

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-110-2012-0093-DNA

PROJECT NAME: Weed Wranglers Inc. Pesticide Use Proposals (PUPs)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Township	Range	Sections, Lots, or portions thereof
1 North	101 West	SESE 33

APPLICANT: Weed Wranglers Inc.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: Weed Wranglers has applied for a Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) to treat noxious weeds on and around El Paso well pad #1000 (see Figure 1). Targeted weeds are cheatgrass, tamarisk, Canada thistle, and Russian thistle. Herbicides that will be used are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Herbicides Proposed for Chemical Treatments and Rates

Trade Name	Common Name	Rate
Journey	Imazapic+Glyphosate	16 oz/acre
Roundup Pro	Glyphosate	100% Solution
Banvel	Dicamba	32 oz/ac

The carrier would be water, and Hilite dye would be used to mark spray distribution. Application would be by truck sprayer with a handgun, and paintbrush for tamarisk treatments. Use of motorized vehicles would be restricted to existing disturbance, and all spraying will be under the control of a certified herbicide applicator. It is estimated 4 acres will be treated annually.

Decision to be Made: The White River Field Office (WRFO) will decide whether or not to approve the PUP, and if so, with what terms and conditions.

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: 2-13

Decision Language: "Manage noxious weeds so that they cause no further negative environmental aesthetic or economic impact."

#### REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing National Environmental Policy Act (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: White River Field Office Integrated Weed Management Plan (DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA).

Date Approved: 03/19/2010

#### 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?

*Documentation of answer and explanation:* Yes, the proposed chemical treatments in the Proposed Action were a feature of the analysis in the White River Field Office Integrated Weed Management Plan (DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA), which analyzed alternatives for doing noxious weed treatments within the field office boundary using these herbicides. The integrated weed control strategy is improving vegetation conditions.

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?

*Documentation of answer and explanation:* Four alternatives, the Proposed Action, the No Action Alternative, No Aerial Application of Herbicides Alternative, and the No Herbicide Use Alternative were analyzed in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA. No reasons were identified to analyze additional alternatives 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, the analysis in the EA listed above is still valid. There is no known new information or circumstances that would substantially change the analysis of the new 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?

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes, the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new Proposed Action is similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document, DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA.

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

*Documentation of answer and explanation:* Yes, consultation occurred between the BLM and the US Fish and Wildlife Service for environmental assessment, DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA. In addition, lists of the current NEPA documents (projects) are available for review on the WRFO webpage.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:**

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the WRFO interdisciplinary team on 05/22/2012. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the WRFO. 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>
Kristin Bowen	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	06/11/2012
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	07/24/2012
Amber Shanklin	Biological Technician - Plants	Special Status Plant Species	06/19/2012

**REMARKS:**

*Cultural Resources:* All treatments are proposed for ground that has been previously disturbed, and that was surveyed for cultural resources prior to the disturbance. There should be no new impacts to cultural resources eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. An indirect impact of herbicide application is the unlawful collection of artifacts and vandalism.

*Native American Religious Concerns:* No Native American religious concerns are known for pesticide use in the WRFO. Should future consultations with Ute tribal authorities reveal concerns, and the desire to be consulted with on weed spraying actions, additional measures may be taken.

*Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species:* There are no threatened or endangered wildlife species that are known to inhabit or derive important use from the project area. All wildlife-related issues and concerns were adequately addressed in the parent document.

*Threatened and Endangered Plant Species:* There are no special status plant species issues or concerns associated with the Proposed Action. Known populations and suitable habitat of sensitive species are at least 8,000 meters away from the Proposed Action.

**MITIGATION:**

The following applicable mitigation from DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA has been carried forward:

1. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts. If archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the applicant must immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative.
2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the applicant must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
3. The applicator should be aware of all SOPs (Appendix C), mitigation measures (Appendix D) and conservation measures (Appendix E) regarding terrestrial wildlife/migratory birds required in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA.

**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 in writing, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

**NAME OF PREPARER:** Matthew Dupire

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.

