public lands. All mud, dirt, and plant parts will be removed. DFPA will monitor for noxious weeds throughout the term of the lease and will work with BLM to control noxious weeds in the lease area.*

**Construction of New Communication Facility:**

**11. Description of construction process.**

*DFPA will begin the project by obtaining a qualified contractor with proven experience in tower construction. Contractor will utilize existing parking areas (see attached stockpile and parking photo) that will also be used for storage of equipment and work areas for assembling the tower segment. Contractor will remove the old structure and peripheral structures, such as out house. Upon demolition and removal of the existing lookout the contractor will prepare and pour the tower foundation (22'x22'x24"). After the foundation is complete the tower segments will be assembled on site and a crane will be used to lift the completed tower segments into place. Once the tower is in place a 6' fence will be constructed for security. DFPA will then mount electronic components for the smoke detection system on the tower and establish links to the control center.*

**12. List temporary use areas needed during construction. (Stockpiling sites, equipment and vehicle parking, storage areas.)**

*The existing parking area will be utilized for stockpiling of materials and staging of equipment. There is no anticipated need to increase these areas. Parking area is designated on attach site plan.*

## **Exhibit B – continued**

**13. Anticipated workforce during construction activities. (number of people and vehicles)**

*During the tower erection we anticipate three to four individuals with two passenger vehicles. The Camera installation phase will consist of three individuals and two vehicles.*

**14. Equipment to be used during construction.**

*Equipment anticipated for construction will be a Bobcat excavator model 331 approximately 8000 lbs, a New Holland Skidsteer model LX865 approximately 7000 lbs, a 500 gallon water trailer for fire suppression, a Dodge 2500 pickup for personal transport, and a 18 ton Boom truck on site one day for the tower stack. There will also be misc dual axel flat trailers for transport of equipment and tower.*

**15. Location of temporary Stockpile/Storage area, if needed.**

*We anticipate being able to use the existing road and parking areas at the construction site (see attached site map).*

**16. Vegetation clearance requirements.**

*No new vegetative clearance is anticipated at this time, but there may need to be in the future to maintain encroaching vegetation in the right-of-way.*

**17. Clearing and grading requirements.**

*The site of the foundation will be excavated to approximately 22'x22'x24". A trench, approximately 36" deep will be excavated around the foundation to install the new lightning grounding ring.*

**18. Describe rock, soil, vegetation or slash disposal during construction, if needed.**

*There is no anticipated vegetation or slash disposal at this time. Rock and soil from foundation excavation will be used to grade around slab. All non-used construction materials and refuse will be removed by the contractor at the end of the project.*

**19. Soil replacement and stabilization, including site rehabilitation, re-vegetation needs.**

*Any necessary site rehabilitation will take place prior to contractor leaving the site.*

**20. Anticipated date of construction.**

*It is anticipated that constructions of the new tower will begin as soon as authorization from BLM is obtained.*

**Dismantle and Removal of Existing Look Out Facility:**

**21. Describe removal process of existing Look Out structure.**

*The existing wooden tower is scheduled for demolition in Spring 2014. All the windows will be removed prior to demolition to minimize scattering debris. The tower will be methodically removed in segments with the use of a crane. This process will be the least invasive and will allow for minimal impact to the surrounding environment. Care will be taken to protect the nearby communications sites. Demolition debris will be removed from the site and discarded, appropriately, at a county transfer site. Guide wire anchors will be cut 6 inches below grade and buried. Three of the four existing tower footings will be removed during excavation of the new tower foundation and will be removed from the site. We would like to leave the southwest footing in place it has a USGS Brass Cap (Survey Marker/Bench Mark) set in the concrete. All remaining remnant improvement(s) associated with the lookout will be removed and site rehabilitated, if necessary. Estimated time to complete demolition is 5 to 7 days.*

