

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record
DOI-BLM-NV-L020-2009-050-EA
April 29, 2010**

Shoshone Well No. 2

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Ely District Office
Phone: 775-289-1800
Fax: 775-289-1910



**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ELY DISTRICT OFFICE**

INTRODUCTION

I have reviewed Environmental Assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-NV-L020-2009-050-EA for the Shoshone Well No. 2 project, dated April 29, 2010, taking into consideration the project design specifications.

I have also considered the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) criteria for significance (40 CFR 1508.27) both with regard to the context and the intensity of impacts described in the EA:

Context:

The proposed Shoshone Well No. 2 wellhead protection project would occur within the Spring Valley hydrographic basin located in White Pine County, Nevada. A valve would be attached to Shoshone Well No. 2 and a housing constructed to cover the well in order to protect the valve assembly and permitted flows to the existing spring brook.

Intensity:

1) *Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse:*

The project will be beneficial to the riparian/wet meadow complex associated with Shoshone Well No. 2 by providing consistent flows from the well for the maintenance of riparian vegetation and wildlife habitat in and around the spring brook immediately below the wellhead. In order to comply with requirements from the State Engineer of Nevada, a portion of the water that currently emanates from Shoshone Well No. 2 would be shut-off with the remainder of water permitted to flow to the spring brook.

2) *The degree to which the Proposed Action affects public health or safety:*

There are no concerns for human life and safety or public health as a result of this action.

3) *Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historical or cultural resources, parks lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas:*

The project area is within the Shoshone Ponds Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) drilled a well (now known as Shoshone Well No. 2) in the late-1930s in order to support its camp in what is now the ACEC. Near to the Shoshone Well No. 2 wellhead is the remnant of a swimming pool constructed by the CCC to which water from the well fed.

- 4) The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial:

Methods used to protect and maintain flows and Pahrump poolfish found in the spring brook meet resource and management objectives and are not considered highly controversial. BLM will comply with federal and state requirements to protect the fish found in the spring brook and will receive assistance from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with the relocation of the population of Pahrump poolfish found in the spring brook.

- 5) The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks:

The proposed action and its potential effects on the human environment are not uncertain and do not involve unknown risks. Similar actions have been successfully implemented in the past.

- 6) The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration:

The action would not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration.

- 7) Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant impacts:

The environmental assessment analyzed potential cumulative impacts in relation to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions within the project area and supports the conclusion that the proposed action is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

- 8) The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources:

The proposed action would not adversely affect significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources. Implementation would follow standard methods provided by BLM archaeologists and NDOW, USFWS, and BLM biologists to protect culturally and biologically important resources in the project area.

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 the Endangered Species Act of 1973:*

BLM initiated consultation with the USFWS in order to amend the Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) to include the Pahrump poolfish and the proposed action. The USFWS believed that the following Reasonable and Prudent Measures (RPM) and Terms and Conditions (T&C), taken from the PBO issued for the Ely District Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (August 2008) are necessary and appropriate to minimize take of Pahrump poolfish.

RPM 1: BLM shall implement measures to ensure compliance with the reasonable and prudent measures, terms and conditions, project reporting requirements, and reinitiation requirements contained in this biological opinion.

T&C: BLM shall keep an up-to-date log of all actions taken under this consultation including acreage affected; number of listed species taken and form of take; and fees paid for each action. BLM will provide the log information to the Service on an annual basis. Information will be cumulative throughout the term of this consultation. The first annual report will cover the period through December 31, 2008, and will be due to the Service by February 15, 2009. Subsequent annual reports will cover the calendar year and be due on February 15 of the following year.

RPM 14: BLM shall implement measures to minimize the incidental take of Big Spring spinedace and Pahrump poolfish that may result from restoration or habitat enhancement activities, or other recovery actions under the Special Status Species program.

RPM 14a: If translocation, salvage, or other handling of fish is necessary to accomplish restoration, habitat enhancement, or other recovery actions, BLM shall use appropriate fish handling procedures developed with assistance from the Service and NDOW.

T&C: Prior to implementation, BLM shall coordinate with the Service and NDOW biologists on the salvage of Pahrump poolfish from the Shoshone No. 2 Well spring brook.

