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

**CANCELLED**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-120-2010-0022-EA

PROJECT NAME: Bench Privy Replacement

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T. 2 S., R. 82 W., Sec. 4, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

KREMMLING FIELD OFFICE, KREMMLING, COLORADO

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:

APPLICANT: BLM

### PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE ACTION:

The purpose of the proposed project is to assure public health and safety at the Bench campsites along the Upper Colorado River by providing two new pit privies. The need for the proposed action is two of the existing pit privies are full and can no longer be used by the public.

### Background/Introduction/Issues and Concerns:

In 1982, BLM constructed two pit privies at the Bench Campsite along the Upper Colorado River. The pit privies were constructed to address human waste issues at the campsite. In 1982, BLM estimated 45,000 user days on the Upper Colorado River from Pumphouse to Dotsero, 80% of that use occurring above State Bridge. The Bench campsite was identified as a popular stop for both day users and over-night users. As a result of the heavy use at the Bench, human waste was becoming a public health problem. Currently, BLM estimates use of the river from Pumphouse to State Bridge to be around 60,000 user days. The pattern of use at the Bench site has not changed. It is still used as a lunch stop for day users and as a campsite for overnight users. Human waste is becoming an issue at Bench site as a result of the two pit privies that are full and no longer useful to the public.

### DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

#### Proposed Action:

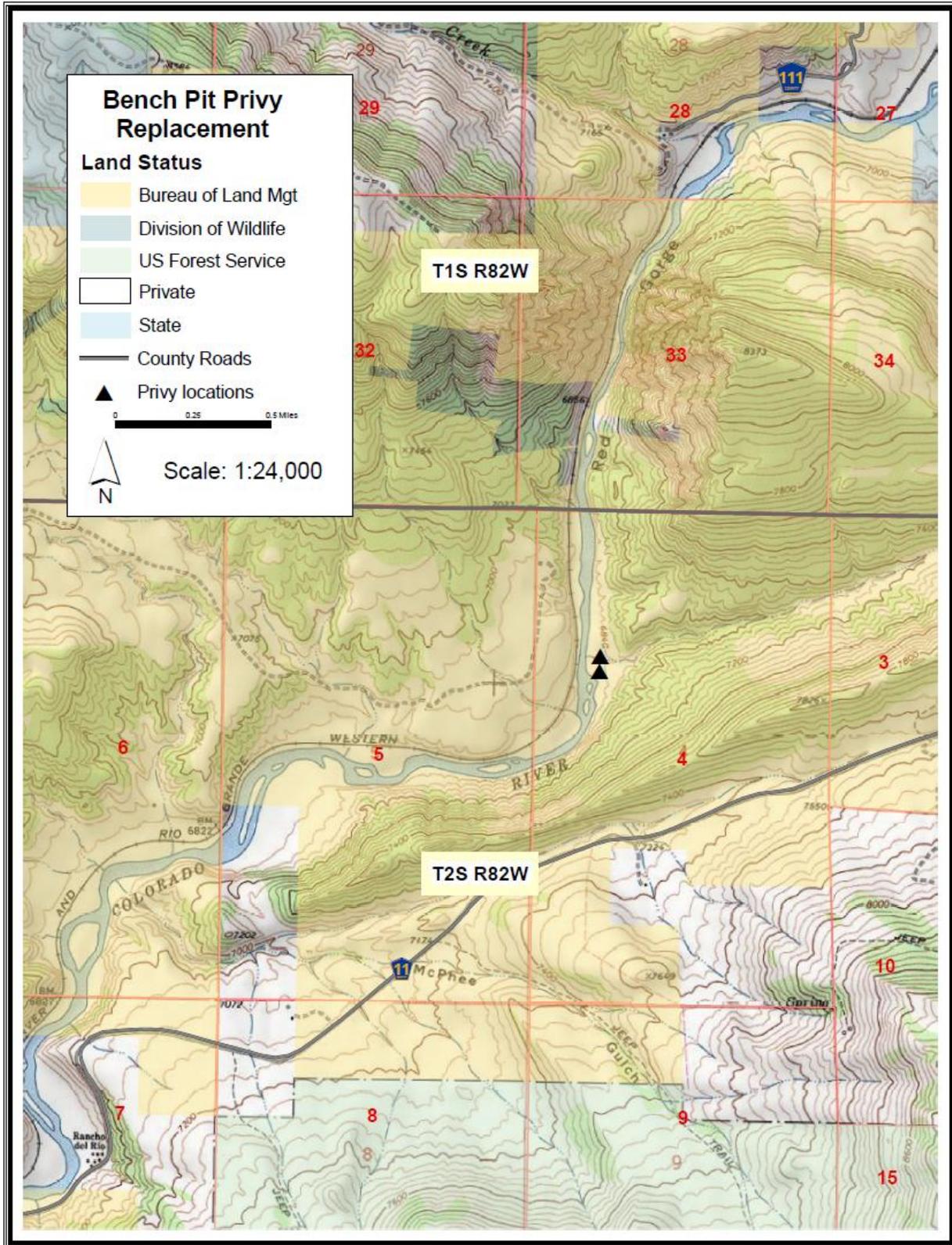
The proposed action is to construct two new pit privies at the Bench site. One privy would be located adjacent to the Bench 3 campsite, and one would be located adjacent to the Bench 2 campsite (see attached maps). Both privies have an 8'X8'X4' deep vault. The vaults would have

