

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: Spokane District

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: WAOR 62873

NEPA Log Number: OR135-08-CX-027

Proposed Action Title: Red Quarry Community Pit Designation, Chewelah, WA

Location of Proposed Action: T. 32 N., R. 40 E., Section 19, SW

Description of Proposed Action: Designation of Community Pit Status for the Red Quarry mine area. The designation allows creation of a superior right for the government to dispose of mineral materials from the established site in the future. This designation is made to avoid interference caused by subsequent mining claim locations on the same parcel. No mining or ground disturbance will occur at this site as a result of this designation. Total cumulative material which may be removed from this site is expected to be less than 50,000 cubic yards.

The Red Quarry site consists of one parcel which totals about 8 acres. BLM proposes to designate the site a Community Pit in order to assist in the completion of Mineral Patent litigation and to establish future rights for BLM to develop this site for mineral entry if public demand develops. If development of all or a portion of the above described parcel is done in the future, appropriate NEPA analysis will be completed at that time for the specific development. A botanical survey will be completed prior to any ground disturbing activities taking place outside of the previously disturbed areas of the adjacent pit. The area will be surveyed during the appropriate season for special status wildlife species/habitat and riparian wetlands prior to additional ground disturbing activities. A site specific cultural survey will be completed prior to any new ground disturbance activities.

Previous BLM surveys in the area have not found significant resources or impacts to those resources.

This proposed action is subject to the Spokane District Resource Management Plan (1985), its Record of Decision (ROD) (1987), and its RMP Plan Amendment (1992) and ROD (1992). The proposed action has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM MS 1617.3).

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): Spokane Resource Management Plan/EIS Final, page 48, salable minerals.

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 11.9F. (10)

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"/>

F: Signature

Authorizing Official: /S/ Scott Pavey Date: 6/9/08
(Signature)

Name: Scott Pavey
Title: Acting BLM Spokane District - Border Resource Manager

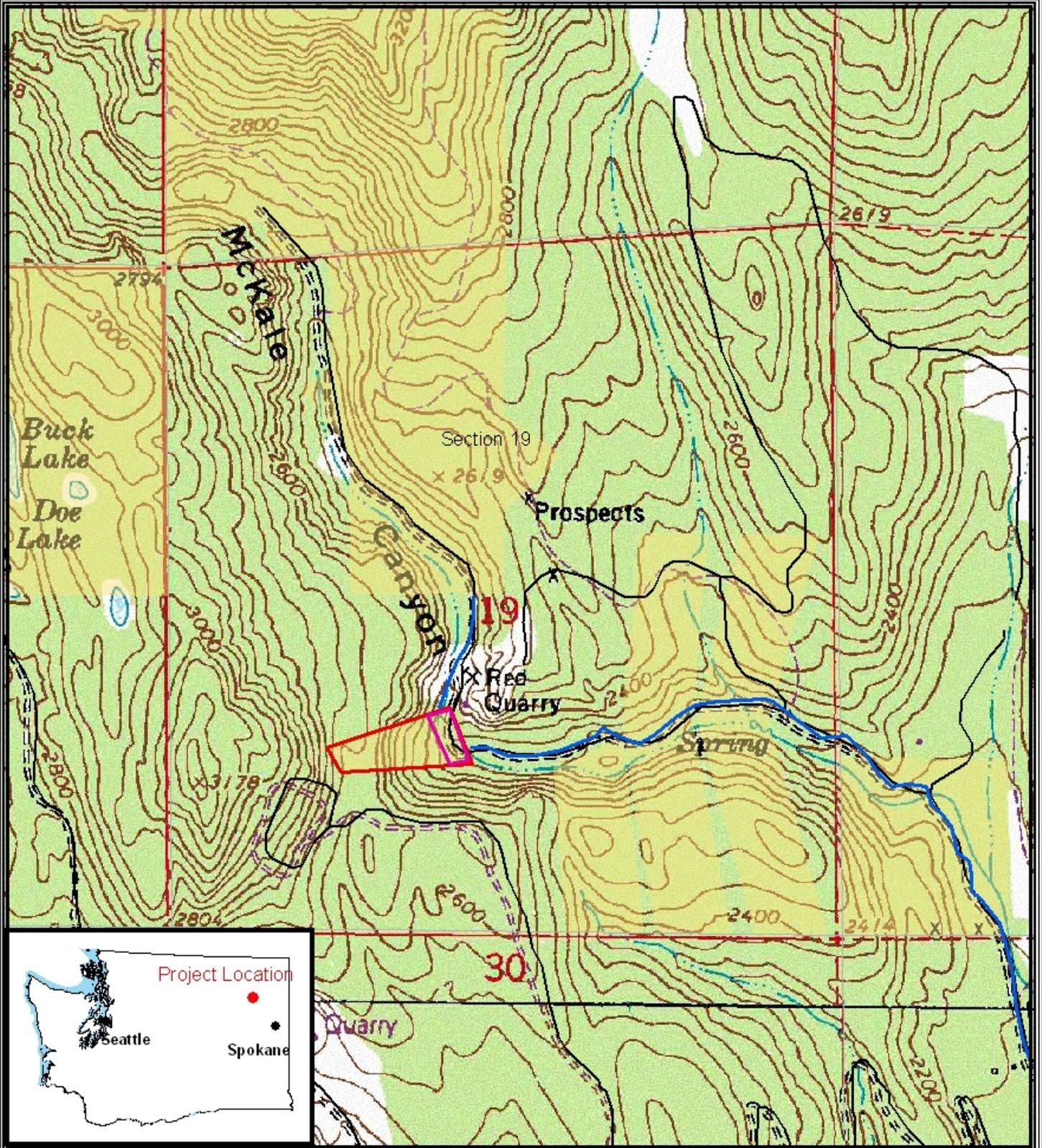
G. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Thomas M. Sweeney

