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Cc: 'Scott Evans'[sevens@cirruses.com]
From: Benjamin Gaddis
Sent: 2017-09-08T17:13:24-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: GSENM EAs - GSENM Well and Pipeline Projects Draft Scoping Notice
Received: 2017-09-08T17:13:40-04:00
[GSENMWell-PipelineScopingNoticeDRAFT.DOCX](#)

Good afternoon everyone,

I hope you are enjoying your Friday!

The draft scoping notice for the wells and pipelines EA is attached. As usual please let me know if you would like to talk anything through on this. I am available for the remainder of the day today and on Monday afternoon.

Have a great weekend!

Thanks!
Ben

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In Reply Refer To:

GSENM Well and Pipeline Projects

DOI BLM UT 0300 2017 0063 EA

MONTH X, 2017

To All Interested Parties:

This scoping letter summarizes a Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM) proposal to install or replace a combination of wells, pumps, storage tanks, and/or pipelines in the Upper Paria, Mud Springs, Cottonwood, and Lower Cattle allotments. The proposed project locations and anticipated project elements are summarized in the table below.

Project	Allotment(s)	Location	Anticipated Project Elements
Sheep Creek Well and Pipeline Replacement	Upper Paria	Approximately 5 miles southwest of Cannonville, Utah T 37SR 4W Map 1.	Installation of a well, a solar pump, and replacement of approximately 1.5 miles of existing pipeline.
Mud Springs Well and Pipeline	Mud Springs	Approximately 8 miles east of Henrieville, Utah T 37SR 1W Map 2.	Installation of a well, a solar pump, a storage tank, approximately 2.5 miles of pipeline, and 2 troughs
8 Mile/Paria Roughs Pipeline Extension	Cottonwood	Approximately 30 miles northeast of Kanab, Utah T 41SR 2W Map 3.	Installation of 1 trough and approximately 1.25 miles of pipeline.
Butler Valley Pipeline and Storage Tank	Cottonwood	Approximately 10 miles southeast of Henrieville, Utah T 39SR 1W Map 4.	Installation of 2 troughs, a storage tank, and approximately 4.5 miles of pipeline.
Twentymile Pipeline Extension	Lower Cattle	Approximately 25 miles southeast of Escalante, Utah T 38SR 5E T 38SR 6E Map 5.	Installation of 2 troughs and approximately 3.25 miles of pipeline.

Commented [BG1]: Preference to include these details? - Change application from Utah Division of Water Rights (DWRi) for a BLM water source that is located on private land to a well right on BLM land.

Commented [BG2]: Preference to include these details? - Change application from DWRi for a BLM water source that is a spring to a well right.

The proposed projects would be in conformance with the GSENM Management Plan (MMP), as amended by the Utah Greater Sage Grouse Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment finalized in September 2015. These projects would fulfill the water resource objective outlined in the MMP to “ensure that appropriate quality and quantity of water resources are available for the proper care and management of the objects of the Monument.” These projects would specifically conform to MMP

direction related to water resources (WAT) and water related developments (WDEV). Further, these projects would not conflict with other MMP direction.

The purpose of this scoping letter is to inform interested and affected parties of the proposal and to solicit comments to assist with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of the proposal. Analysis of the proposal will be documented in an Environmental Assessment (EA). Comments received in response to this solicitation will be used to identify potential environmental issues to be analyzed related to the proposed action and to identify alternatives to the proposed action that would meet the purpose of and need for the projects.

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the BLM action is to provide reliable water storage and improve water availability for wildlife and livestock in the Upper Paria, Mud Springs, Cottonwood, and Lower Cattle allotments. Reliable water storage and improved water availability are also intended to improve livestock distribution (dispersing cattle throughout the area to take advantage of available forage and reduce concentration of livestock at existing water sources) and thereby enhance habitat and improve vegetation, soil, and water resource conditions.

The need for the BLM action is based on lack of dependable water sources and/or resource impacts near existing water sources across portions of the aforementioned allotments.

Decision to be Made

Following the environmental analysis in the EA, the GSENM Manager will decide whether or not to implement the proposed well and pipeline projects and if so under what conditions, specifications, and provisions.

Alternatives

A reasonable range of alternatives that address the purpose and need will be considered for analysis. Alternatives currently being considered include the following:

No Action Alternative: Under the No Action Alternative, the BLM would not implement the proposal to install or replace a combination of wells, pumps, storage tanks, and/or pipelines in the Upper Paria, Mud Springs, Cottonwood, and Lower Cattle allotments as summarized above.

Proposed Action Alternative: Under the Proposed Action Alternative, the BLM would install or replace a combination of wells, pumps, storage tanks, and/or pipelines in the Upper Paria, Mud Springs, Cottonwood, and Lower Cattle allotments as summarized above.

Public Input Needed

This project and supporting documents are available from the BLM's national NEPA register:

<https://go.usa.gov/xRA2P>.

Commented [BG3]: Or use the link that appears after clicking on this link?
<https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/projectSummary.do?methodName=renderDefaultProjectSummary&projectId=88913>

We would like to hear from you regarding any issues or concerns you feel we should consider in development of the projects and associated EA. If you are interested in providing us with information, potential issues, or alternatives, please write to Amber Hughes, Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, P.O. Box 225, Escalante, UT 84726 on or before MONTH X, 2017. Comments may also be submitted by email at blm_ut_gs_comments@blm.gov (please include "GSENM Well and Pipeline Projects" in the subject line). You may also fax your comments to 435 826 5650. Those who submit comments will be added to the project mailing list.

Before including your address, phone number, e mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment including your personal identifying information may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Staszak

Monument Manager

Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument

Enclosures

Map 1

Map 2

Map 3

Map 4

Map 5

Commented [BG4]: Allan Bate?

Commented [BG5]: Use Kanab address?

Commented [BG6]: Correct?