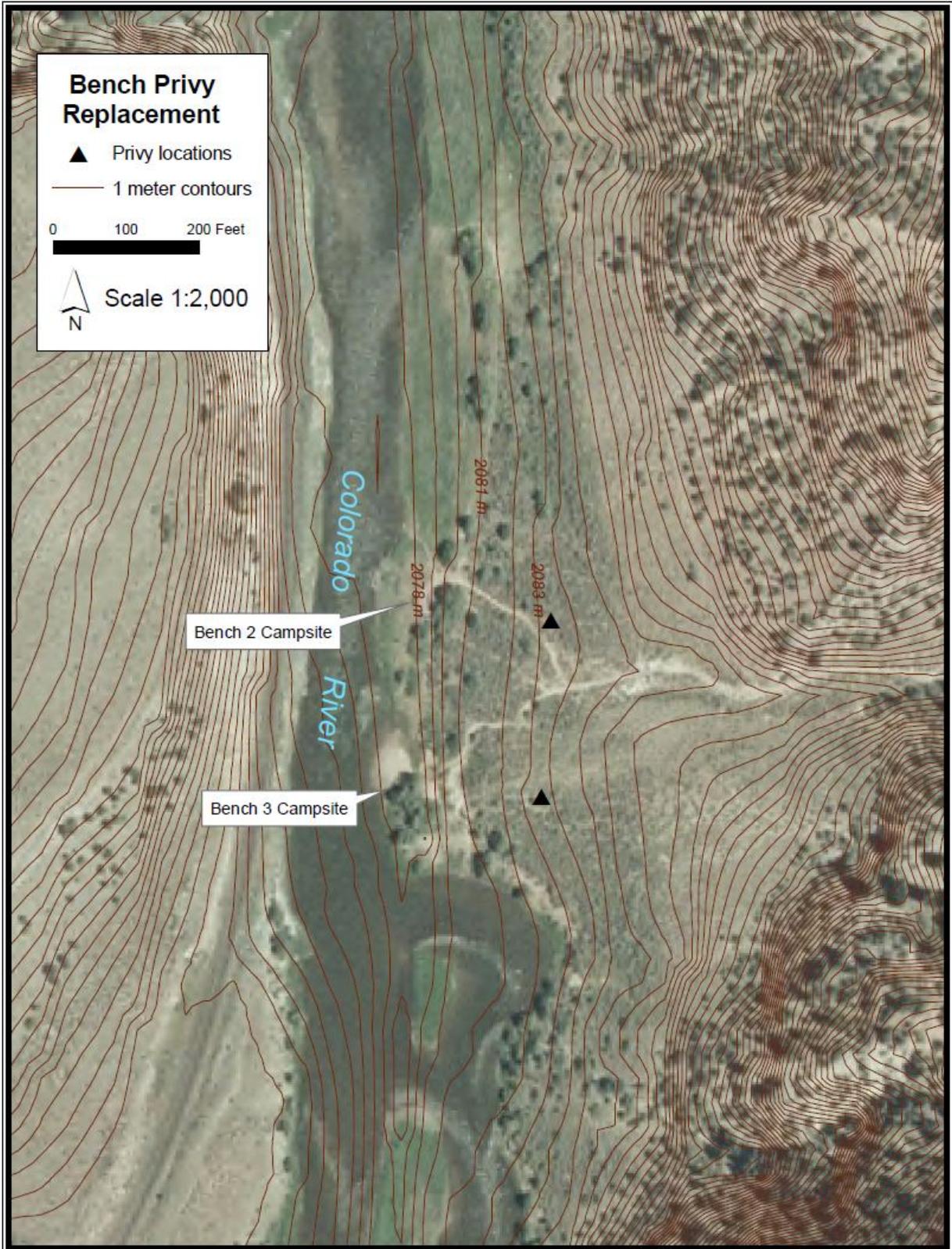
walls constructed with 8” treated posts stacked and interlocked at the corners to prevent soil sloughing into the vault from the walls. The bottom of the vault would be soil to allow drainage of liquids. The vaults would be covered with three quarter inch marine-grade plywood that would be treated with water repelling stain. Each privy would have one stainless steel toilet stand with a hinged seat and lid. Each privy will have a six foot high privacy screening with a three foot self-closing door. The toilet stand would be placed to one side of the vault. When one side of the vault fills, the stand would be moved to the other side of the vault. This would maximize the vault space and extend the life of the privy. Material excavated for the new vaults would be used to cover the old vaults. A minimum of 12” of soil would be placed on top of the old vaults. The screening and floors for the old privies would be dismantled. Non-flammable materials would be removed from the site, and flammable materials would be burned on site. All fire ash would be captured and packed out for disposal in the landfill.

