

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

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.: WAOR 39229

NEPA Log Number: OR-134-08-CX-005

Proposed Action Title: MACC-911 Communication Site

Location of Proposed Action: Wahatis Peak Communication Complex; Portion of the NW¼ Section 10, T.15N., R.26E., WM, Grant County

Description of Proposed Action: To issue a communication site lease (right-of-way) to the Multi-Agency Communications Center (MACC-911) for the former Switzer communication facility at Wahatis Peak. The MACC-911 would use the facility to improve its public safety and first responder communications services in Grant County. Construction of the new facility would involve replacing the existing building with a new pre-fabricated concrete structure (12' wide x 28' long x 10' wide), replacement of the existing 100' guyed tower with a 100' self-supported lattice tower (w/concrete base), placement of security fencing, and placement of a propane tank to fuel an auxiliary power unit in the new building. No earthwork has been proposed for the new facility, as the existing bench is adequate in size. Incidental disturbance of a small portion of the cut bank could occur where the road enters the site due to the need to drive a crane onto the bench. A crane would be used to drop the pre-fabricated structure on the bench. In accordance with BLM's Wahatis Peak Communication Complex plan, the new facility will be low power and subleasing of building space for other communication users will be encouraged.

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): The proposed action is subject to the Spokane District Resource Management Plan (1985) and Record of Decision (1987), and the 1992 RMP amendment and Record of Decision (ROD). Issuance of rights-of-way grants is listed under the heading "Administrative Actions" on page 5 (unnumbered) of the 1992 ROD. The action is also subject to BLM's Wahatis Peak Communication Site Management Plan, revised September, 1988.

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. Compliance with NEPA:

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9E. (9)

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply, as shown in the following table:

| CX EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION The proposed categorical exclusion action will: | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | |
| 2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 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). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| I considered the impact of the proposed use upon other communication facilities at the Wahatis Peak complex. To this end, BLM sent a letter to all of the authorized users on January 2, 2008, giving details of the proposed site upgrades and use, and requesting comments be submitted by January 25, 2008. No comments were received by BLM in response to the mailing. | | |

F: Signature

Authorizing Official: _____/S/ Sally Sovey _____ Date: ____2/14/08_____
(Signature)

Name: Sally Sovey
Title: Wenatchee Field Manager

G. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact William Schurger, 915 Walla Walla Ave., Wenatchee, Washington 98801

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.

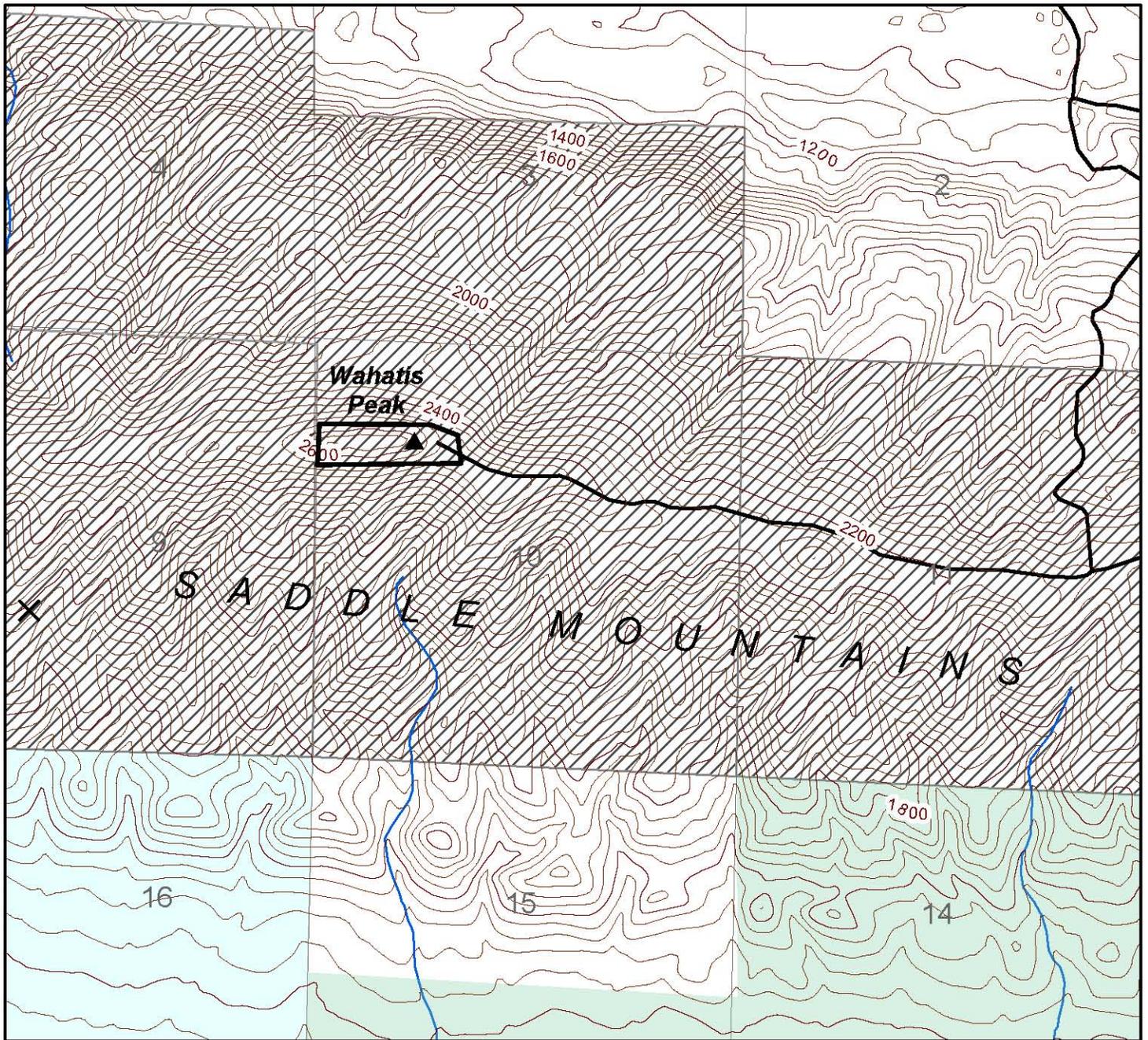
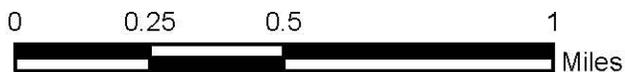