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

Red Quarry Community Pit Area

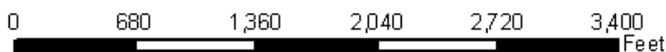
Mineral Material Community Pit (Proposed) - T. 32 N., R. 40 E., Sec. 19, W.M



Bureau of Land Management
Spokane District
1103 N. Fawcett Rd.
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- ▬ Red Quarry Proposed Community Pit Area
- ▬ Proposed Mining Area

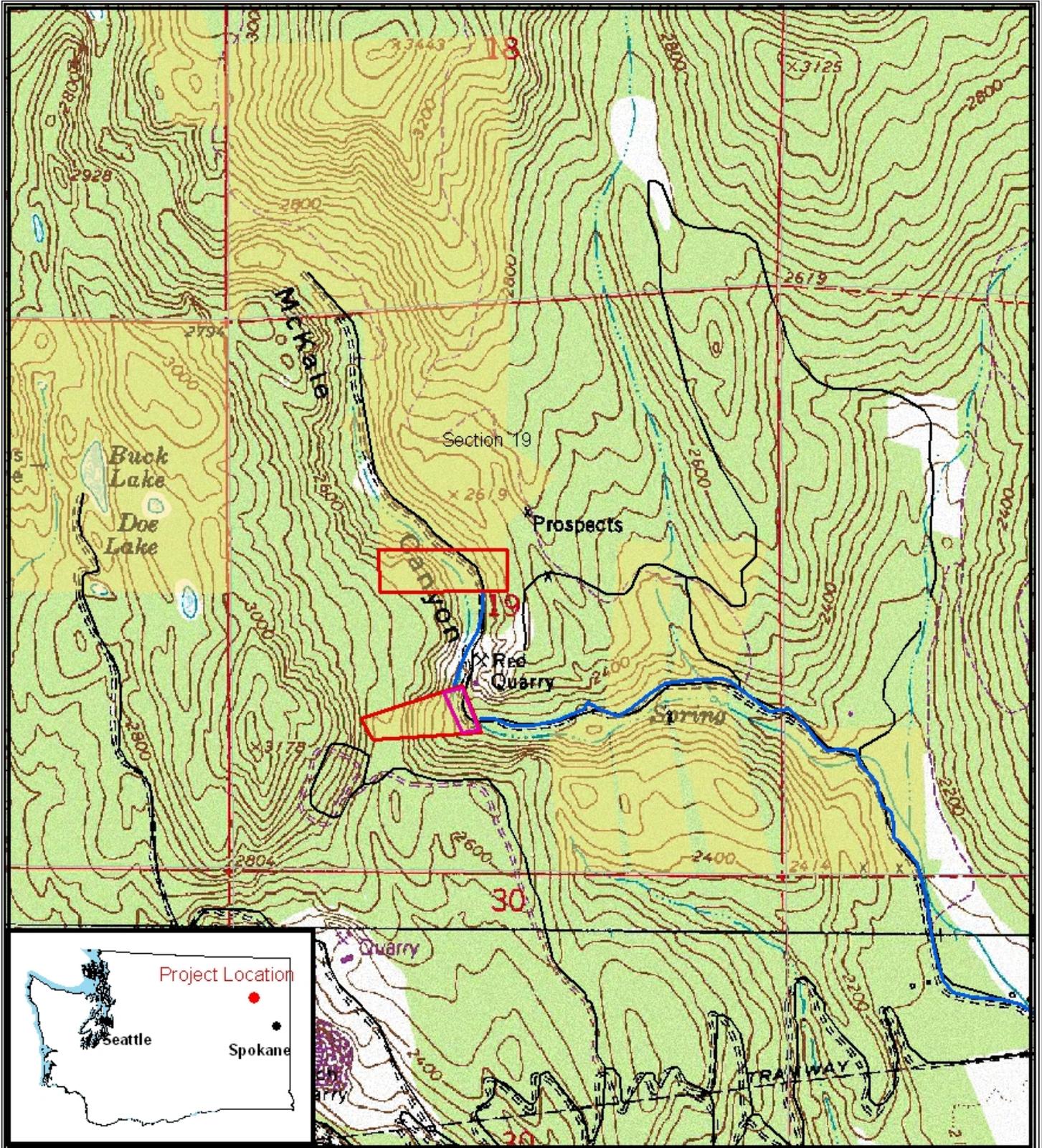
- BLM Administered Lands
- ▬ Current Access Road



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Red Quarry Community Pit Area

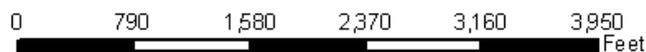
Mineral Material Community Pit (Proposed) - T. 32 N., R. 40 E., Sec. 19, W.M



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- ▬ Proposed Mining Area

- BLM Administered Lands
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