

KINGMAN FIELD OFFICE SCOPING FORM

Proposal: Approve 3 pesticide use proposals from Southwestern Transmission Coop. for use of herbicides at the Topock Substation authorized under r-o-w AZA 30307.

DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2010-0008-DNA
NEPA Document Number

_____ RMP Implementation No.

S:/BLMshare: LANDS/BACKLOG/AZA30307/DNA
Document Location

Land Description: Lot 1, sec. 31, T. 18 N., R. 20 W., G&SRM.

Applicant: Southwestern Transmission Cooperative, Inc.

Authorization: Pesticide Use Proposal

INVOLVEMENT: Indicate in the left column which disciplines need to provide information into the EA.

Needed Input (X)	Discipline	Signature
	Lands	
	Minerals	
	Range	
	Wild Horse and Burro	
	General Recreation	
X	Cultural and Paleontological Resources	/s/ Craig J. Johnson 11/23/2009
	Wilderness	
	Soils	
	Surface and Groundwater Quality/Water Rights	
	Air Quality	
X	Wildlife	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 11/24/2009
X	Threatened and Endangered Plants and Animals	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 11/24/2009
X	Migratory Birds	/s/ Rebecca L. Peck 11/24/2009
	Surface Protection	
	Hazardous Materials	
	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	
	Visual Resources	
	Socio-Economics/Environmental Justice	
X	General Botany/Noxious Weeds	/s/ Bill Boyette 11/24/2009
	Energy Policy	

Writer: /s/ Andy Whitefield

Date: 11/23/2009

Environmental Coordinator: /s/ Bruce M. Asbjorn

Date: 11/25/2009

Field Manager: _____

Date: _____

Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: Kingman Field Office (KFO), AZ-310

NEPA DOCUMENT NUMBER: DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2010-0008-DNA
CASE FILE NUMBER: AZA 30307

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Pesticide Use Proposal for approval for 3 year term at Topock substation.

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Section 31, T. 18 N., R. 20 W., G&SRM.

APPLICANT (if any): Southwest Transmission Coop., Inc.

A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures:

On November 2, 2009, Southwest Transmission Coop., Inc. (Southwest) submitted three Pesticide Use Proposals (PUP) for approval to be used within its right-of-way for the Topock substation (serial no. AZA 30307). These are for Direx 4L pre-emergent (EPA Reg. No. Direx 4L – 1812-257) w/LI700 surfactant and Hi-Light dye, Roundup Pro (EPA Reg. No. Roundup Pro 524-475) post-emergent herbicide w/LI700 surfactant and Hi-Light dye, and Polaris RR (EPA Reg. No. Polaris RR 241-273-228) and Direx 4L tank mix pre-emergent herbicide w/LI700 surfactant and Hi-Light dye.

Applications would typically be done annually during February - April with the pre-emergent herbicides and as needed during July – September with the post-emergent herbicide.

Application would be via boom w/truck mounted spray equipment, hand applications w/back packs, and spray wands attached to a truck-mounted tank for applications in restricted areas.

Herbicides and adjuvants would be mixed, handled, and applied in accordance with manufacturers label instructions by a state certified licensed contractor. No applications would be made during unfavorable wind and weather conditions. All herbicide containers would be returned to the contractor's facilities for disposal in accordance with applicable state, federal, and local codes and regulations. Applications would not be made which could affect desert tortoise.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name: *Kingman Resource Management Plan/EIS*
Date Approved: March 1995

** List applicable LUPs (for example, resource management plans; activity, project, management, or program plans; or applicable amendments thereto. Delete this statement before finalizing the document.*

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

Page 66 of the Kingman RMP provides for minor rights-of-way to be evaluated through the environmental review process and granted or rejected on a case-by-case basis. The lands for which the PUPs were submitted are within right-of-way AZA 30307, granted January 27, 1998, which grants an interest to Southwest to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate an electrical substation and access road on BLM administered public lands.

The PUPs applied for by Southwest are minor right-of-way actions requiring separate approval by the BLM from the rights granted under AZA 30307.

