

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
White River Field Office  
220 E Market St  
Meeker, CO 81641**

## **DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-110-2011-0137-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: Amend COC73102

PROJECT NAME: Access Road to CPS 1868

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado  
T. 1 N., R. 101 W.,  
sec. 31, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

APPLICANT: Northwest Pipeline GP

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

COC73102 was amended in 2010 to authorize CPS 1868 and an access road (analyzed in [DOI-CO-110-2009-221-EA](#)). The intersection of the access road and Highway 139 was not approved by Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). Northwest Pipeline (NWP) worked with CDOT to relocate the access road to an approved CDOT location. The relocated access road off of Highway 139 to the pipeline right-of-way (ROW) would be 20 feet wide, 200 feet long, and contain approximately 0.09 acres (see Figure 1).

All applicable terms and conditions contained in ROW COC73102 shall remain in full force and effect.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Page 2-49

Decision Language: "To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values."

## REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document: White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS).

Date Approved: June 1996

Name of Document: DOI-CO-110-2009-221-EA

Date Approved: 6/25/2010

## NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA:

1. Is the new Proposed Action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document? 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? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

*Yes. The Proposed Action to authorize an amendment to the access road to serve CPS 1868 is essentially similar to, and is within the same analysis area as, the existing NEPA document CO-110-2009-0221-EA, which analyzed the access road.*

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document appropriate with respect to the new Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

*Yes, a reasonable range of alternatives (the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative) were analyzed in CO-110-2009-0221-EA. No reasons were identified to analyze additional alternatives to the Proposed Action and these alternatives are considered to be adequate and valid for the Proposed Action.*

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?

*Yes, a reasonable range of alternatives (the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative) were analyzed in CO-110-2009-0221-EA. No reasons were identified to analyze additional alternatives to the Proposed Action and these alternatives are considered to be adequate and valid for the Proposed Action.*

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?

*Yes. The direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Action remain unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document CO-110-2009-0221-EA.*

5. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents adequate for the current Proposed Action?

*Yes. The public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document CO-110-2009-0221-EA are adequate for the current proposal to authorize an amendment to the access road was analyzed previously. Additionally this DNA was listed on WRFO's online NEPA register on 6/15/2011 and no comments or inquiries were received as of 10/12/2011.*

**INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:**

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 6/14/2011. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Date</b>
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	10/4/2011
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	7/26/2011
Zoe Miller	Ecologist	Special Status Plant Species	6/23/2011

**REMARKS:**

*Cultural Resources:* The proposed access route to the CPS is located in the Canyon Pintado National Historic District (District), 5RB.984, and has been inventoried at the Class III (100 percent pedestrian) level (Nelson 2010, compliance dated 8/17/2011). The inventory concluded that there were no contributing elements to the District. Consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office concluded that there was no adverse impact to the District.

*Native American Religious Concerns:* No Native American religious concerns are known in the area, and none have been noted by Northern Ute tribal authorities. Should recommended inventories or future consultations with Tribal authorities reveal the existence of such sensitive properties, appropriate mitigation and/or protection measures may be undertaken.

*Paleontological Resources:* The proposed access road is located in an area generally mapped as Quaternary Alluviums (Tweto 1979), which are not generally known to produce fossil resources (Armstrong and Wolny 1989). Since the proposed work will occur at very shallow depth there is little likelihood of impacting scientifically noteworthy fossil resources.

*Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species:* There are no additional wildlife-related issues or concerns outside of those addressed in the original environmental assessment DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-221-EA.

*Threatened and Endangered Plant Species:* There are no special status plant species concerns.

#### REFERENCES CITED:

- Armstrong, Harley J., and David G. Wolny  
1989 Paleontological Resources of Northwest Colorado: A Regional Analysis. Museum of Western Colorado. Grand Junction, Colorado.
- Nelson, Zachary  
2011 An Additional Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for CPS 1868, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. (11-174-02: SHPO #RB.LM.NR2137)
- Tweto, Ogden  
1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geologic Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

#### MITIGATION:

All applicable terms and conditions in the original right-of-way grant and any amendments shall be carried forward and remain in full force and effect.

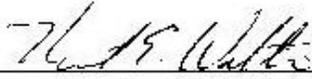
COMPLIANCE PLAN: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring will be conducted by the BLM White River Field Office staff during and after construction. Specific mitigation developed in this document will be followed. The operator will be notified of compliance related issues, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

NAME OF PREPARER: Stacey Burke

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Heather Sauls

CONCLUSION

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to 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.