T&C: BLM shall implement and complete the project prior to the peak spawning season to minimize impacts to eggs and larvae. Based on the Service's best scientific judgment, peak reproductive activity is from June to mid July.

- 10) Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment:

The proposed action will not violate or threaten to violate Federal, State, or local laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

I have determined that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

/s/ William Panagopoulos for
Mary D'Aversa
Field Manager
Schell Field Office

April 29, 2010
Date



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ely District Office
HC33 Box 33500 (702 N. Industrial Way)
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

In Reply Refer To:
1250 (NVL02000)

DECISION

Shoshone Well No. 2

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Decision Record

DOI-BLM-NV-L020-2009-050-EA

I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment, and have made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Shoshone Well No. 2 project. Based on that review and the record as a whole, I approve the action of metering the flow from Shoshone Well No. 2 as per State Engineer permit.

RATIONALE:

- 1) The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Ely District Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan signed in August of 2008. Section 2.1 of the Environmental Assessment documents the conformance review.
- 2) The Proposed Action is consistent with all other federal, state, local, and tribal policies and plans to the maximum extent possible.
- 3) Action will provide protection for the wellhead and flows from Shoshone Well No.2 and help to ensure the persistence of the riparian wetland complex and wildlife species found downstream of the well.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

The Preliminary Environmental Assessment was made available to the public in February 2010 and comments on were accepted through March 01, 2010. No comments were received during the comment period.

APPEALS:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (Board), U. S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Hearings and Appeals. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error. If an appeal is taken, a notice of appeal must be filed at the Bureau of Land Management at the above address within 30 days of either of receipt of the decision if served a copy of the document, or otherwise within 30 days of the date of the decision. If sent by United States Postal Service, the notice of appeal must be sent to the following address:

Bureau of Land Management
Ely District Office
HC 33 Box 33500
Ely, NV 89301.

The appeal may include a statement of reasons at the time the notice of appeal is filed, or the statement of reasons may be filed within 30 days of filing this appeal. At the same time the original documents are filed with this office, copies of the notice of appeal, statement of reasons, and all supporting documentation also must be sent to the U. S. DOI Solicitor at the following address:

Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region
U.S. Department of the Interior
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-2753
Sacramento, CA 95825-1890

If a statement of reasons is filed separately from the notice of appeal, it also must be sent to the following location within 30 days after the notice of appeal was filed:

Interior Board of Land Appeals
Office of Hearings and Appeals
4015 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22203

Approved by:

/s/ William Panagopoulos for
Mary D' Aversa
Field Manager
Schell Field Office

April 29, 2010
Date

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-NV-L020-2009-050-EA
April 29, 2010**

**Shoshone Well No. 2
(Sec 02 T12N R67E)**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Schell Field Office of the Ely District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to implement a wellhead protection plan on the Shoshone Well No. 2 located in the Shoshone Ponds Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Shoshone Well No. 2 is located in White Pine County, Nevada at Sec 02 T12N R67E (Appendix A) in the Spring Valley basin. The Shoshone Ponds ACEC is managed by BLM to maintain unique and valuable vegetation and aquatic habitat resources.

Shoshone Well No. 2 is one of 6 wells existing in the Shoshone Ponds ACEC. Five wells (Shoshone Well Nos. 1 through 5) are thought to have been installed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the late-1930s for the purpose of providing water to a CCC camp located in the area of the Shoshone Ponds ACEC. One other existing well was installed by Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) in the early 1970s for the purpose of providing protected water flows to three ponds used as refugia for Nevada native fish including the federally endangered Pahump poolfish (*Empetrichthys latos*). Poolfish were introduced into the ponds in 1972 and again in 1976, and managed under the species recovery plan published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in 1980 (FWS, 1980).

The six existing wells in the Shoshone Ponds ACEC supply water to maintain a wet meadow/wetland complex of about 52 acres. Shoshone Well No. 2 maintains a flowing spring brook of about 169 feet in length and a wetland/wet meadow of about 6 acres (Appendix B). Pahump poolfish are found along the entire length of the spring brook.