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

Kingman RMP/FEIS, March 1995

Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands in 13 Western States Programmatic FEIS, Approved 1991

Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in 17 Western States Programmatic FEIS, Approved September 2007

EA-AZ-030-99-002 Arizona Electric Cooperative (predecessor in interest to Southwest in right-of-way AZA 30307) Herbicide Application at Topock Substation, Approved August, 1999

AZ-030-2005-003-DNA Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Inc. determined prior NEPA evaluation was adequate to re-authorize herbicide use at Topock substation, approved September 2004.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report). None.

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. The analysis conducted in the Programmatic EISs broadly considered the effects of pesticide use on BLM lands. EA-AZ-030-99-002 specifically analyzed the use of Roundup-Glyphosate, Protocol, Karmex DF, Diuron 80, Direx 4L and the adjuvant Nalco-trol, as well as the methods/timing of applications at the Topock substation and found this would not be an action causing significant affects to the environment and were in accordance laws, regulations, and policy.

The Proposed Action under review for NEPA adequacy discussed in this document is the use of the herbicides Roundup Pro (active ingredient: Glyphosate), Direx 4L (active ingredient: Diuron), Polaris RR (active ingredient: Imazapyr), surfactant LI700 and colorant Hi-Light. Some of these herbicides and adjuvants differ from those analyzed under AZ-030-99-002, however the effects of the use of these chemicals under the Proposed Action would be the same as the use of those addressed in that EA. Furthermore, these are included in the “Listing of Approved Herbicide Formulations” and “Listing of Approved Adjuvants” attached to Washington Office IB 2009-060. Further review will be conducted by the Arizona BLM Weed Coordinator to ensure these chemicals and application procedures are indeed in accordance with BLM guidance and policy.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. The range of alternatives in EA AZ-030-99-002 were the Proposed Action, i.e. use of the chemicals which the applicant proposed, and the No Action alternative. This was appropriate because no issues were identified which would necessitate developing other alternatives. No new issues have been identified that would require other alternatives.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. As described in item 2 above the information and circumstances under which the analysis conducted in EA AZ-030-99-002 have not changed and therefore no new issues need to be addressed.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. All effects anticipated from the Proposed Action would be the same as those discussed in EA AZ-030-99-002.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes. Due to the routine nature of the Proposed Action and the stringent regulatory oversight of the use of these chemicals no further scoping and review by the public and other agencies is required.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency Represented</u>
Craig Johnson	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, BLM Kingman Field Office
Rebecca Peck	Wildlife Biologist	Biological Resources, BLM Kingman Field Office
Bill Boyette	Wildlife Biologist	Kingman Field Office Weed and Pesticide Coordinator

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

_____/s/ Andy Whitefield_____
Signature of Project Lead
Andy Whitefield

_____/11/25/2009_____
Date

_____/s/ Bruce M. Asbjorn_____
Signature of NEPA Coordinator
Bruce Asbjorn

_____/11/25/2009_____
Date

_____/s/ Don McClure for_____
Signature of Supervisor
Jackie Neckels

_____/11/25/2009_____
Date

_____/s/ Don McClure for_____
Signature of the Responsible Official
Jackie Neckels
Assistant Field Manager, Non-Renewable Resources
Kingman Field Office

_____/11/25/2009_____
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest and appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

- a) The Holder must have licensed applicators apply herbicides (Note: this is also part of the Proposed Action) and maintain with the BLM Kingman Field Office copies of current applicator's license or other sufficient proof of license;
- b) Keep records of each application, including the active ingredient, formulation, application rate, date, time, and location, and furnish a copy of these to the BLM Kingman Field Office within 30 days of herbicide applications;
- c) Take precautions to minimize drift by not applying herbicides when winds exceed 10 mph or a serious rainfall event is imminent.

