

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Critical Elements for Proposed Action (For further information also see Chapter 4, Environmental Impacts)

Critical Element	Affected?		Critical Element	Affected?	
	yes	no		yes	no
1. Air Quality (CAA, 1955) Frank Arriaza	x		2. T&E Species (ESA, 1973) Gregg Mangan or Pardee Bardwell	x	
3. Water Quality (Surface and Ground; SDWA amend 1996, CWA 1987, EO's 12580, 12088, 12372) Frank Arriaza	x		4. ACEC's (FLPMA, 1976) Gregg Mangan	x	
5. Wetlands/Riparian Zone (EO-11990) Pardee Bardwell	x		6. Hazardous & Solid Wastes (RCRA, 1976; CERCLA, 1980) Dave Fatch		x
7. Floodplains (EO-11988) Pardee Bardwell	x		8. Farm Lands (SMARA, 1977)		x
9. Environmental Justice (EO-12898) Julie Burcell		x	10. Wilderness (FLPMA, 1976; WA, 1964) Jonna Hildenbrand		x
11. Native American Religious Concerns (AIRFA, 1978) Julie Burcell	x		12. Wild and Scenic Rivers (W&SRA, 1968) Jonna Hildenbrand		x
13. Cultural Resources (NHPA, 1966) Julie Burcell	x		14. Invasive, Non-Native Species (Lacey Act, Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974) Pardee Bardwell	x	

In the following paragraphs describe the impacts (direct, indirect, and cumulative) to the above critical elements and all other resources that might be affected by the proposed action or alternatives. If a critical element is not affected, write a short explanation below, otherwise explain how the critical element is affected. For all impacts, describe a mitigation measure to reduce or eliminate that impact.

See NEPA Handbook, Appendix 5, for more info and references to BLM manual sections about these Critical Elements.

1. **Air Quality:** Affected. There could be a temporary impact to local air quality from increased dust during earth moving activities such as construction of new access locations, dependent upon the timing. If done when there is still sufficient soil moisture, this impact will be almost negligible. If occurring later on during the dry summer months, this impact could be more noticeable, primarily by those involved with construction activities and by travelers along nearby roads. Water will be used to minimize dust followed by gravelling of the access road and parking areas.

2. **T&E Species:** Affected. It is possible that increased public use near eagle nesting sites could cause disturbance to the birds during the sensitive breeding season. During this time an area approximately ½ mile in diameter will be closed to public use.

3. **Water Quality:** Affected. Increased visitor use could lead to localized decrease in water quality at creek crossings, seeps located along trails, etc. These will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, such as routing trails away from seeps, armoring creek crossings, etc. This impact is

expected to be minor though, as all trails and facilities will be designed for minimum impact.

Positive impacts to water quality will come from habitat restoration projects, such as tamarisk removal and other projects for reducing sedimentation.

4. ACEC's: Affected. The Cache Creek ACEC will likely see an increase in visitors as new access facilities are developed. These facilities will all be designed for minimum impact. An expanded trail system will spread visitor use throughout the ACEC, minimizing contacts between visitors except at trailheads.

5. Wetlands/Riparian Zone: Affected. Increased visitor use could have impacts to wetlands and riparian areas. All trails will avoid as much as possible extended travel through these areas. Positive impacts will come from various habitat restoration projects, including tamarisk eradication and revegetation with native plants.

6. Hazardous & Solid Wastes: Not Affected. There are no known hazardous or solid wastes within the CCNA.

7. Floodplains: Affected. An increase in visitor use may cause local impacts along Bear Creek. However careful signing and routing of access trails will keep this to a minimal level.

8. Farm Lands: Not Affected. There are no farm lands within the CCNA.

9. Environmental Justice: Not affected. No communities or groups will be negatively impacted by this project.

10. Wilderness: Not Affected. Presently there is no designated wilderness within the CCNA. If future wilderness is designated, the Proposed Action of this CRMP is designed to prevent impacts to the wilderness resource.

11. Native American Religious Concerns: Affected. Increased visitor use could result in impacts to sacred Native American sites within the CCNA. Close coordination with tribal representatives has resulted in specific measures being identified to reduce this impact, including directional signage, trail rerouting, and use of barriers where feasible.

12. Wild and Scenic Rivers: Not Affected. Presently there is no WSR designation within the CCNA. If future wild and scenic status is designated for Cache Creek, the Proposed Action of this CRMP is designed to prevent impacts to the wild and scenic river resource.

13. Cultural Resources: Affected. The Proposed Action will result in an increase in visitor use, likely impacting known cultural sites within the CCNA. Measures have been identified that will be taken to minimize impacts to these sites including trail reroutes, fencing or other barriers, and signage. Past research indicates that the Cache Creek Watershed is highly sensitive in terms

of prehistoric archaeological remains. The BLM will work closely with tribal representatives and consult on all proposed developments and other project activity.

14. Invasive, Non-Native Species: Affected. One of the major habitat components of this CRMP is to reduce the amount of noxious weeds, both riparian and upland. An integrated approach involving several methods has been proposed, including use of prescribed fire, herbicide, biocontrol agents, prescribed grazing, mowing, revegetation with native species, and hand-pulling for small outlying populations of noxious weeds.

15. Soils: Affected. There will be localized impacts to soils during construction of additional access locations. Prior to placement of fill material at these sites, the top layer of soil (A horizon) containing vegetative and organic material will be scraped off, temporarily stockpiled, and then spread out. The removal of this material will cause an impact to the stratification of the soil. The soil will not transmit water in the amounts it did prior to disturbance, resulting in a decrease in water infiltration into the soil. Nutrient production and absorption will cease in the former A horizon, and root establishment and plant growth will also be decreased.

The intent of this project is to reduce the water infiltration, since the disturbed areas are meant to be used primarily for vehicle access. Best Management Practices (BMP's) will be employed that will reduce any soils erosion or sedimentation from these sites. These may include use of straw bales and wattles, silt fences, and revegetation with native species.

16. Recreation: Affected. Some types of activities may be restricted by seasonal closures if needed, but for the most part the Proposed Action will provide positive benefits for a broad range of primitive recreation activities within the CCNA.