**Exhibit B – continued**

**22. Do you anticipate leaving any portion (ie. Footings, anchors, etc) on site? Why?**

*See #21 above.*

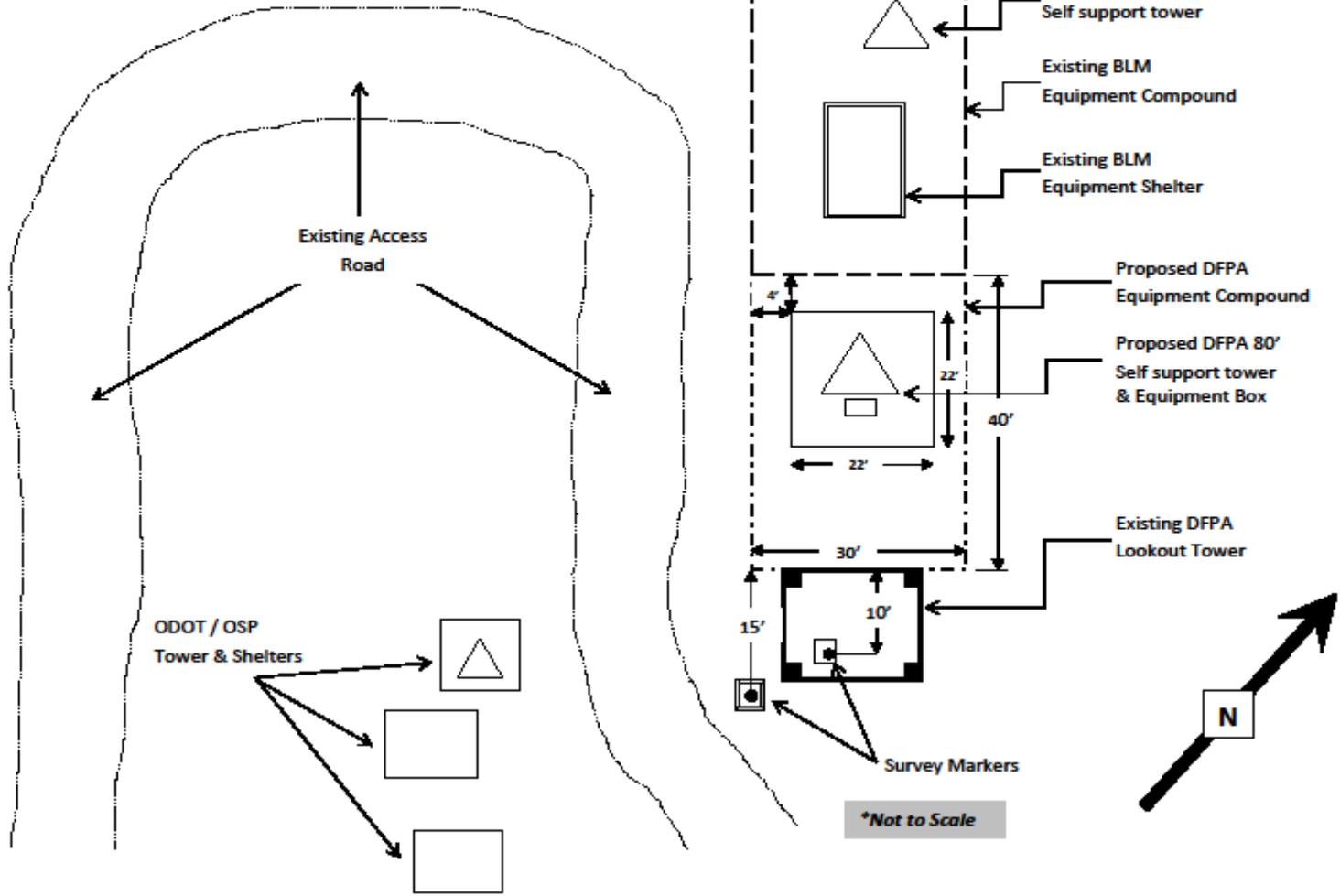
**23. Location of temporary Stockpile/Storage area, if needed. (Stockpiling sites, equipment and vehicle parking, storage areas.)**

*We plan to use the existing access road and parking areas at the site (see attached document).*