Topock Substation

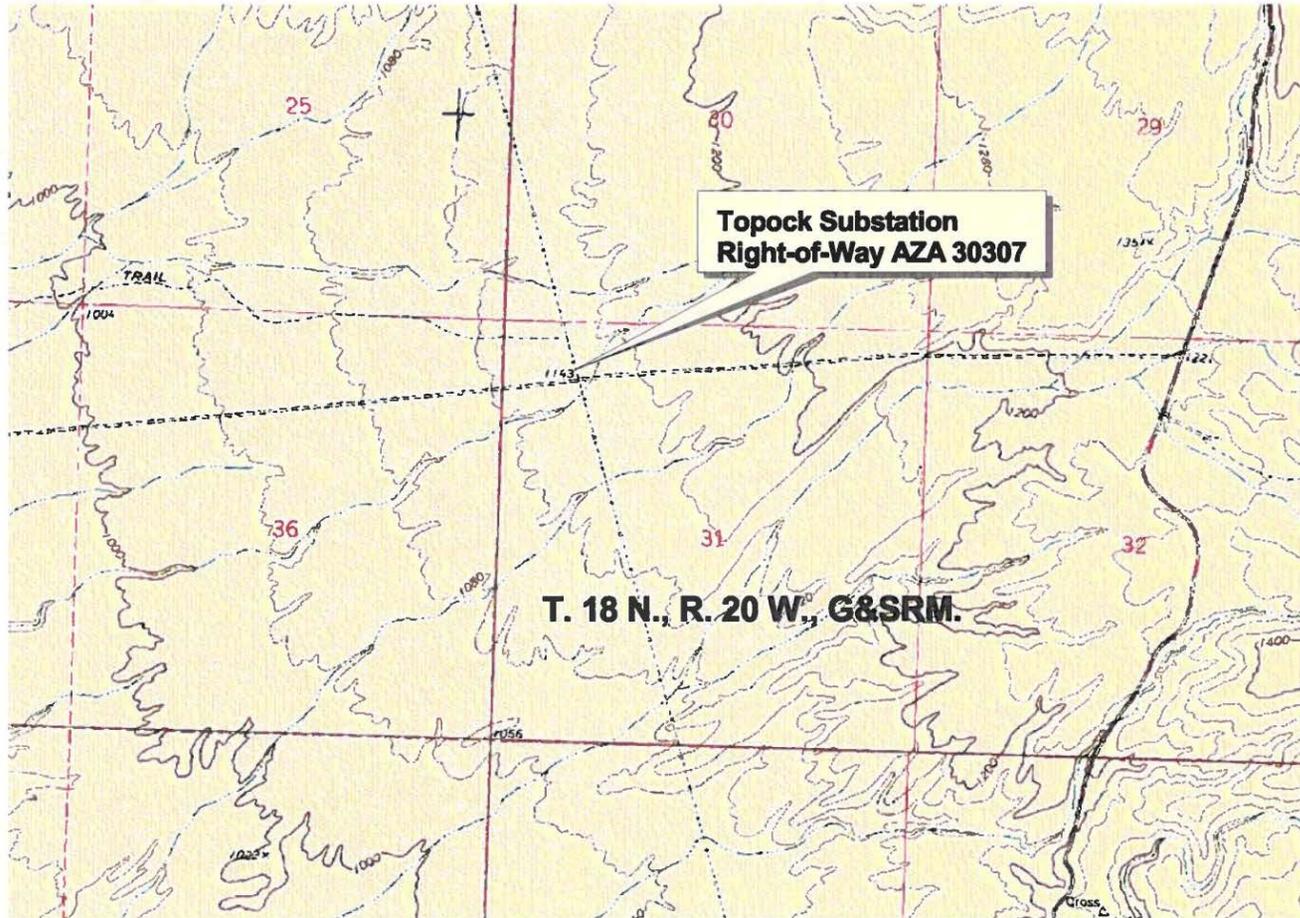


TABLE B-2
Standard Operating Procedures for Applying Herbicides

Resource Element	Standard Operating Procedure
Guidance Documents	BLM Handbook H-9011-1 (<i>Chemical Pest Control</i>); and manuals 1112 (<i>Safety</i>), 9011 (<i>Chemical Pest Control</i>), 9012 (<i>Expenditure of Rangeland Insect Pest Control Funds</i>), 9015 (<i>Integrated Weed Management</i>), and 9220 (<i>Integrated Pest Management</i>).
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare operational and spill contingency plan in advance of treatment. • Conduct a pretreatment survey before applying herbicides. • Select herbicide that is least damaging to the environment while providing the desired results. • Select herbicide products carefully to minimize additional impacts from degradates, adjuvants, inert ingredients, and tank mixtures. • Apply the least amount of herbicide needed to achieve the desired result. • Follow herbicide product label for use and storage. • Have licensed applicators apply herbicides. • Use only USEPA-approved herbicides and follow product label directions and “advisory” statements. • Review, understand, and conform to the “Environmental Hazards” section on the herbicide product label. This section warns of known pesticide risks to the environment and provides practical ways to avoid harm to organisms or to the environment. • Consider surrounding land use before assigning aerial spraying as a treatment method and avoid aerial spraying near agricultural or densely populated areas. • Minimize the size of application area, when feasible. • Comply with herbicide-free buffer zones to ensure that drift will not affect