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Cc: 'Scott Evans'[sevans@cirrus.com]
From: Benjamin Gaddis
Sent: 2017-11-16T14:41:21-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: GSENM EAs - revised wells/pipelines scoping notice
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[GSENMWell-PipelineScopingNoticeDRAFT v2 2017 11 16.docx](#)

Allan,

The revised scoping notice for the wells and pipelines EA is attached. If you'd like to talk anything through on this please let me know. There are a couple of modifications from the information you sent based on a conversation with Sean. Also, there is a lot of repetition in this one but given the variation between projects in this case it seems to make more overall sense this way.

Thanks!

Ben

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In Reply Refer To:

GSENM Well and Pipeline Projects

DOI BLM UT 0300 2017 0063 EA

DATE 2017

To All Interested Parties:

This scoping letter summarizes a Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM) proposal to install a combination of wells, pumps, storage tanks, troughs, 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 Table 1. Additional details concerning the proposed projects are provided under the Alternatives heading below.

Table 1. Summary of Proposed Project Locations and Anticipated Project Elements.

| Project | Allotment(s) | Location | Anticipated Project Elements |
|---|--------------|---|--|
| Sheep Creek Well | Upper Paria | Approximately 5 miles southwest of Cannonville, Utah T37S R3W, Section 33 Map 1. | Installation of a well, solar pump, and approximately 50 feet of pipeline. |
| Mud Springs Well and Pipeline | Mud Springs | Approximately 8 miles east of Henrieville, Utah T37S R1W, Section X Map 2. | Installation of a well, solar pump, 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 T41S R2W, Section 34 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 T39S R1W, Sections 10 and 11 Map 4. | Installation of 2 troughs, storage tank, and approximately 4.5 miles of pipeline. |
| Twentymile Pipeline Extension | Lower Cattle | Approximately 25 miles southeast of Escalante, Utah T38S R5E, Section 12 T39S R6E, Section 29 Map 5. | Installation of 2 troughs and approximately 3.25 miles of pipeline. |

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

(b)(5) DPP

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 wildlife 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 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 a combination of wells, pumps, storage tanks, troughs, and/or pipelines in the Upper Paria, Mud Springs, Cottonwood, and Lower Cattle allotments.

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

Anticipated elements of each project under the Proposed Action are summarized in Table 1. Further details related to each project are provided below.

Sheep Creek Well This project would consist of installation of a well and solar pump, construction of well head and valve housing, and installation of approximately 50 feet of pipeline leading from the well to the existing distribution pipeline which feeds four existing troughs (project features are depicted in

Map 1). The well, drilled and cased to a depth of approximately 200 400 feet, would be located adjacent to the existing trough in T37S R3W, Section 33. Well drilling would be completed using a light truck mounted drill rig. Following well completion, a solar powered submersible pump would be installed and then connected to the Sheep Creek Pipeline. Two to four solar panels, each approximately 8 square feet in area, would be needed to power the solar pump. Solar panels would be pole mounted and placed immediately adjacent to the well. Small cover housing (approximately 12 square feet in area and approximately three feet in height) would be placed over the drill hole and wiring running to the pump.

Mud Springs Well and Pipeline This project would consist of installation of a well and solar pump, storage tank, two troughs, and approximately 2.5 miles of pipeline (project features are depicted in Map 2). The well, drilled and cased to a depth of approximately 200 400 feet, would be drilled using a light truck mounted drill rig. Following well completion, a solar powered submersible pump would be installed and then connected to a storage tank placed adjacent to the well. Two to four solar panels, each approximately 8 square feet in area, would be needed to power the solar pump. Solar panels would be pole mounted and placed immediately adjacent to the well. The storage tank would be approximately 50 feet in diameter and 5 feet high with a storage capacity of approximately 50,000 gallons. The bottom surface of the storage tank would consist of a concrete pad foundation approximately one foot thick hauled to the area using a cement truck. The sides of the storage tank would be made of galvanized steel. The storage tank would be covered by a corrugated tin lid with metal supports placed within the storage tank. Storage tank assembly would occur on site. The storage tank placement area (up to approximately 3,600 square feet in extent) would be cleared and leveled using a grader, bulldozer, backhoe or similar equipment prior to construction of the storage tank. The proposed 2.5 mile, 1.5 inch HDPE pipeline would be connected to the storage tank. The pipeline would be installed within or adjacent to the two track road located adjacent to the well and then proceed approximately 1 mile to the proposed east trough. Following the east trough, the pipeline would proceed approximately 1.5 miles to the west trough. These portions of the pipeline would be placed within or adjacent to Monument Road #301. The pipe would be buried 24 to 36 inches deep with either a backhoe or trencher or ripped in with a dozer equipped with a ripper and attached pipe layer. The east and west troughs would be up to 1,000 gallons in total capacity each and round or rectangular in shape. Each trough would occupy up to approximately 30 square feet in total area and be placed directly on the ground surface following clearing and grading using a grader or bulldozer or similar equipment.