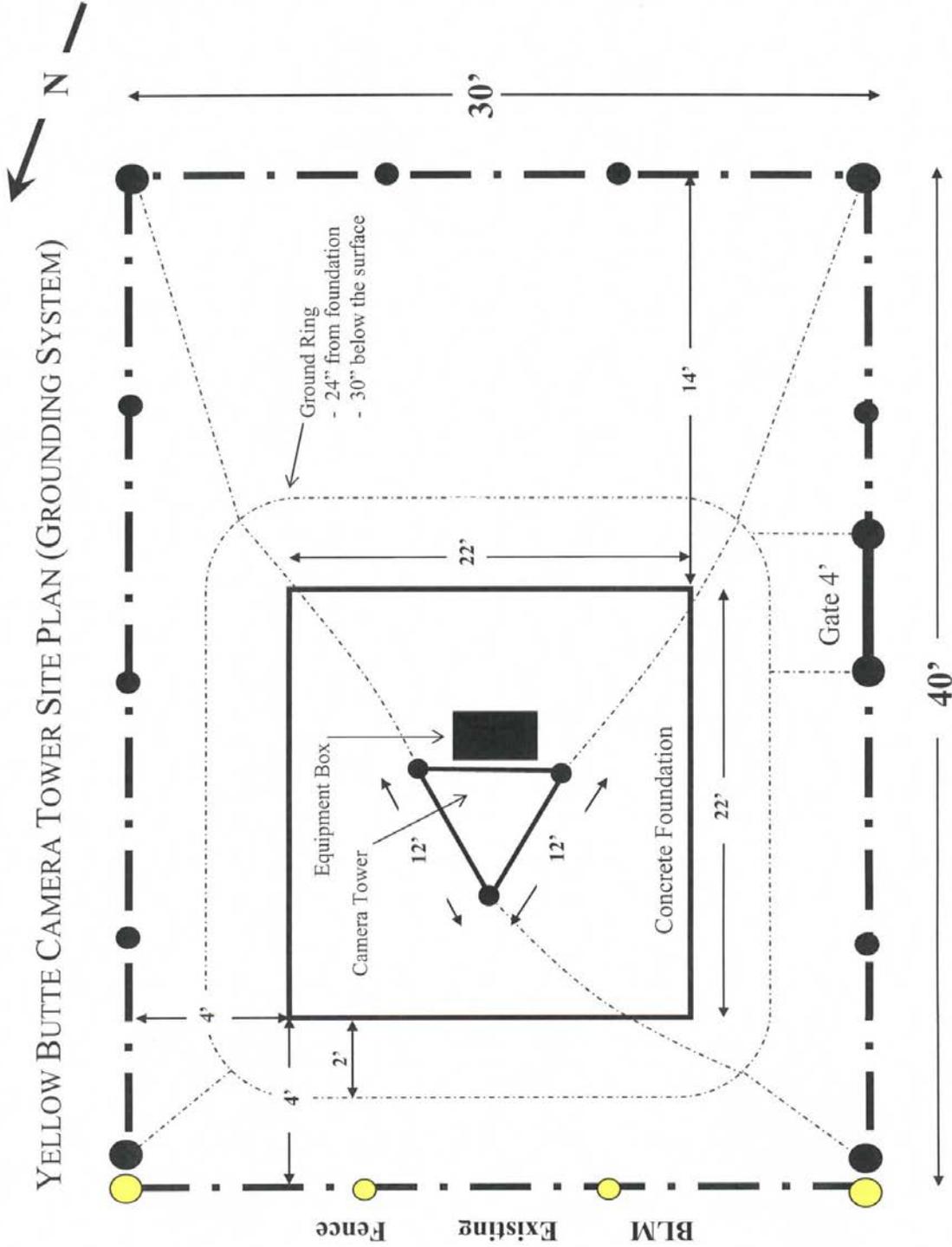
**24. Soil replacement and stabilization, including site rehabilitation, re-vegetation needs.**

*Native soils will be used to back fill the areas where the footings will be removed. It is anticipated that there is sufficient stockpiles of overburden materials at the base of the existing tower to achieve this. No grading of the access road will be done.*