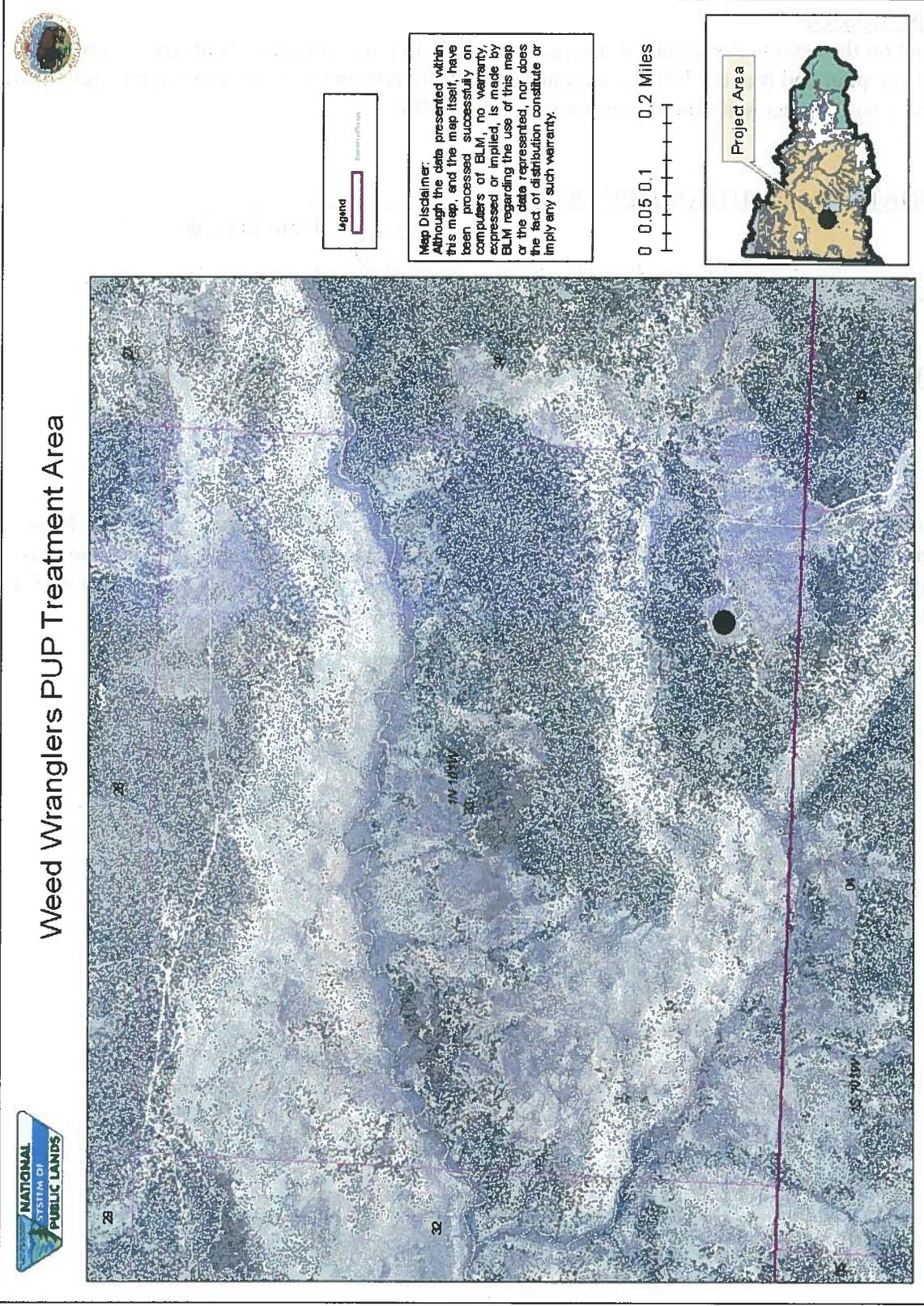
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: *Est M M. G/S*  
*Acting* Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: *8/30/12*

ATTACHMENTS: Figure 1: Map of Weed Wrangler Treatment Area

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: Map of Weed Wrangler Treatment Area



**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:** Weed Wranglers Inc. Pesticide Use Proposals (PUPs)

**DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY NUMBER:** DOI-BLM-CO-2012-0093-DNA

**DECISION**

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-CO-2012-0093-DNA, authorizing the Pesticide Use Proposal.

**Mitigation Measures**

1. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts. If archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the applicant must immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative.
2. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the applicant must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
3. The applicator should be aware of all SOPs (Appendix C), mitigation measures (Appendix D) and conservation measures (Appendix E) regarding terrestrial wildlife/migratory birds required in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA.

**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 White River Field Office National Environmental Policy Act Register on 05/22/2012 and a copy of the completed Documentation of NEPA Adequacy will be posted on the WRFO website.

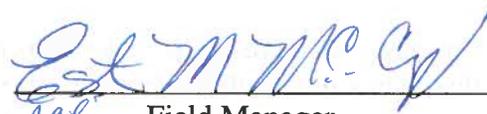
**RATIONALE**

The proposal for a PUP 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 PUP is needed to control noxious weeds around the well pad as required in the NEPA documents that approved the well pad.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES**

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:**

  
Acting Field Manager

**DATE SIGNED:**

8/30/12