Design Features of the Proposed Action:

1. The bottom of the vault would be four feet above the maximum seasonal level of the groundwater table.
2. The soil around the top to the vault will slope away from the vault.
3. Construction will not begin prior to Eagle County approval..

Insert Map





Alternative #2:

Under this alternative, the two vaults that are full and no longer usable would be covered with a minimum of 12” of soil gathered from the bottom of the main drainage that empties adjacent to the Bench 3 campsite. The screen structure would be dismantled. The non-flammable materials would be packed out, and the flammable material would be burned on site. All fire ash would be captured and packed out for disposal in the landfill. All commercial and private trips would be required to carry and use portable toilet systems to capture and pack out all human waste from the Bench 2 and Bench 3 campsites. The portable toilet requirement would apply to both day and overnight trips.

No Action Alternative:

Under no action alternative, the two vaults that are full and no longer usable would be covered with a minimum of 12” of soil gathered from the bottom of the main drainage that empties adjacent to the Bench 3 campsite. The screen structure would be dismantled. The non-flammable materials would be packed out, and the flammable material would be burned on site. All fire ash would be captured and packed out for disposal in the landfill.

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)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Recreation (Objective):

“...to reduce the impact of recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and to provide for visitor safety, and resource interpretation.” (pg 9)

Name of Plan: Recreation Management Plan for the Upper Colorado River, Decision Record

This is an activity-level plan that was approved prior to the ROD for the 1984 RMP. The 1999 Updated ROD for the RMP referenced this plan in the Monitoring/Schedule for recreation. “The Recreation Area Management Plan for the Upper Colorado River SRMA will continue to be implemented.” (pg 10, 1999 Updated ROD for the RMP)

Date Approved: September 9, 1982

(Action) “Install pit toilets at the Bench and Island camping areas.”