# YELLOW BUTTE DETECTION CAMERA SITE PLAN



# YELLOW BUTTE CAMERA TOWER SITE PLAN (GROUNDING SYSTEM)



\* NOT TO SCALE

# YELLOW BUTTE CAMERA TOWER SITE PLAN

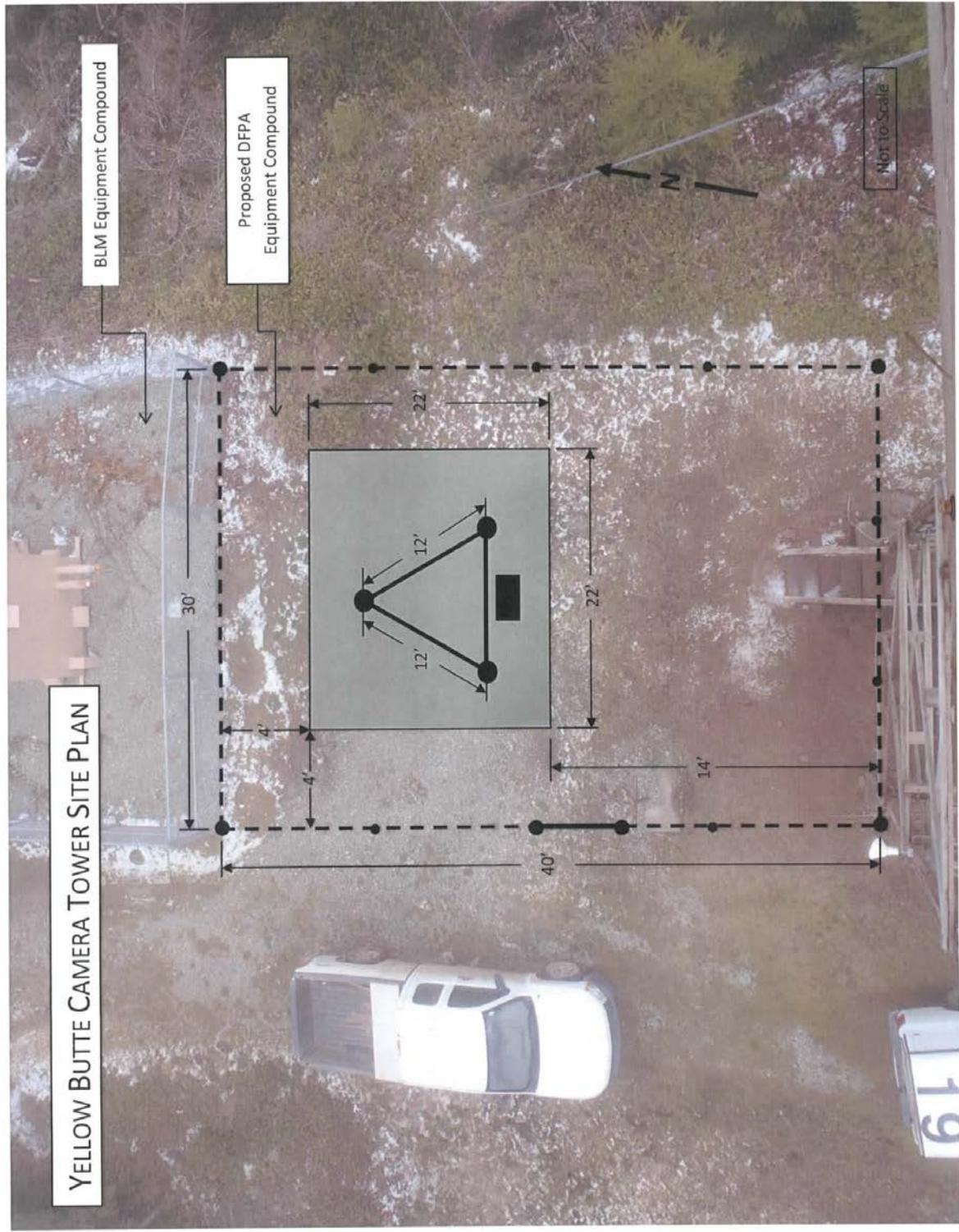




Figure 1. Site location with parking and stockpile locations identified.

## Wind Turbine

From: Scott Jackson, DFPA (Asst Unit Forester)

Date: 4/29/2014

Re: Wind Generator (Yellow Butte Automated Smoke Detection Camera)

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The ForestWatch Smoke Detection System at Yellow Butte currently operates on a 24v DC system that consists of (3) 205 watt solar panels, (1) 30amp charge controller, and (4) 230amp hour 12v batteries (in parallel). We designed the system to operate for approximately four days in low light situations. The system has performed to specifications and works well during the longer days of summer, but it was found that during the shorter days of winter the system would periodically turn off and restart depending on the weather conditions.

Although it does not necessarily hurt the system to shut down due to low power it is advantageous to keep the equipment operational during wet and cold conditions. The Image Sampling Engine (ISE), which is the processor and radio, produces enough heat when operational to keep moisture out during wet conditions and components from freezing during cold conditions.

The solution we came up with was to add a 400 watt wind generator. The wind maps show this area as less than ideal for wind power and we do not currently have a way to measure the amount of energy being produced by the wind turbine. With that said we have found that at the sites where we have installed the turbines the generators have produced enough energy to keep the systems operational throughout the winter where other similar sites without wind power have gone down for long periods. When fronts come through when solar is at a minimum is generally when the turbine is producing the most energy. Solar and wind have been very complementary solutions for the off grid energy needs of the ForestWatch system.

Start up wind speed for the wind turbine is 4.5mph. The turbine has six blades with a diameter of 3.7 ft. We have been mounting the generators at the 30 to 40ft level on the tower in order to get clean air above the trees. We have been looking at data from RAW's stations to see which leg to mount on. The tower does not seem to obstruct wind flow, so we could actually mount to any leg if orientation was a factor. We will be using the color scheme for the blades and tail fin that were provided by BLM Biologists for the Silver Butte project (see attached).

We appreciate your consideration of this matter and look forward to working with you to a successful completion of the Yellow Butte project.

