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**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0064 CX

PROJECT NAME: Hogback Road Repair

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T. 2 N., R. 77 W., Section 10

APPLICANT: BLM

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Hogback Road is in need of emergency repair. This road is actively travelled by the public and provides a health and safety concern. Several vehicles have been trapped and stranded for some periods of time. The road work area is located approximately 3 miles North of U.S. Highway 40 just off highway CO.125 on BLM road 2760.

There are two areas of immediate concern. The first concern is runoff travelling down the road surface has eroded a gully that needs to be filled and bladed. The poorly drained road becomes saturated at one location, creating a wet boggy area that needs to be excavated and proper drainage restored. The second area involves excavating and moving an existing rocky outcropping to the out slope side of the damaged road. The rocky outcropping serves as an obstruction to vehicles and needs to be widened in order to allow vehicles to safely operate on this road section.

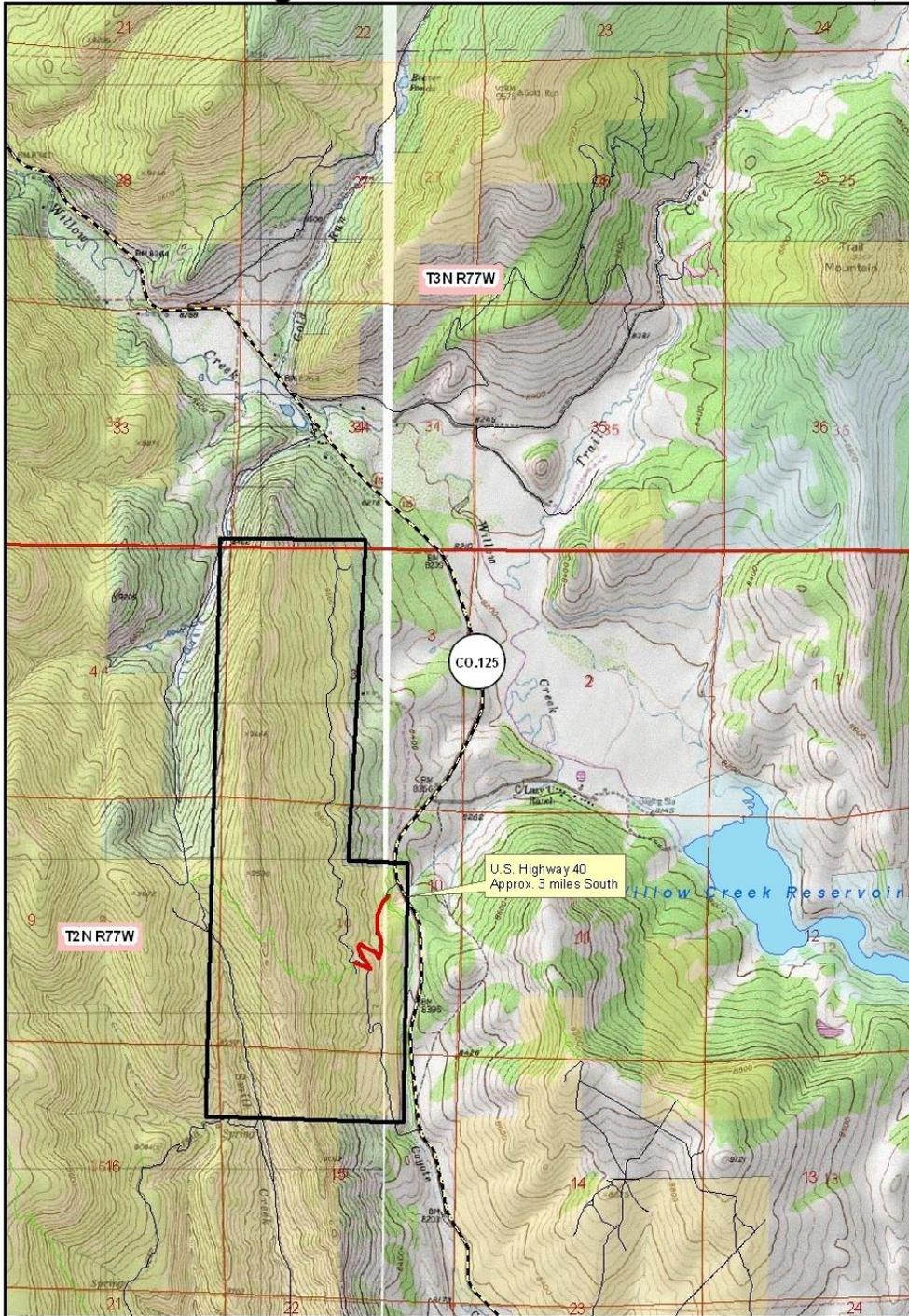
The adjacent road cut banks contain suitable borrow material to replace the saturated soils excavated from the wet area, thus minimizing haul and cost. These areas of borrow material are within current road grades that have been cultural cleared of any historic and pre-historic significance. The adjacent road ditch on the cut bank side of the road will also be maintained by pulling out materials blocking the proper flow of the seasonal water flow and runoff.

Road improvements will occur during dry weather conditions, August 1 to September 1, 2009.

Mechanical equipment (e.g., graders, loaders, backhoes etc.) will be cleaned of all soil and vegetative material before entering the project area to ensure prevention of invasive or noxious plants.

Native grass seed or an approved seed mix will be applied on areas of highly disturbed soil (e.g., new road cut and fill slopes, etc.). There should not be significant disturbance.

Hogback Road Issues



Legend

- Sections
- Land Status**
 - Bureau of Land Mgt
 - Division of Wildlife
 - National Park
 - NATLRA
 - Private
 - State
 - US Forest Service

— Approximate Road Repair Area



1:24,000

Maps: Cabin Creek, Trail Mtn.
BLM, Kremmling FO AUG. 4, 2009
ROAD ISSUES AND CABIN
Tom Adamson

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD), Updated.

Date Approved: February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Transportation and Access, P.14, “Provide access to allow multiple use management of public lands.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, Section I (1) “Planned actions in response to wildfires, floods, weather events, earthquakes, or landslips that threaten public health or safety, property, and/or natural and cultural resources, and that are necessary to repair or improve lands unlikely to recover to a management approved condition as a result of the event....”. None of the following extraordinary circumstances in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		X
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be		X

listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		
2.9 Violate a Federal Law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		X
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air & Riparian	8/11/2009
Bill B. Wyatt	Fire Archaeologist	Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation	8/11/2009
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Species and Wildlife	8/11/2009
Peter McFadden	Associate Field Manager	NEPA	8/12/2009
Frank G. Rupp	Archaeologist	Paleontology	8/11/2009

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: Cultural resource inventory report #CR-08-12 was completed for the Hogback Salvage Timber Sale that is part of this repair, which included road maintenance and upgrading of the haul road. There are no cultural resources that would be affected by this action. The project is a no effect, no historic properties would be affected.

Native American Religious Concerns: Tribal consultation was initiated on February 23, 2007, and to date no tribe has identified any area of traditional spiritual concern.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: There will be a B.L.M. employee on sight to assure road is repaired to requested specifications. A post inspection will be performed to verify that proper drainage is being achieved on the repaired road sections.

NAME OF PREPARER: Thomas Adamson

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Peter McFadden

DATE: 8/12/2009

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to implement the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Peter McFadden

DATE SIGNED: 8/12/09