crops or nearby residents/landowners. • Post treated areas and specify reentry or rest times, if appropriate. • Notify adjacent landowners prior to treatment. • Keep a copy of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) at work sites. MSDSs are available for review at http://www.cdms.net/. • Keep records of each application, including the active ingredient, formulation, application rate, date, time, and location. • Avoid accidental direct spray and spill conditions to minimize risks to resources. • Consider surrounding land uses before aerial spraying. • Avoid aerial spraying during periods of adverse weather conditions (snow or rain imminent, fog, or air turbulence). • Make helicopter applications at a target airspeed of 40 to 50 miles per hour (mph), and at about 30 to 45 feet above ground. • Take precautions to minimize drift by not applying herbicides when winds exceed >10 mph (>6 mph for aerial applications), or a serious rainfall event is imminent. • Use drift control agents and low volatile formulations. • Conduct pre-treatment surveys for sensitive habitat and special status species within or adjacent to proposed treatment areas. • Consider site characteristics, environmental conditions, and application equipment in order to minimize damage to non-target vegetation. • Use drift reduction agents, as appropriate, to reduce the drift hazard to non-target species. • Turn off applied treatments at the completion of spray runs and during turns to start another spray run. • Refer to the herbicide product label when planning revegetation to ensure that subsequent vegetation would not be injured following application of the herbicide. • Clean OHVs to remove seeds.