Scott Jackson

Assistant Unit Forester  
Douglas Forest Protective Association





Fire Lookout



Proposed stock pile site – picnic table area



Fire Lookout



Foreground – Area for new Tower and foundation.

Foreground – Area for new Tower and foundation.



Fire Lookout and solar panel



Fire Lookout and area for new communication tower

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

**INFORMATION ON TAKING APPEALS TO THE INTERIOR BOARD OF LAND APPEALS**

**DO NOT APPEAL UNLESS**

1. This decision is adverse to you,
- AND
2. You believe it is incorrect

**IF YOU APPEAL, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES MUST BE FOLLOWED**

**1. NOTICE OF APPEAL.....**

A person who wishes to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals must file in the office of the officer who made the decision (not the Interior Board of Land Appeals) a notice that he wishes to appeal. A person served with the decision being appealed must transmit the *Notice of Appeal* in time for it to be filed in the office where it is required to be filed within 30 days after the date of service. If a decision is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, a person not served with the decision must transmit a *Notice of Appeal* in time for it to be filed within 30 days after the date of publication (43 CFR 4.411 and 4.413).

**2. WHERE TO FILE**

NOTICE OF APPEAL.....

WITH COPY TO SOLICITOR...

**3. STATEMENT OF REASONS**

Within 30 days after filing the *Notice of Appeal*, file a complete statement of the reasons why you are appealing. This must be filed with the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Interior Board of Land Appeals, 801 N. Quincy Street, MS 300-QC, Arlington, Virginia 22203. If you fully stated your reasons for appealing when filing the *Notice of Appeal*, no additional statement is necessary (43 CFR 4.412 and 4.413).

WITH COPY TO SOLICITOR.....

**4. ADVERSE PARTIES.....**

Within 15 days after each document is filed, each adverse party named in the decision and the Regional Solicitor or Field Solicitor having jurisdiction over the State in which the appeal arose must be served with a copy of: (a) the *Notice of Appeal*, (b) the Statement of Reasons, and (c) any other documents filed (43 CFR 4.413).

**5. PROOF OF SERVICE.....**

Within 15 days after any document is served on an adverse party, file proof of that service with the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Interior Board of Land Appeals, 801 N. Quincy Street, MS 300-QC, Arlington, Virginia 22203. This may consist of a certified or registered mail "Return Receipt Card" signed by the adverse party (43 CFR 4.401(c)).

**6. REQUEST FOR STAY.....**

Except where program-specific regulations place this decision in full force and effect or provide for an automatic stay, the decision becomes effective upon the expiration of the time allowed for filing an appeal unless a petition for a stay is timely filed together with a *Notice of Appeal* (43 CFR 4.21). If you wish to file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Interior Board of Land Appeals, the petition for a stay must accompany your *Notice of Appeal* (43 CFR 4.21 or 43 CFR 2801.10 or 43 CFR 2881.10). A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the *Notice of Appeal* and Petition for a Stay **must** also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

**Standards for Obtaining a Stay.** Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulations, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards: (1) the relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied, (2) the likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits, (3) the likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and (4) whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

Unless these procedures are followed, your appeal will be subject to dismissal (43 CFR 4.402). Be certain that **all** communications are identified by serial number of the case being appealed.

**NOTE:** A document is not filed until it is actually received in the proper office (43 CFR 4.401(a)). See 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart B for general rules relating to procedures and practice involving appeals.

### 43 CFR SUBPART 1821--GENERAL INFORMATION

Sec. 1821.10 Where are BLM offices located? (a) In addition to the Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C. and seven national level support and service centers, BLM operates 12 State Offices each having several subsidiary offices called Field Offices. The addresses of the State Offices can be found in the most recent edition of 43 CFR 1821.10. The State Office geographical areas of jurisdiction are as follows:

#### STATE OFFICES AND AREAS OF JURISDICTION:

Alaska State Office ----- Alaska  
Arizona State Office ----- Arizona  
California State Office ----- California  
Colorado State Office ----- Colorado  
Eastern States Office ----- Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri  
and, all States east of the Mississippi River  
Idaho State Office ----- Idaho  
Montana State Office ----- Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota  
Nevada State Office ----- Nevada  
New Mexico State Office ---- New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas  
Oregon State Office ----- Oregon and Washington  
Utah State Office ----- Utah  
Wyoming State Office ----- Wyoming and Nebraska

(b) A list of the names, addresses, and geographical areas of jurisdiction of all Field Offices of the Bureau of Land Management can be obtained at the above addresses or any office of the Bureau of Land Management, including the Washington Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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(Form 1842-1, September 2006)