

To: BLM_WO Briefinginfo[blm_wo_briefinginfo@blm.gov]
Cc: Peter Mali[pmali@blm.gov]; Brune, Jeff[jbrune@blm.gov]; Edwin Roberson[eroberso@blm.gov]
From: Bilbao, Anita
Sent: 2017-09-08T15:19:57-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: Briefing package - Daneros and La Sal
Received: 2017-09-08T15:20:53-04:00
[Canyon Country District Vacancies.docx](#)
[Canyon Moab Monticello TOs August 2017.pdf](#)
[Daneros Mine Location Map for director briefing.pdf](#)
[Daneros Uranium Mine Decision Document FINAL.doc](#)
[La Sal Uranium Location Map for director briefing.pdf](#)
[La Sal Uranium Mines Complex Decision Document FINAL.doc](#)

Good Afternoon,

Attached please find individual decision template + map for Daneros (Monticello Field Office) and La Sal (Moab Field Office) scheduled for briefing on afternoon for Sept 12.

In addition we were asked to provide the related Canyon Country District table of organization and list of vacancies.

Thank you for providing these materials to the WO participants as appropriate. Anita

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barangan, Jayson <jbaranga@blm.gov>
Date: Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 12:26 PM
Subject: Briefing package - Daneros and La Sal
To: Edwin Roberson <eroberso@blm.gov>, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>
Cc: Kent Hoffman <khoffman@blm.gov>, Lance Porter <l50porte@blm.gov>, Christina Price <cjprice@blm.gov>, Donald Hoffheins <dhoffhei@blm.gov>, BLM UT SO UT912 <blm ut so ut912@blm.gov>, "Ginn, Allison" <aginn@blm.gov>, Lisa Bryant <lbryant@blm.gov>

Ed/Anita -

Attached are the final materials for the upcoming 12 Sept. briefing. The package includes the Daneros and La Sal decision memos, maps, as well as TOs and a list of vacancies for Canyon Country District and its field offices. Much thanks for all who contributed on this lift!

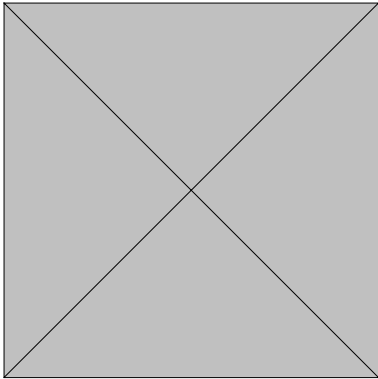
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Respectfully,

Jayson Barangan

Acting Communications Director

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DATA CALL ON PROPOSED RECORDS OF DECISION AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT DECISION DOCUMENTS

Date: September 12, 2017

To: David Bernhardt, Deputy Secretary of the Interior

Through: Katharine S. MacGregor, Acting Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management

From: Michael D. Nedd, Acting Director of the Bureau of Land Management

Bureau/Office: Bureau of Land Management - Utah

Title of Document: Daneros Uranium Mine Plan Modification

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED DECISION

The Monticello Field Office plans to sign a decision approving a mine plan modification at the Daneros Mine, an underground uranium mine 67 miles west of Blanding in western San Juan County, Utah. Forty miles of haul route occur on existing county roads and a State Highway within the Bears Ears National Monument. The decision would authorize expanded operations in phases, resulting in an increase in surface disturbance from 4.6 to 46 acres. The decision also allows for expansion into three existing waste rock dump sites, which would eventually be reclaimed. Projected ore production would be up to 500,000 tons over 20 years. Ore would be transported about 60 miles to the White Mesa Mill. The EA was completed in June 2017; its associate FONSI and DR are prepared and ready for signature.

NEED AND DEADLINE FOR ISSUANCE

In 2013, Energy Fuels submitted an application to modify its existing mining plan of operations. Considering the longstanding application, BLM seeks to be responsive to Energy Fuels' request for a mine plan modification and authorize them to pursue expansion activities. A delay would prevent potential employment opportunities to the local community. The project aligns with the President's America First Energy Plan.