8 Mile/Paria Roughs Pipeline Extension This project would consist of installation of one trough and approximately 1.25 miles of pipeline (project features are depicted in Map 3). The proposed pipeline would originate at the existing Fivemile Pasture trough located in T41S R2W, Section 34. The water for this trough is supplied by the existing Kitchen Corral Pipeline. The proposed 1.25 mile pipeline would be constructed of 1.5 inch diameter HDPE pipe buried 24 to 36 inches deep with either a backhoe or trencher or ripped in with a dozer equipped with a ripper and attached pipe layer. From the Fivemile Pasture trough, the proposed pipeline would proceed north approximately 0.3 miles to intersect with Monument Road #564. The pipeline would be placed within or adjacent to this road for approximately one mile to the point of interconnection with the proposed trough. The trough would be up to 1,000 gallons in total capacity and round or rectangular in shape. The trough would occupy up to

approximately 30 square feet in total area and be placed directly on the ground surface following clearing and grading using a grader or bulldozer or similar equipment.

Butler Valley Pipeline and Storage Tank This project would consist of installation of two troughs, storage tank, and approximately 4.5 miles of pipeline (project features are depicted in Map 4). The proposed pipeline would be constructed of 1.5 inch diameter HDPE pipe buried 24 to 36 inches deep with either a backhoe or trencher or ripped in with a dozer equipped with a ripper and attached pipe layer. The pipeline would originate at the existing storage tank located at the Butler Valley Well and proceed along the Butler Valley Well access road until it intersects with Monument Road #400 (also known as Cottonwood Road). From this location the pipeline would proceed east to intersect with an unnumbered administration Monument Road. The pipeline would intersect with the proposed storage tank in this approximate location. The pipeline would be placed within or adjacent to the aforementioned roads. The storage tank would be approximately 50 feet in diameter and 5 feet high with a storage capacity of approximately 50,000 gallons. The bottom surface of the storage tank would consist of a concrete pad foundation approximately one foot thick hauled to the area using a cement truck. The sides of the storage tank would be made of galvanized steel. The storage tank would be covered by a corrugated tin lid with metal supports placed within the storage tank. Storage tank assembly would occur on site. The storage tank placement area (up to approximately 3,600 square feet in extent) would be cleared and leveled using a grader, bulldozer, backhoe or similar equipment prior to construction of the storage tank. The proposed troughs would be located in T39S R1W, Sections 10 and 11. The troughs would be up to 1,000 gallons in total capacity each and round or rectangular in shape. Each trough would occupy up to approximately 30 square feet in total area and be placed directly on the ground surface following clearing and grading using a grader or bulldozer or similar equipment.

Twentymile Pipeline Extension This project would consist of installation of two troughs and approximately 3.25 miles of pipeline (project features are depicted in Map 5). The proposed pipeline would interconnect with the existing Twentymile Pipeline in T38S R5E, Section 12. From this location it would cross under Hole in the Rock Road and proceed approximately 0.5 mile to intersect with an unnamed two track road. The pipeline would follow the two track road for approximately 0.85 mile to the first of the two proposed troughs. From this location the pipeline would proceed southward to the second trough located at T39S R6E, Section 29. The pipeline would be constructed of 1.5 inch diameter HDPE pipe buried 24 to 36 inches deep with either a backhoe or trencher or ripped in with a dozer equipped with a ripper and attached pipe layer. The troughs would be up to 1,000 gallons in total capacity each and round or rectangular in shape. Each trough would occupy up to approximately 30 square feet in total area and be placed directly on the ground surface following clearing and grading using a grader or bulldozer or similar equipment.

Following project construction activities for all projects disturbed areas would be seeded with native grasses, forbs, and shrub species. All fill materials would be of similar color to those occurring at each site. Metal materials used in construction of project features would be non reflective and colored gray or dark brown. Total construction time is estimated to be approximately six weeks (or approximately 30 work days) though some construction timeframes may be closer to approximately two to four weeks or extend up to approximately eight weeks. The ideal construction window is between May and October

though construction activities may fall outside this timeframe based on the availability of funding and personnel resources and other constraints. Project components would be maintained on an as needed basis.

Public Input Needed

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

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

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 Sean Stewart, Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, 10 Center Street, Cannonville, UT 84718 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

Date

Monument Manager

Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument

Enclosures

Map 1

Map 2

Map 3

Map 4

Map 5

