

**From:** [Howard, Stephanie J](#)  
**To:** [Hawkins, Angela E](#); [Hocanson, Molly M](#); [Porter, Lance C](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Media Request re: Wildcat Loadout Facility ROW Amendment - Time Sensitive  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:10:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

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I recommend changing the wording for #3 because if an extraordinary circumstance applies, most of them trigger an EIS. We haven't made that call yet. The below wording is similar to what is in the draft NEPA handbook on this issue.

3. Is a categorical exclusion an option for this amendment? **Not this time, the BLM has determined that more environmental review may be required for this action than is typical for a categorical exclusion, so the BLM is preparing an Environmental Assessment instead.**

Stephanie Howard  
Branch Chief NEPA & GIS  
Green River District  
170 S 500 E  
Vernal, UT 84078  
435-781-4469

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**From:** Hawkins, Angela E <[ahawkins@blm.gov](mailto:ahawkins@blm.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 4:00 PM  
**To:** Hocanson, Molly M <[mhocanson@blm.gov](mailto:mhocanson@blm.gov)>; Porter, Lance C <[l50porte@blm.gov](mailto:l50porte@blm.gov)>  
**Cc:** Howard, Stephanie J <[showard@blm.gov](mailto:showard@blm.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Media Request re: Wildcat Loadout Facility ROW Amendment - Time Sensitive

Hello All,  
Molly, Thank you for taking the time to research the answers for the media query. At the request of the SO due to the controversy of Wildcat Loadout, all media queries will need to be sent through SO and HQ. Sorry. Molly, let's work through this tomorrow when you have a minute.

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**From:** Hocanson, Molly M <[mhocanson@blm.gov](mailto:mhocanson@blm.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:55 PM  
**To:** Hawkins, Angela E <[ahawkins@blm.gov](mailto:ahawkins@blm.gov)>  
**Cc:** Howard, Stephanie J <[showard@blm.gov](mailto:showard@blm.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Media Request re: Wildcat Loadout Facility ROW Amendment - Time Sensitive

Hi Angela –

I am currently in talks with Kyle and Lance to see how we want to convey to interested parties the status of this project. I have put some answers (red) into the request. Angela lets discuss this possibly tomorrow to see what our answers should be.

Stephanie – Please review and see if I said something I should not have.

Thanks!

	<p>Molly Hocanson Planning &amp; Environmental Coordinator Project Manager - <a href="#">Public Law 116-9 S.47</a> <b>(she/her)</b> Utah   Bureau of Land Management Phone: (435) 636-3660 website: <a href="http://www.blm.gov">www.blm.gov</a> email: <a href="mailto:mhocanson@blm.gov">mhocanson@blm.gov</a></p> <p></p>
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**From:** Amy Hadden Marsh [Ex.6 \[REDACTED\].com](#)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:11 PM

**To:** Hocanson, Molly M <[mhocanson@blm.gov](mailto:mhocanson@blm.gov)>; Palma, Joseph (Joe) <[jpalma@blm.gov](mailto:jpalma@blm.gov)>; Beagley, Kyle K <[kbeagley@blm.gov](mailto:kbeagley@blm.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media Request re: Wildcat Loadout Facility ROW Amendment - Time Sensitive

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Ms. Hocanson, Mr. Palma, and Mr. Beagley,

I hope this finds you well. I am a journalist with [Aspen Journalism](#), working on my 4th piece about the Uinta Basin Railway. I would like to get an update from you about the status of DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2023-0013-EA.

The only document on the website is the 2013 ROD EA. I have a few questions:

1. Will BLM create a new EA for the proposed amendment? **Yes. Actions are analyzed in an EA if they are not categorically excluded, not covered in an existing environmental document, and not normally subject to an EIS. The EA analysis is used**

to determine if the action would have significant impacts, if that is the case then BLM would need to prepare an EIS.

2. If so, when do you expect the public comment period to begin/end? This project is in the very early phases of information gathering to perform analysis. Any updates will be posted to the BLMs ePlanning site for the project.

3. Is a categorical exclusion an option for this amendment? Not at this time, extraordinary circumstances preclude the use of a BLM CX. The BLM has determined that further environmental analysis may be required for this action.

4. When do you expect to post documents to the website? This project is in the very early phases of information gathering to perform analysis. We do not have a timeline for posting of documents at this time.

Thank you very much for your time.

Amy Hadden Marsh

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Amy Hadden Marsh MA

she/her/hers

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I live on the traditional lands of the great Ute Nation.