

## **Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**

Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District  
1103 North Fancher Road  
Spokane Valley, WA 99212

### **A. Background**

*BLM Office: Wenatchee Field Office*

*Lease/Serial/Case File No.: WAOR62350 - WMN-130-05-001W*

*NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-OR-134-2009-0021 DNA*

*Proposed Action Title: Liberty Adit Closure and Reclamation*

*Location of Proposed Action: BLM Liberty Management Area T. 20. N., R. 17 E., W.M., Section 11, NW1/4NW1/4*

*Description of Proposed Action: Backfill of adit (horizontal mine tunnel) to alleviate safety hazard (public from entering underground working). The opening is located within BLM's Liberty Management Area with developed campsites. The approximate size of the opening measure 8 X 8 feet and is about 20 feet deep.*

The proposal will be to initially scrape off any topsoil down off the slope above the opening (an area approximately 8 x 20 feet) with a backhoe/excavator. This topsoil will then be stockpiled to the side for final reclamation. After topsoil has been removed a pneumatic hammer attached to the backhoe/excavator would be used to cave in the roof of the opening. Additional fill will be required from the surrounding area which can be obtained from the rock material previously removed from the underground working. Rock/fill will be compacted with the backhoe/excavator bucket periodically as the area is backfilled. A slight rounding of fill material will be added to the backfilled area to allow for some settling over the next couple of years (may be a depression if no extra fill material is added). The topsoil that was initially removed will be re-applied to the backfilled area and the area re-seeded with approved BLM native seed mixture.

### **B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

*Land Use Plan Name: Spokane Resource Management Plan*

*Date Approved/Amended: Approved 1987/Amended 1992*

*Option 1 (conforms with LUP): The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):*

OR

*(Option 2: not explicitly provided for in the LUP) The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):*

**C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document(s) or other related document(s) that cover the proposed action**

*Name and date of NEPA document(s):*

EA# OR134-05-EA-06 Liberty Stewardship Project (Decision signed June 30, 2005)

*Name and date of other relevant document(s):*

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Yes - Part of the analysis of the Stewardship Project (analyzed in EA# OR134-05-EA-06) was to fill in old mining workings (pits) for public safety, aesthetics, and erosion control.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

Yes

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?**

Yes

**4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?**

Yes

**5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Yes - The project was presented at two public meetings, on June 22 and June 29, 2005 at Liberty, Washington. Each meeting was attended by about 30 members of the public and local agencies including the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kittitas County Sheriff, and local Fire Districts.

**E. Persons/Agencies/Consulted** (BLM Staff Consulted are listed on the coversheet attached to this document, or available at the BLM office identified in Section A, above).

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency Represented</u>
Consultation was initiated with the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, (OAHP) the Yakama Indian Nation, and the Kittitas County Historical Society on		

letters dated July 12, 2004. The OAHP responded with a letter dated July 20, 2004, expressing concurrence with the original definition of the area of potential effect (APE). They also requested copies of responses from concerned tribes and the cultural resources report when it becomes available. In 2005, the project was modified to include additional treatments. A second consultation letter was sent to these same groups on March 8, 2005. The OAHP responded to the March 2005 letter via telephone, concurring with the APE and requesting an inventory report of the project area.

A copy of the EA was sent to the Washington Department of Ecology, SEPA Unit, P.O. Box 47703, Olympia, WA 98504-7703. Also a notice of the EA's availability for public review was mailed to adjacent landowners, individuals on the Liberty mailing list who have participated or shown interest in the Liberty Community Fire Planning Process, and Kittitas County Commissioners.

Tim Bednar, mining claimant was contacted in September 2008 for his concurrence on backfilling of this particular adit. He concurred with BLM's plan to backfill the small opening as he indicated that it was a public safety hazard. He has no plans for further development of this particular mine working.

#### **F: Conclusion**

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

\_\_\_\_\_/S/ Karen Kelleher\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Responsible Official)                      \_\_\_\_\_3/25/09\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