On September 28, 1992 BLM applied for water rights on Shoshone Wells No. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 for the beneficial uses of livestock watering and wildlife. Applications for wells 1, 3, 4, and 5 were denied due to the requested livestock watering beneficial use. The application for Shoshone Well No. 2 was abrogated until May 2008 when the State Engineer of Nevada (SE) granted BLM a permit for wildlife beneficial use. Applications for wildlife beneficial use on Shoshone Wells No. 1 and 4 were re-applied for in September 2008 and permitted to BLM in February 2009. On July 29, 2009 BLM made an application to the SE to appropriate the remainder of water from Shoshone Well No. 2 for wildlife beneficial use in order to maintain endangered and sensitive species and their habitat.

All actions would occur within approximately 15 feet of the wellhead. Project actions may include the installation of a hardened enclosure around the wellhead and installation of a valve to control the flow from Shoshone Well No. 2 in accordance with the permit issued by the SE.

2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

The need for action was established as a result of field reviews, site examinations, interpretation of past land uses, and analysis of current land management goals.

BLM proposes to make changes to the existing Shoshone Well No. 2 in order to provide secure and consistent water flows to an existing spring brook. The spring brook below Shoshone Well No. 2 maintains a known population of Pahrump poolfish. Additionally, maintenance of flow from Shoshone Well No. 2 is intended to protect and maintain the wet meadow/wetland complex immediately downstream of Shoshone Well No. 2 and the larger complex associated with the existing six wells in the ACEC.

BLM must complete construction of wellhead protection facilities and put all permitted water to beneficial use in order to provide Proof of Completion (POC) and Proof of Beneficial Use (PBU) to the SE, as required in the water use permit issued to BLM for Shoshone Well No. 2. BLM must comply with the terms and conditions imposed by the SE in the permit for Shoshone Well No. 2 or lose its permission to use water from said well.

2.1 Conformance

Although not specifically identified in the Ely District Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan signed on August, 2008 (RMP) (BLM, 2008), the proposed action is in conformance with the Goals and Objectives for Special Status Species which states, in part, “Manage public lands to conserve, maintain, and restore special status species populations and their habitats...” (RMP, page 37) and “To manage suitable habitat for special status species in a manner that will benefit these species...” (RMP, page 38). In addition, the proposed action is in conformance with the Objectives for Water Resources which states, “Acquire and perfect sufficient water rights to meet public land management needs” (RMP, page 23).

Should a determination be made that implementation of the proposed action would not result in significant environmental impacts or environmental impacts beyond those already addressed in the RMP, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be prepared to document that determination and a Decision Record issued providing the rationale for approving the chosen alternative.

2.2 Scoping

Internal BLM scoping occurred in an Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) setting on September 08, 2009. The IDT identified several concerns related to resources that had the potential of being affected by the proposed or no-action alternatives. The resource concerns related to the issues are analyzed in Section 4.0: Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences.

Issues identified:

1. How will the proposed action or no-action alternative affect the Pahrump poolfish, a federally endangered fish;
2. How will the proposed action or no-action alternative affect wetlands or riparian areas; and
3. How will the proposed action affect water resources/water rights?

3.0 ALTERNATIVES

This section describes alternatives identified by the IDT. Please refer to Appendices A and B for maps of the project area. Only one action alternative is presented since any other individual action or set of actions would not meet the purpose and need for the project and would not allow BLM to meet its goals and management objectives.

The action and no-action alternatives are presented below. The potential environmental effects resulting from the implementation of each alternative are in Section 4 for each of the identified issues.

3.1 Alternative 1: Wellhead Protection (Proposed Action)

BLM proposes to regulate waters from Shoshone Well No. 2, an existing artesian water source. A two-manifold valve system would be permanently attached to the existing well casing. Flow from one valve to the spring brook would be regulated in the amount of water currently permitted for use by the SE, 7.57 Acre Feet Annually (AFA), and in accordance with the BLM's Permit No. 60086. The second valve would be used to regulate flow for one or more options to improve habitat for the Pahrump poolfish, if the BLM were to receive permission from the SE to use additional water from Shoshone Well No. 2.