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

**AIR QUALITY**

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

## CULTURAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

## FLOODPLAINS

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

## THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species:

## WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality:

WETLANDS & RIPARIAN ZONES (includes a finding on Standard 2)

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for riparian systems:

SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils:

WILDLIFE, AQUATIC (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Terrestrial):

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment:

Environmental Consequences:

Mitigation:

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic):

**CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY:** *All resource values have been evaluated for cumulative impacts. It has been determined that there would be no cumulative impacts.*

**PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED:** See Appendix 2 for Tribal List.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:** See IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.



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## DOI-BLM-CO-120-2010-0022-EA

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

### DECISION RECORD

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached EA.

*(NOTE: if mitigation measures or monitoring requirements are to be carried forward in the decision, the following sentence needs to be added.)*

“This decision is contingent on meeting all mitigation measures and monitoring requirements listed below.”

RATIONALE: *(NOTE: The rationale for the decision should explain why the decision was made and the factors considered by the decision maker.)*

MITIGATION MEASURES:

COMPLIANCE/MONITORING: *(No monitoring needs have been identified for this action.)*

NAME OF PREPARER:

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:

DATE:

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

DATE SIGNED:

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Review Record and Checklist  
Appendix 2 – Native American Tribal List

ATTACHMENTS:

1) Stipulations

Appendix 1

**INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS REVIEW RECORD AND CHECKLIST:**

**Project Title:**

**Project Leader:**

**Date Proposal Received: (Only for external proposals)**

**Date Submitted for Comment:**

**Due Date for Comments:**

**Need for a field Exam: (If so, schedule a date/time)**

**Scoping Needs/Interested or Affected Publics: (Identify public scoping needs)**

**Consultation/Permit Requirements:**

Consultation	Date Initiated	Date Completed	Responsible Specialist/ Contractor	Comments
Cultural/Archeological Clearance/SHPO				
Native American				
T&E Species/FWS				
Permits Needed (i.e. Air or Water)				

**(NP) = Not Present**

**(NI) = Resource/Use Present but Not Impacted**

**(PI) = Potentially Impacted and Brought Forward for Analysis.**

NP NI PI	Discipline/Name	Date Review Comp.	Initials	Review Comments (required for Critical Element NIs, and for elements that require a finding but are not carried forward for analysis.)
<b>CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b>				
	Air Quality <b>Belcher</b>			
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern <b>McGuire</b>			There are no Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in the proximity of the proposed project area.
	Cultural Resources <b>Wyatt</b>			
NP	Environmental Justice <b>Cassel</b>	1/7/09	SC	According to the most recent Census Bureau statistics (2000), there are no minority or low income communities within the Kremmling Planning Area.
NP	Farmlands, Prime and Unique <b>Belcher</b>			There are no farmlands, prime or unique, in the proximity of the proposed project area.
	Floodplains <b>Belcher</b>			
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species <b>Johnson Torma Hughes</b>	4/14/10	RJ	There would be no impact to invasive, non-native species with implementation of the Proposed Action.
	Migratory Birds <b>McGuire</b>			
	Native American Religious Concerns <b>Wyatt</b>			