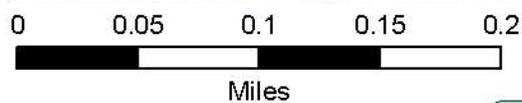
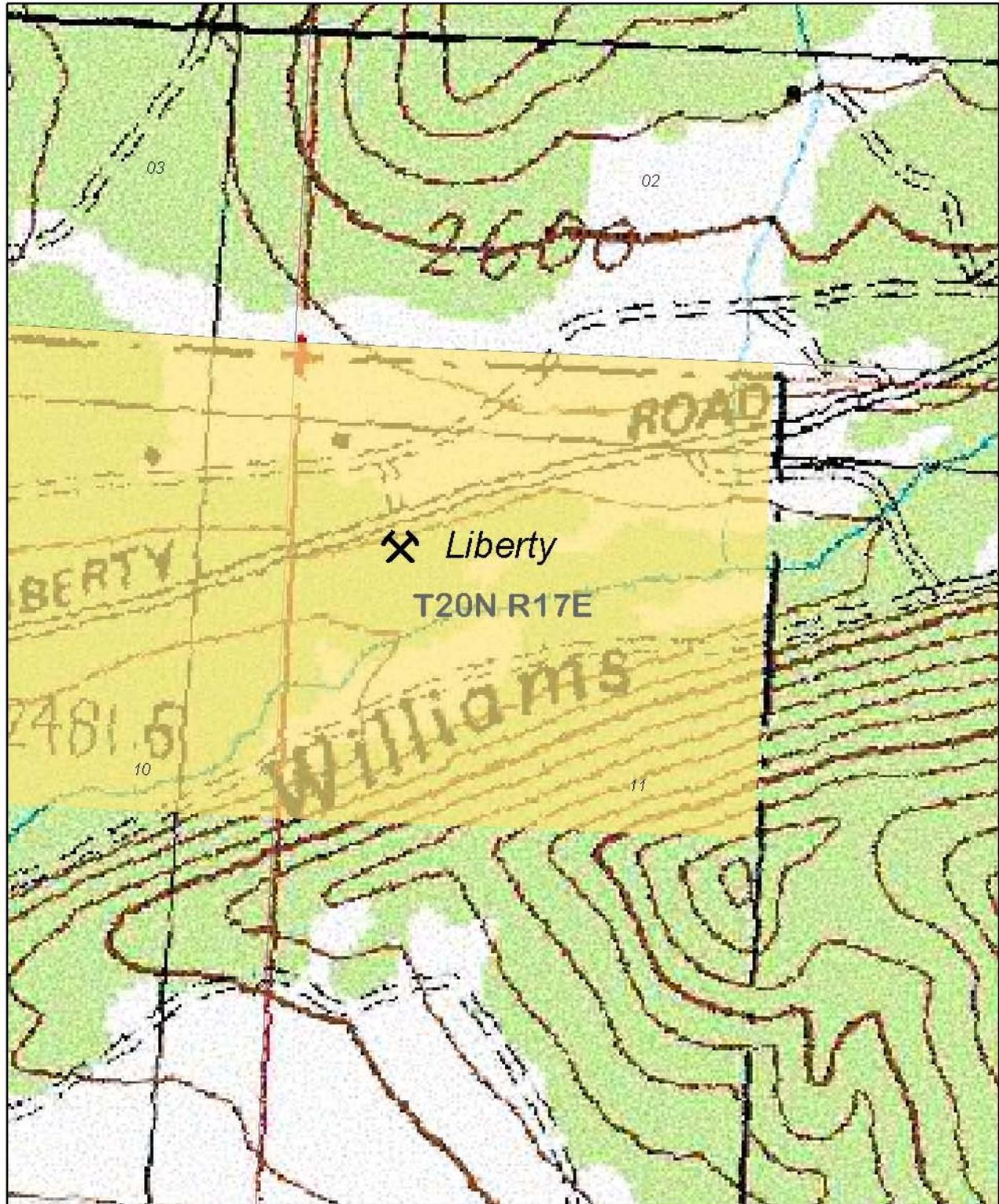
Name: Karen Kelleher  
Title: Manager

#### **G. Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this DNA, contact Brent Cunderla-Wenathcee Field Office Geologist

**Note:** The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

# Liberty Mine Adit Reclamation



## Legend

-  Mine Adit Reclamation Location
-  Bureau of Land Management



Howeometry is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

## Liberty Adit Closure and Reclamation

Photo of open adit (horizontal tunnel) located on BLM managed lands.

BLM Liberty Management Area (T. 20 N., R. 17 E., Section 11)

See location map for location of open adit.

Opening is a significant safety hazard within BLM's developed camp area.



Open adit (horizontal tunnel)

Adit is below (south) of Liberty Road and extends about 20' back into bank  
Plans are to collapse roof in adit, backfill and re-apply topsoil and reseed area.

Adit opening is approximately 8 feet square and about 20 feet deep.

Photo date is May 19, 2008.