POSITIONS OF AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS

BLM is partnering with DOE, and Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining to inventory the area's mines and assess reclamation opportunities. The Daneros Mine plan modification and its proposed reclamation plan supports this partnership.

The Utah Governor's Office and San Juan County Commission provided written support for the project, citing the positive economic benefits to the local economy.

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Uranium Watch organizations are generally opposed to the project.

The National Park Service expressed concerns for fugitive dust and gaseous pollutants, noise pollution and impacts to night skies. The environmental assessment assessed these issues and the modified mining plan of operation includes measures to minimize impacts.

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe expressed concerns about potential impacts of mill operations to the White Mesa community. The environmental assessment concludes that the production quantities outlined in the proposed mining plan of operations at the Daneros Mine would have negligible indirect and cumulative impacts to the White Mesa community.

The Navajo Nation claims ancestral and cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups that occupied the area. They expressed concern about sacred sites located in the Valley of the Gods, which is about 60 miles from the Daneros Mine. After the environmental assessment was revised to clarify their affiliation, they had no further concerns and asked to be kept informed should NAGPRA issues arise.

The Hopi Tribe also claims ancestral and cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in the area and expressed opposition to uranium mining. They did not provide comments on the environmental assessment.

OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

[Include: public lands affected, revenue, and jobs]

The proposed mining plan of operations modification would expand the Daneros Mine by 41 acres. Approving the modification would employ approximately 40 miners and support personnel.

ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DECISION:

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

COMMENT:

Date

David Bernhardt

DATA CALL ON PROPOSED RECORDS OF DECISION AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT DECISION DOCUMENTS

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To: David Bernhardt, Deputy Secretary of the Interior

Through: Katharine S. MacGregor, Acting Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management

From: Michael D. Nedd, Acting Director of the Bureau of Land Management

Bureau/Office: Bureau of Land Management - Utah

Title of Document: La Sal Uranium Mines Complex Plan Modification

ONE PARAGRAPH SUMMARY OF PROPOSED DECISION

The Moab Field Office and the Manti-La Sal National Forest plan to sign decisions approving a mine plan modification to the La Sal Uranium Mines Complex (Pandora, La Sal, Beaver Shaft and Snowball mines) near the town of La Sal in San Juan County. The decision would consolidate two plans of operation for the four mines, authorizing expanded operations in phases, resulting in 38 and 24 acres of surface disturbance on BLM and USFS lands, respectively. Projected ore production would be up to 267,000 tons annually over the expected 20-year mine life. Ore would be transported about 75 miles to the White Mesa Mill. The EA was completed in June 2017; its associated FONSI and DR are prepared and ready for signature. The BLM was the lead agency in preparing the EA, with USFS as a cooperating agency. The goal is for the Moab Field Office and the Manti-La Sal National Forest to issue separate, concurrent decisions in mid to late September.

NEED AND DEADLINE FOR ISSUANCE

In 2009, Denison Mines Corporation submitted an application to modify the La Sal complex mining plan of operations to the BLM and USFS; Energy Fuels acquired the complex in 2012. BLM seeks to be responsive to the mine plan modification request and authorize expansion activities. A delay would prevent potential employment opportunities to the local community. This project aligns with the President's America First energy Plan.

POSITIONS OF AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS

Organizations including Uranium Watch, Living Rivers, Canyonlands Watershed Council, Grand Canyon Trust, Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club are generally opposed to the project. These groups submitted joint comments for alternatives development, which were considered for the environmental assessment.

Members of the general public expressed concerns about wildlife, noise pollution, radiation and plans to ensure successful reclamation. The environmental assessment assessed these impacts, and the modified mining plan of operation includes measures to minimize these impacts and outlines a detailed reclamation plan.

The San Juan County Commission provided written support for the project, citing the positive economic benefits to the local economy.

EPA and Utah Division of Air Quality coordinated with BLM to address concerns for air quality and ground water.

OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

[Include: public lands affected, revenue, and jobs]

The proposed mining plan of operations modification would disturb 38 acres on BLM and 24 acres on USFS. Approving the modification would employ approximately 130 miners and support personnel.

ACTING DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DECISION:

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

COMMENT:

Date

David Bernhardt

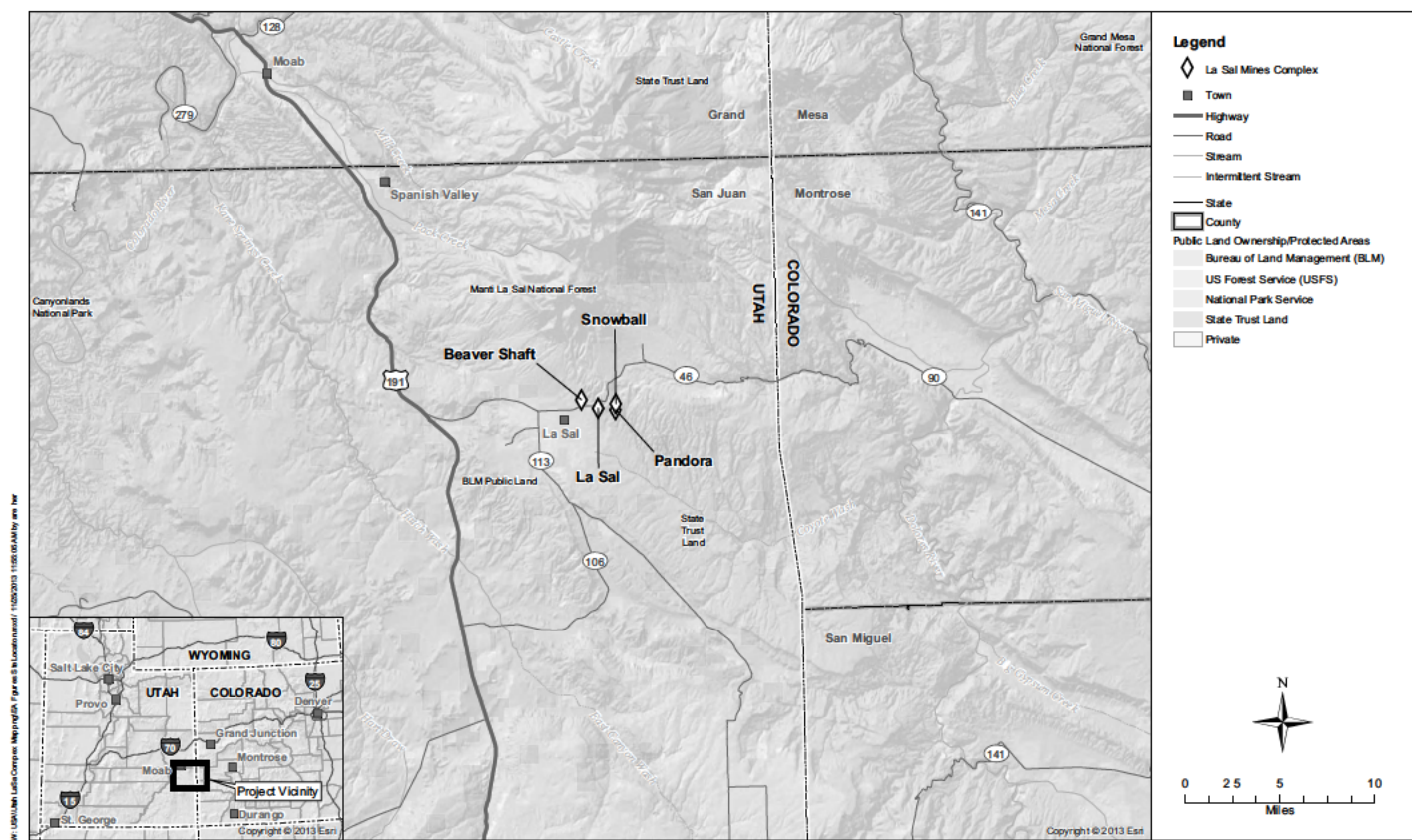
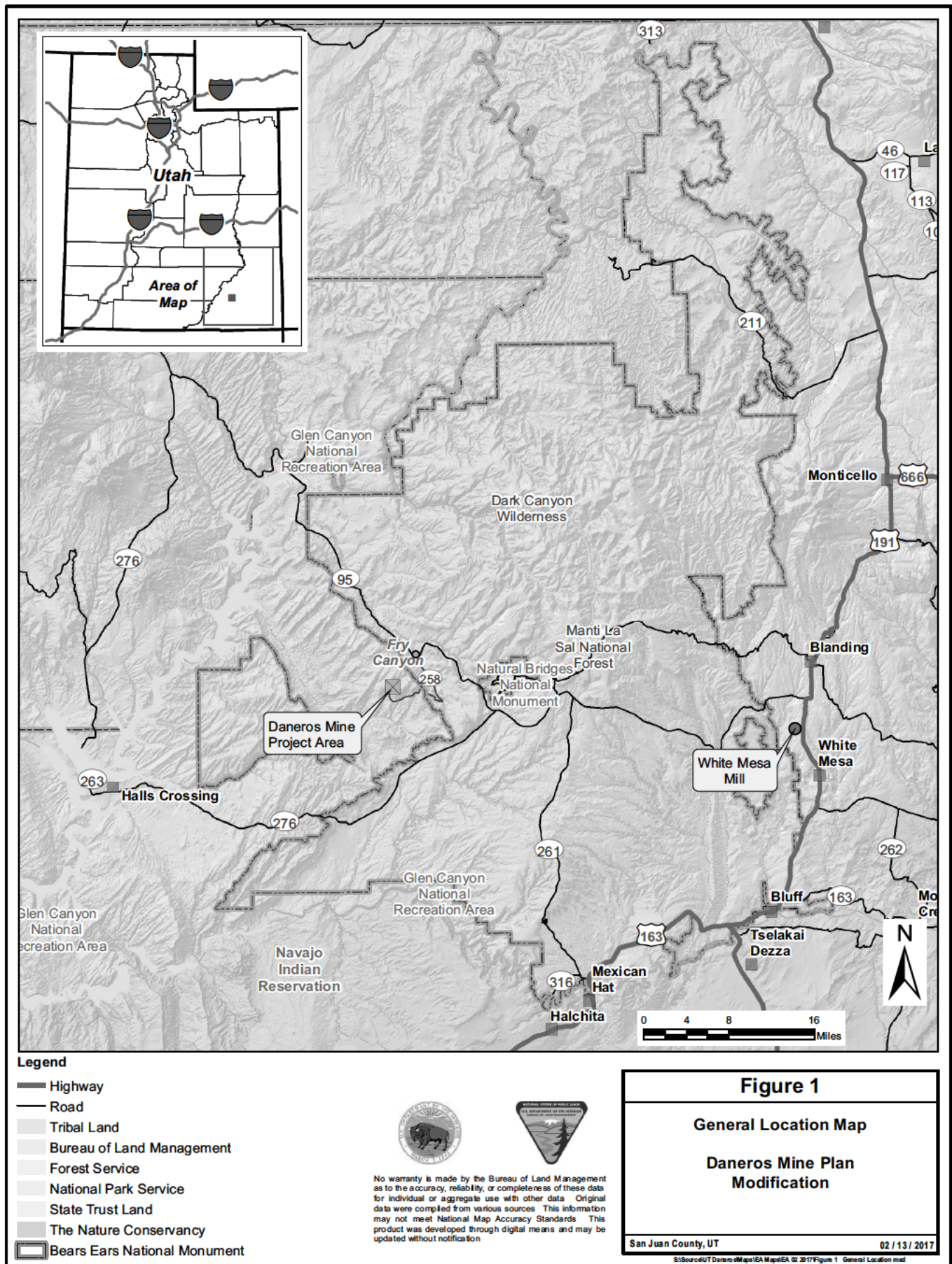


Figure 1-1
Site Location Map



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