A hardened housing with a hinged, lockable lid would be constructed around the wellhead to protect the valve system from vandalism and damage. Construction of the housing would necessitate the temporary installation of a valve and pipe structure from the existing well casing in order to provide continued flow to the spring brook while allowing the soils immediately adjacent to the well to be dried and prepared for further work. A small amount of material (<0.75 yd³) would be removed to allow concrete or cinder block to be counter sunk about 18 inches into the ground for stability purposes. The concrete or cinder block structure would have a footprint of approximately four feet by four feet by three feet high.

Prior to any work being done at Shoshone Well No. 2, BLM would work with the FWS and NDOW to capture any fish in the spring brook below the well and transplant them into one of the ponds in accordance with Reasonable and Prudent Measure and Term and Condition No. 14 from the Programmatic Biological Opinion for the Bureau of Land Management's Ely District RMP (File No. 84320-2008-f-0078).

3.2 Alternative 2: No-Action

Wellhead valve installation and protection project would not occur. Artesian flow would continue duty and distribution at current rate, volume, and Place of Use (POU). BLM would not file a POC or PBU as required by the SE for existing water right permit on Shoshone Well No. 2. As a result, BLM would expect to lose permission granted under Permit 60086 to appropriate waters of the State of Nevada.

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Issue 1: How will the proposed action or no-action alternative affect *Fish and Wildlife* and *Special Status Species*?

4.1 Issue 1: Affected Environment

The Shoshone Ponds ACEC is managed, in part, as a refugium for Pahrump poolfish, a federally endangered species. Three refugia ponds were developed by the BLM and NDOW in the 1970s as part of the Species Recovery Plan prepared by the FWS. The three ponds are fed by the well installed by NDOW. Pahrump poolfish are found in the North and Middle ponds. Pahrump poolfish are also found in the Stock Pond fed by Shoshone Well No. 4. NDOW annually surveys the North, Middle, and Stock Ponds for Pahrump poolfish. In 2009 population estimates were about 250 fish in the North Pond, 250 fish in the Middle Pond, and over 3,500 fish in the Stock Pond.

Shoshone Well No. 2 does not supply water to the refugia ponds, but does flow into and through a shallow spring brook. Pahrump poolfish are found in the spring brook, but the spring brook is not surveyed by NDOW during annual Pahrump poolfish surveys.

The wetland and meadow complex provides habitat for northern leopard frogs which are a Nevada BLM Sensitive species. The ponds provide breeding and tadpole habitat while the wetlands and meadow complex provides summer habitat for the adult frogs.

4.1.1 Issue 1: Environmental Effects

Alternative 1: The capture and transplanting of fish may result in stress to or mortality of a small portion of the population. Installation of the valve system and construction of the protective housing would result in harassment of individual fish and loss of eggs and larvae; however, this would be minimized if the work is done prior to the spawning season.

An undetermined length of the spring brook may be lost when the flow from the well is reduced in accordance with the existing water permit. This would mean less habitat available for the fish in the spring brook, but at the present time the spring brook is not managed as part of the refugia. A reduction in the wetland and meadow complex would result in a reduction in habitat available for the northern leopard frog.

The Cumulative Effects on Fish and Wildlife and Special Status Species is expected to provide long-term stability in the surface hydrologic regime in the spring brook which in turn would provide for the maintenance and preservation of the surrounding wetland or riparian areas. The SE has ready for action several water right applications which may affect the water regime and long-term viability of the wetland or riparian area and any species occurring therein. The authority of the SE to permit water use in and around the ACEC for beneficial uses other than wildlife and habitat maintenance could affect the health and viability of species (plant and animal) and the presence of surface water. BLM has no authority to limit or stop the permitting of water in the ACEC by the SE.

The Cumulative Effects Study Area (CESA) was defined as Shoshone Well No. 2 and the land area watered by the outflow from the well (approximately six acres below the wellhead). Past land management actions within the CESA included the drilling of the water well (now known as Shoshone Well No. 2) by the CCC in support of camp facilities placed adjacent to the well. Current use of the CESA is as part of the Scotty Meadow grazing allotment which is currently being utilized for livestock grazing. BLM is preparing a Standard Determination Document and an Environmental Assessment for a grazing term permit renewal for the Scotty Meadows allotment which would implement appropriate grazing management actions. BLM may also create an educational display outlining the CCC use in the ACEC.