TABLE B-2 (Cont.)
Standard Operating Procedures for Applying Pesticides

Resource Element	Standard Operating Procedure
Air Quality See Manual 7000 (<i>Soil, Water, and Air Management</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the effects of wind, humidity, temperature inversions, and heavy rainfall on herbicide effectiveness and risks. • Apply herbicides in favorable weather conditions to minimize drift. For example, do not treat when winds exceed 10 mph (>6 mph for aerial applications) or rainfall is imminent. • Use drift reduction agents, as appropriate, to reduce the drift hazard. • Select proper application equipment (e.g., spray equipment that produces 200- to 800-micron diameter droplets [spray droplets of 100 microns and less are most prone to drift]). • Select proper application methods (e.g., set maximum spray heights, use appropriate buffer distances between spray sites and non-target resources).
Soil See Manual 7000 (<i>Soil, Water, and Air Management</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize treatments in areas where herbicide runoff is likely, such as steep slopes when heavy rainfall is expected. • Minimize use of herbicides that have high soil mobility, particularly in areas where soil properties increase the potential for mobility. • Do not apply granular herbicides on slopes of more than 15% where there is the possibility of runoff carrying the granules into non-target areas.
Water Resources See Manual 7000 (<i>Soil, Water, and Air Management</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider climate, soil type, slope, and vegetation type when developing herbicide treatment programs. • Select herbicide products to minimize impacts to water. This is especially important for application scenarios that involve risk from active ingredients in a particular herbicide, as predicted by risk assessments. • Use local historical weather data to choose the month of treatment. Considering the phenology of the target species, schedule treatments based on the condition of the water body and existing water quality conditions. • Plan to treat between weather fronts (calms) and at appropriate time of day to avoid high winds that increase water movements, and to avoid potential stormwater runoff and water turbidity. • Review hydrogeologic maps of proposed treatment areas. Note depths to groundwater and areas of shallow groundwater and areas of surface water and groundwater interaction. Minimize treating areas with high risk for groundwater contamination. • Conduct mixing and loading operations in an area where an accidental spill would not contaminate an aquatic body. • Do not rinse spray tanks in or near water bodies. Do not broadcast pellets where there is danger of contaminating water supplies. • Maintain buffers between treatment areas and water bodies. Buffer widths should be developed based on herbicide- and site-specific criteria to minimize impacts to water bodies. • Minimize the potential effects to surface water quality and quantity by stabilizing terrestrial areas as quickly as possible following treatment.
Wetlands and Riparian Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a selective herbicide and a wick or backpack sprayer. • Use appropriate herbicide-free buffer zones for herbicides not labeled for aquatic use based on risk assessment guidance, with minimum widths of 100 feet for aerial, 25 feet for vehicle, and 10 feet for hand spray applications.
Vegetation See Handbook H-4410-1 (<i>National Range Handbook</i>), and manuals 5000 (<i>Forest Management</i>) and 9015 (<i>Integrated Weed Management</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the herbicide label when planning revegetation to ensure that subsequent vegetation would not be injured following application of the herbicide. • Use native or sterile species for revegetation and restoration projects to compete with invasive species until desired vegetation establishes. • Use weed-free feed for horses and pack animals. Use weed-free straw and mulch for revegetation and other activities. • Identify and implement any temporary domestic livestock grazing and/or supplemental feeding restrictions needed to enhance desirable vegetation recovery following treatment. Consider adjustments in the existing grazing permit, to maintain desirable vegetation on the treatment site.

TABLE B-2 (Cont.)
Standard Operating Procedures for Applying Pesticides

Resource Element	Standard Operating Procedure
Pollinators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete vegetation treatments seasonally before pollinator foraging plants bloom. • Time vegetation treatments to take place when foraging pollinators are least active both seasonally and daily. • Design vegetation treatment projects so that nectar and pollen sources for important pollinators and resources are treated in patches rather than in one single treatment. • Minimize herbicide application rates. Use typical rather than maximum rates where there are important pollinator resources. • Maintain herbicide free buffer zones around patches of important pollinator nectar and pollen sources. • Maintain herbicide free buffer zones around patches of important pollinator nesting habitat and hibernacula. • Make special note of pollinators that have single host plant species, and minimize herbicide spraying on those plants (if invasive species) and in their habitats.
Fish and Other Aquatic Organisms See manuals 6500 (<i>Wildlife and Fisheries Management</i>) and 6780 (<i>Habitat Management Plans</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use appropriate buffer zones based on label and risk assessment guidance. • Minimize treatments near fish-bearing water bodies during periods when fish are in life stages most sensitive to the herbicide(s) used, and use spot rather than broadcast or aerial treatments. • Use appropriate application equipment/method near water bodies if the potential for off-site drift exists. • For treatment of aquatic vegetation, 1) treat only that portion of the aquatic system necessary to achieve acceptable vegetation management, 2) use the appropriate application method to minimize the potential for injury to desirable vegetation and aquatic organisms, and 3) follow water use restrictions presented on the herbicide label.
Wildlife See manuals 6500 (<i>Wildlife and Fisheries Management</i>) and 6780 (<i>Habitat Management Plans</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use herbicides of low toxicity to wildlife, where feasible. • Use spot applications or low-boom broadcast operations where possible to limit the probability of contaminating non-target food and water sources, especially non-target vegetation over areas larger than the treatment area. • Use timing restrictions (e.g., do not treat during critical wildlife breeding or staging periods) to minimize impacts to wildlife.
Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species See Manual 6840 (<i>Special Status Species</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey for special status species before treating an area. Consider effects to special status species when designing herbicide treatment programs. • Use a selective herbicide and a wick or backpack sprayer to minimize risks to special status plants. • Avoid treating vegetation during time-sensitive periods (e.g., nesting and migration, sensitive life stages) for special status species in area to be treated.
Livestock See Handbook H-4120-1 (<i>Grazing Management</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whenever possible and whenever needed, schedule treatments when livestock are not present in the treatment area. Design treatments to take advantage of normal livestock grazing rest periods, when possible. • As directed by the herbicide product label, remove livestock from treatment sites prior to herbicide application, where applicable. • Use herbicides of low toxicity to livestock, where feasible. • Take into account the different types of application equipment and methods, where possible, to reduce the probability of contamination of non-target food and water sources. • Avoid use of diquat in riparian pasture while pasture is being used by livestock. • Notify permittees of the herbicide treatment project to improve coordination and avoid potential conflicts and safety concerns during implementation of the treatment. • Notify permittees of livestock grazing, feeding, or slaughter restrictions, if necessary. • Provide alternative forage sites for livestock, if possible.

