

# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR TEMPORARY LAND CLOSURE TUSCARORA WILD HORSE GATHER

Environmental Assessment  
DOI-BLM-NV-E020-2010-0027-EA

### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT DETERMINATION

Based on the analysis of the Temporary Land Closure – Tuscarora Wild Horse Gather environmental assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-NV-E020-2010-0027-EA, I have determined that the action will not have a significant effect on the human environment and an environmental impact statement (EIS) will not be prepared. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described:

#### Context:

The Tuscarora Field Office, Bureau of Land Management has requested a temporary closure of public lands during the scheduled Tuscarora Wild Horse Gather. A Federal Register Notice would be published and the public notified of the temporary closure through the BLM website as well as through announcements in the local newspapers.

#### Intensity:

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulation includes the following ten considerations for evaluating intensity:

1) *Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.* The decision to allow the proposed action is consistent with all federal laws and regulations; other plans, programs, and policies of affiliated Tribes; other federal agencies, state, and local government, to the extent practical within federal law, regulation, and policy and would not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation. There is a demonstrated need for the temporary land closure in order to protect the public health and safety.

2) *The degree to which the selected alternative will affect public health or safety:* The proposed action to temporarily close public lands will positively affect public health and safety.

3) *Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.* There are no park lands, prime unique farm lands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas in or near the temporary closure area.

4) *The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.* The effects on the quality of the human environment were determined to be negligible. A temporary closure order will not have any controversial effect.

5) *The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.* There are no known risks associated with this proposed action.

6) *The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or presents a decision in principle about a future consideration.* The issuance of a temporary closure order in and of itself does not set a precedent for future considerations concerning public lands in this area.

7) *Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.* All resource values were evaluated for cumulative impacts and determined to be negligible for the proposed temporary closure order.

8) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.* A temporary closure order would not adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, nor will it cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources.

9) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under ESA of 1973.* As described in the EA, no known threatened or endangered species or critical habitat would be affected by the temporary closure order.

10) *Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.* As described in the EA, the temporary closure order does not violate any known federal, state, or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

  
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Kenneth E. Miller  
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Date