EXHIBIT A (WAOR 39229)
MACC - 911 Communication Site
BLM Wahatis Peak Communication Complex
Portion of Sec. 10, T.15N., R.26E., W.M., Grant County

Legend:

-  Proposed MACC-911 Communication Site (approximate location)
-  Wahatis Pk. Communication Complex
-  BLM
-  USFWS - Hanford Reach National Monument
-  DNR



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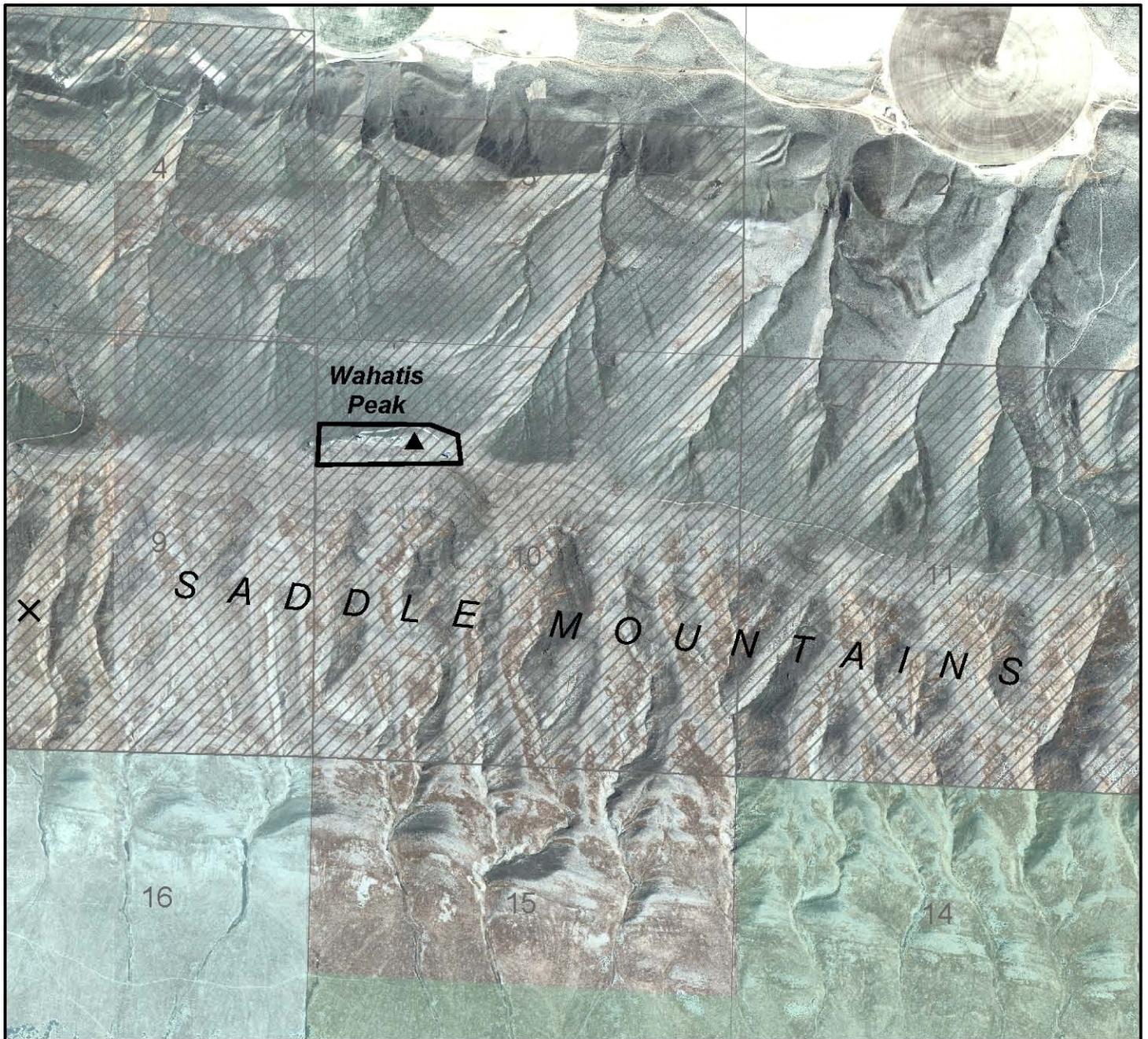
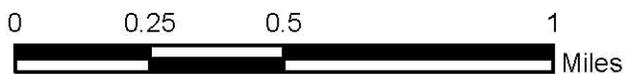
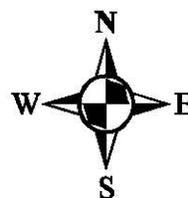


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