Alternative 2: In the short-term there would be no impact to individual fish, eggs, or larvae if the valve system is not installed. There would be no reduction in flow from Shoshone Well No. 2, and the length of the spring brook would not be reduced.

The BLM would lose its water permit 60086, and may lose the opportunity to manage the spring brook as habitat for Pahump poolfish in the long term. Loss of wet meadow/wetland vegetation could lead to a corresponding loss of northern leopard frog habitat.

The Cumulative Effects of selecting the No Action alternative are identical to those for the Proposed Action. That is, decisions by the SE which affects water use in the ACEC will have impacts to the resources dependent upon water from Shoshone Well No. 2. The extent of said impacts is related to individual decisions or multiple decisions made by the SE on pending water right applications by BLM and other entities.

Issue 2: How will the proposed action or no-action alternative affect *Vegetation Resources*?

4.2 Issue 2: Affected Environment

Artesian wells in the Shoshone Ponds ACEC created and continue to maintain a meadow complex of approximately 52 acres which includes about 10 acres of wetland habitat. Shoshone Well No. 2 is one of several artesian wells found in the Shoshone Ponds ACEC located in the jurisdiction of the BLM, Ely District Office. Well No. 2 directly feeds and supports about 6 acres of the total wetland or riparian habitat.

4.2.1 Issue 2: Environmental Effects

Alternative 1: As the volume of water emanating from Shoshone Well No. 2 is reduced to the rate determined by the SE there will be a reduction in water flowing into the spring brook. As such, water flowing into the adjoining wetland or riparian community would also be reduced. The wetland/riparian area directly supported by water from Shoshone Well No. 2 (approximately 6 acres) may contract on the periphery as a result of reduced well outflow. Soil moisture content may be reduced to the extent meadow grasses and other vegetation may encroach into areas where soils were previously saturated. True wetland or riparian vegetation could be lost on the periphery of the existing wet meadow habitat to which flows from Shoshone Well No. 2 contribute water.

The longevity of the effects would depend on the time required for the State Engineer to decide whether BLM will be granted further permission to appropriate water from Shoshone Well No. 2 and putting permitted water to beneficial use for wildlife which would include fisheries and riparian habitat resources.

Cumulative Effects are identical to those given for Issue 1, Alternative 1.

Alternative 2: In the short-term, the water flow to the spring brook and wetland or riparian areas would not be curtailed and as such there would be no change to either. If BLM did not prove beneficial use for water permitted under application 60086, BLM may lose the opportunity to manage the flows from Shoshone Well No. 2 for maintenance and protection of species habitat, and surrounding riparian or wetland areas. The long-term effects of not providing proof of beneficial use for Permit 60086 could lead to loss of all flow from Shoshone Well No. 2 and the possible complete loss of wetland/riparian habitat directly fed by the well.

The longevity of the effects would depend on the time required for the State Engineer to decide whether BLM will be granted further permission to appropriate water from Shoshone Well No. 2 and putting any permitted water use to beneficial use for wildlife, fisheries, and wetland/riparian habitat.

Cumulative Effects are identical to those given for Issue 1, Alternative 2.

Issue 3: How will the proposed action affect *Water Resources*?

4.3 Issue 3: Affected Environment

Beginning in the 1990s BLM began to submit applications to the SE for appropriation of water from the artesian wells in now what is known as the Shoshone Ponds ACEC. BLM's requests for permission to appropriate water from the wells in the ACEC were intended to assure long-term maintenance of water in the ACEC and to maintain and protect wildlife and wildlife habitat. In 2007 the State Engineer granted BLM a permit to appropriate water from Shoshone Well No. 2 at the rate of 0.035 cfs (cubic feet per second) and in the amount not to exceed 7.57 AFA (acre-feet annually). BLM was granted Extensions of Time to put the water to beneficial use in order to prepare and design wellhead facilities and process Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation with the FWS on the endangered Pahrump poolfish. BLM must complete construction of facilities and put the water to use by May 31, 2010.