	T/E, and Sensitive Species (Finding on Standard 4) <b>McGuire</b>				
NP	Wastes, Hazardous and Solid <b>Hodgson</b>				There are no quantities of wastes, hazardous or solid, located on BLM-administered lands in the proposed project area, and there would be no wastes generated as a result of the Proposed Action or No Action alternative.
	Water Quality, Surface and Ground (Finding on Standard 5) <b>Belcher</b>				
	Wetlands & Riparian Zones (Finding on Standard 2) <b>Belcher</b>				
NI	Wild and Scenic Rivers <b>Windsor</b>	12/10/09	AW		The proposed action is within ¼ mile of Segment 5 of the Colorado River. Segment 5 has been inventoried and determined eligible for consideration as a Wild & Scenic River. The Outstanding Remarkable Values (ORVs) for this segment are include the recreation activities of floatboating and fishing. The proposed action, Alternative #, and the no action alternative would not impact the free-flowing nature of the river or the ORVs, so there would no impact to Wild & Scenic Rivers.
NP	Wilderness <b>Monkouski</b>				There is no designated Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas in the proximity of the proposed project area.
<b>NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b> (A finding must be made for these elements)					
	Soils (Finding on Standard 1) <b>Belcher</b>				
NI	Vegetation (Finding on Standard 3) <b>Johnson Torma</b>	4/14/10	RJ		There would be no impact to the vegetation with implementation of the Proposed Action.
	Wildlife, Aquatic (Finding on Standard 3) <b>McGuire</b>				
	Wildlife, Terrestrial (Finding on Standard 3) <b>McGuire</b>				
<b>OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b>					
	Access/Transportation <b>Monkouski</b>				
NP	Forest Management <b>K. Belcher</b>	4/26/10	KB		No forest resources present.
	Geology and Minerals <b>Hodgson</b>				
	Fire <b>Wyatt</b>				
	Hydrology/Water Rights <b>Belcher</b>				
	Paleontology <b>Rupp</b>				
	Noise <b>Monkouski</b>				
NP	Range Management <b>Johnson Torma</b>	4/14/10	RJ		There is no livestock grazing within the vicinity of the Proposed Action.
NP	Lands/ Realty Authorizations <b>Sperandio</b>	12/17/09	AS		There are no leases, permits or rights-of-ways in the proposed project area.
PI	Recreation <b>Monkouski Windsor</b>	12/10/09	AW		See analysis
NI	Socio-Economics <b>Cassel</b>	1/7/09	SC		There would be no socio-economic impact from the proposed action or the no action alternative. The commercial rafting business would continue at its current level whether privies were supplies or not.
NI	Visual Resources <b>Windsor</b>	12/10/09	AW		The proposed project is in a Visual Resource

				Inventory (VRI) Class II area. Since the 1984 Resource Management Plan (RMP) did not designate Visual Resource Management (VRM) areas, BLM manages visual resources to protect the VRI by applying management class objectives to the inventory. Objectives for VRM Class II are to retain the existing character of the landscape. Changes to the landscape should be low and should not attract attention. The proposed action would replace the existing structures, so there would be no change to the landscape. Alternative #2 and the no action alternative would remove the existing structures, making the area more natural. There would be no impacts to visual resources from Alternative #2 or the no action alternative.
	Cumulative Impact Summary			
<b>FINAL REVIEW</b>				
	P&E Coordinator	<b>McFadden</b>		

Appendix 2

**NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES CONTACTED:**

Ivan Posey, Chairman  
Shoshone Business Council  
Shoshone Tribe  
P O Box 538  
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514

Mr. Norman Tidzump  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Shoshone Tribe, Cultural Center  
P.O. Box 538  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Ernest House, Sr., Chairman  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
P O Box JJ  
Towaoc, CO 81334

Mr. Terry Knight, Sr., NAGPRA Representative  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
P O Box 468  
Towaoc, CO 81334

Harvey Spoonhunter, Chairman  
Northern Arapaho Business Council  
P O Box 328  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

THPO Director  
Northern Arapaho Tribe  
P O Box 396  
Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Ernest House, Jr., Executive Secretary  
Colorado Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
130 State Capitol  
Denver, Colorado 80203

Robert Goggles, NAGPRA Representative  
Northern Arapaho Tribe  
328 Seventeen Mile Road  
Arapaho, WY 82510

Mathew Box, Chairman  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
P O Box 737  
Ignacio, CO 81137

Neil Cloud, NAGPRA Representative  
Southern Ute Tribe  
Mail Stop #73  
Ignacio, CO 81137

Curtis Cesspooch, Chairman  
Uintah & Ouray Tribal Business Committee  
P O Box 190  
Ft. Duchesne, UT 84026

Betsy Chapoose, Director  
Cultural Rights & Protection Specialist  
Uintah & Ouray Tribe  
P O Box 190  
Fort Duchesne, UT 84026