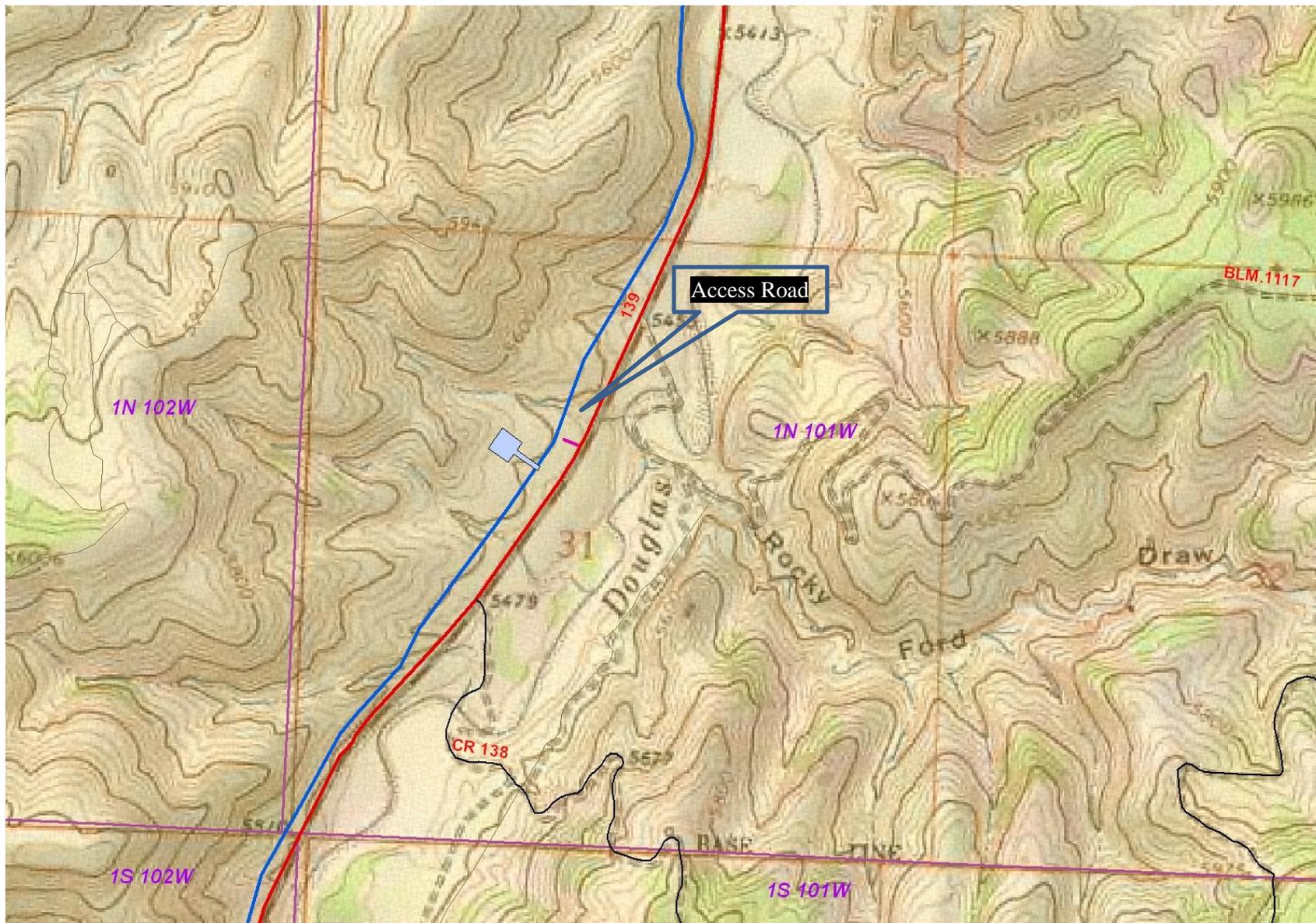
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 10/12/11

ATTACHMENTS: Map of Proposed Action

Note: The signed Conclusion in this DNA 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 or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

Figure 1: Proposed Access Road to CPS 1868



**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
White River Field Office  
220 E Market St  
Meeker, CO 81641**

**DECISION RECORD**

**PROJECT NAME:** Access Road to CPS 1868

**DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY NUMBER:** DOI-BLM-CO-2011-0137-DNA

**DECISION**

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-CO-2011-0137-DNA, authorizing the construction, operation, and maintenance of an access road to serve CPS 1868.

**Mitigation Measures**

All applicable terms and conditions in the original right-of-way grant and any amendments shall be carried forward and remain in full force and effect.

**COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & CONFORMANCE WITH THE LAND USE PLAN**

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The BLM informed the public about this project by listing it on the online WRFO NEPA Register on 6/15/2011 and a copy of the completed Documentation of NEPA Adequacy will be posted on the WRFO website.

**RATIONALE**

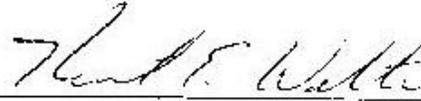
The proposal for an access road in concert with the applied mitigation conforms to the land use plan and the NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA. A new road location is needed in order to access the CPS location from Highway 139 at an intersection approved by CDOT.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES**

This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 2801.10(b)). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a Notice of Appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at White River Field Office, 220 East Market St., Meeker, CO 81641 with copies sent to the Regional Solicitor, Rocky Mountain Region, 755 Parfet St., Suite

151, Lakewood, CO 80215, and to the Department of the Interior, Board of Land Appeals, 801 North Quincy St., MS300-QC, Arlington, VA, 22203. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals at the above address within 30 days after the Notice of Appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

**SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:**



Field Manager

**DATE SIGNED:**

12/12/11