TABLE B-2 (Cont.)
Standard Operating Procedures for Applying Pesticides

Resource Element	Standard Operating Procedure
Wild Horses and Burros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize using herbicides in areas grazed by wild horses and burros. • Use herbicides of low toxicity to wild horses and burros, where feasible. • Remove wild horses and burros from identified treatment areas prior to herbicide application, in accordance with herbicide product label directions for livestock. • Take into account the different types of application equipment and methods, where possible, to reduce the probability of contaminating non-target food and water sources.
<p>Cultural Resources and Paleontological Resources</p> <p>See handbooks H-8120-1 (<i>Guidelines for Conducting Tribal Consultation</i>) and H-8270-1 (<i>General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management</i>), and manuals 8100 (<i>The Foundations for Managing Cultural Resources</i>), 8120 (<i>Tribal Consultation Under Cultural Resource Authorities</i>), and 8270 (<i>Paleontological Resource Management</i>)</p> <p>See also: <i>Programmatic Agreement among the Bureau of Land Management, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers Regarding the Manner in Which BLM Will Meet Its Responsibilities Under the National Historic Preservation Act</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow standard procedures for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as implemented through the <i>Programmatic Agreement among the Bureau of Land Management, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers Regarding the Manner in Which BLM Will Meet Its Responsibilities Under the National Historic Preservation Act</i> and state protocols or 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800, including necessary consultations with State Historic Preservation Officers and interested tribes. • Follow BLM Handbook H-8270-1 (<i>General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management</i>) to determine known Condition I and Condition 2 paleontological areas, or collect information through inventory to establish Condition 1 and Condition 2 areas, determine resource types at risk from the proposed treatment, and develop appropriate measures to minimize or mitigate adverse impacts. • Consult with tribes to locate any areas of vegetation that are of significance to the tribe and that might be affected by herbicide treatments. • Work with tribes to minimize impacts to these resources. • Follow guidance under Human Health and Safety in the PEIS in areas that may be visited by Native peoples after treatments.
<p>Visual Resources</p> <p>See handbooks H-8410-1 (<i>Visual Resource Inventory</i>) and H-8431-1 (<i>Visual Resource Contrast Rating</i>), and manual 8400 (<i>Visual Resource Management</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize the use of broadcast foliar applications in sensitive watersheds to avoid creating large areas of browned vegetation. • Consider the surrounding land use before assigning aerial spraying as an application method. • Minimize off-site drift and mobility of herbicides (e.g., do not treat when winds exceed 10 mph; minimize treatment in areas where herbicide runoff is likely; establish appropriate buffer widths between treatment areas and residences) to contain visual changes to the intended treatment area. • If the area is a Class I or II visual resource, ensure that the change to the characteristic landscape is low and does not attract attention (Class I), or if seen, does not attract the attention of the casual viewer (Class II). • Lessen visual impacts by: 1) designing projects to blend in with topographic forms; 2) leaving some low-growing trees or planting some low-growing tree seedlings adjacent to the treatment area to screen short-term effects; and 3) revegetating the site following treatment. • When restoring treated areas, design activities to repeat the form, line, color, and texture of the natural landscape character conditions to meet established Visual Resource Management (VRM) objectives.

TABLE B-2 (Cont.)
Standard Operating Procedures for Applying Pesticides

Resource Element	Standard Operating Procedure
<p>Wilderness and Other Special Areas</p> <p>See handbooks H-8550-1 (<i>Management of Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs)</i>), and H-8560-1 (<i>Management of Designated Wilderness Study Areas</i>), and Manual 8351 (<i>Wild and Scenic Rivers</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage backcountry pack and saddle stock users to feed their livestock only weed-free feed for several days before entering a wilderness area. • Encourage stock users to tie and/or hold stock in such a way as to minimize soil disturbance and loss of native vegetation. • Revegetate disturbed sites with native species if there is no reasonable expectation of natural regeneration. • Provide educational materials at trailheads and other wilderness entry points to educate the public on the need to prevent the spread of weeds. • Use the “minimum tool” to treat noxious and invasive vegetation, relying primarily on the use of ground-based tools, including backpack pumps, hand sprayers, and pumps mounted on pack and saddle stock. • Use chemicals only when they are the minimum method necessary to control weeds that are spreading within the wilderness or threaten lands outside the wilderness. • Give preference to herbicides that have the least impact on non-target species and the wilderness environment. • Implement herbicide treatments during periods of low human use, where feasible. • Address wilderness and special areas in management plans. • Maintain adequate buffers for Wild and Scenic Rivers (¼ mile on either side of river, ½ mile in Alaska).
<p>Recreation</p> <p>See Handbook H-1601-1 (<i>Land Use Planning Handbook, Appendix C</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule treatments to avoid peak recreational use times, while taking into account the optimum management period for the targeted species. • Notify the public of treatment methods, hazards, times, and nearby alternative recreation areas. • Adhere to entry restrictions identified on the herbicide product label for public and worker access. • Post signs noting exclusion areas and the duration of exclusion, if necessary. • Use herbicides during periods of low human use, where feasible.
<p>Social and Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider surrounding land use before selecting aerial spraying as a method, and avoid aerial spraying near agricultural or densely-populated areas. • Post treated areas and specify reentry or rest times, if appropriate. • Notify grazing permittees of livestock feeding restrictions in treated areas, if necessary, as per herbicide product label instructions. • Notify the public of the project to improve coordination and avoid potential conflicts and safety concerns during implementation of the treatment. • Control public access until potential treatment hazards no longer exist, per herbicide product label instructions. • Observe restricted entry intervals specified by the herbicide product label. • Notify local emergency personnel of proposed treatments. • Use spot applications or low-boom broadcast applications where possible to limit the probability of contaminating non-target food and water sources, especially vegetation over areas larger than the treatment area. • Consult with Native American tribes and Alaska Native groups to locate any areas of vegetation that are of significance to the tribes and Native groups and that might be affected by herbicide treatments. • To the degree possible within the law, hire local contractors and workers to assist with herbicide application projects and purchase materials and supplies, including chemicals, for herbicide treatment projects through local suppliers. • To minimize fears based on lack of information, provide public educational information on the need for vegetation treatments and the use of herbicides in an integrated pest management program for projects proposing local use of herbicides.

TABLE B-2 (Cont.)
Standard Operating Procedures for Applying Pesticides

Resource Element	Standard Operating Procedure
Rights-of-way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate vegetation management activities where joint or multiple use of a ROW exists. • Notify other public land users within or adjacent to the ROW proposed for treatment. • Use only herbicides that are approved for use in ROW areas.
Human Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a buffer between treatment areas and human residences based on guidance given in the HHRA, with a minimum buffer of ¼ mile for aerial applications and 100 feet for ground applications, unless a written waiver is granted. • Use protective equipment as directed by the herbicide product label. • Post treated areas with appropriate signs at common public access areas. • Observe restricted entry intervals specified by the herbicide product label. • Provide public notification in newspapers or other media where the potential exists for public exposure. • Have a copy of MSDSs at work site. • Notify local emergency personnel of proposed treatments. • Contain and clean up spills and request help as needed. • Secure containers during transport. • Follow label directions for use and storage. • Dispose of unwanted herbicides promptly and correctly.