4.3.1 Issue 3: Environmental Effects

Alternative 1: BLM would construct facilities and put water to the permitted beneficial use in the amounts mandated in Permit 60886. Following the filing of proof of beneficial use with the State Engineer, BLM would be granted a certificated water right to use water from Shoshone Well No. 2 at the rate and in the amount given in Permit 60086. Water from Shoshone Well No. 2 would flow into the spring brook and be used to maintain Pahrump poolfish habitat in the spring brook and the adjacent wetland/riparian habitats.

Wellhead facilities would be prepared to allow greater and/or split flows if the State Engineer grants BLM's use of water in pending application to appropriate water from Shoshone Well No. 2.

Cumulative Effects are the same as those given in Issue 1; Alternative 1. The long-term ability of BLM to maintain and protect the flows from Shoshone Well No. 2 for wildlife beneficial use is entirely related to future decisions that may be made by the SE. BLM and other entities have water rights applications that are ready for action by the SE. Final disposition for these outstanding applications will determine who may use water, how water may be used, and to what beneficial use the water would be used from Shoshone Well No. 2.

Alternative 2: BLM would not be able to put water to beneficial use and as such would fail to provide proof of beneficial use for water permitted under application 60086. Failing to prove beneficial use would lead the SE to cancel permit 60086 and thus, BLM would lose its permission to use water from Shoshone Well No. 2. BLM would have no authority to use water and could therefore be held responsible for water that is currently considered wasted by the SE.

Cumulative Effects include the required step of BLM stopping all flow from Shoshone Well No.2 until such time as the State Engineer makes a decision on BLM's pending application for additional water from Shoshone Well No.2. Decisions by the SE on water right applications ready for action by the BLM and other entities could have a impact on the amount and use of water emanating from Shoshone Well No. 2. BLM does not have authority to stop or limit the SE from permitting water use from Shoshone Well No. 2.

4.4 Issues Considered But Not Analyzed Further

The Ely Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, November 2007 (EIS) (BLM, 2007) analyzed affects of land management actions on possible affected resources including the four resources above (Fish and Wildlife; Special Status Species; Vegetation Resources; and Water Resources) and the 22 resources listed in the following table. All 26 resources as listed in the EIS were considered by the IDT and were either analyzed in this EA or were not analyzed further than provided in the EIS. Specific effects from proposed management actions in addition to that analyzed in the EIS are given in Sections 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3 of this EA. Resources that are not directly, indirectly, or cumulatively affected by the proposed action or that were completely analyzed in the EIS are listed in the following table of other resources identified but not analyzed further.

Other Resources Identified in RMP	Rationale for No Further Analysis
Air Resources	Proposed action is not expected to alter ambient air quality nor lead to the creation of fugitive dust.
Soil Resources	Size and scope of project would have no affect to Prime and Unusual Farmlands or alter soil productivity in the project area.

Wild Horses	The project area is not in a Herd Management Area and no wild horses are known to exist in project area.
Cultural Resources	A Class III intensive cultural resource inventory was conducted. All known cultural resource sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places will be avoided. If any cultural resources sites are discovered during the implementation of this project, all work will cease within 100 yards of the site and BLM Archaeologist will be contacted immediately.
Paleontology	All known vertebrates, rare invertebrates, and plant paleontological resources will be avoided. If any are discovered during the implementation of this project, all work in the vicinity will cease and the BLM Archaeologist/ Paleontologist will be contacted immediately.
Visual Resources	Any concerns would be handled in the design and implementation phase of the project and as such would not affect visual resource management in the ACEC.
Lands and Realty	Proposed action would not alter land status or BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Renewable Energy	Proposed action would not alter renewable energy status or BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Travel Management and Off-Highway Vehicle Use	Proposed action would not alter travel management or on-going BLM travel management planning effort.
Recreation	Proposed action would not alter recreation uses or status of BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Livestock Grazing	Proposed action would not alter livestock grazing or BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Forest/Woodland and Other Plant Products	Collection of forest/woodland products is generally prohibited within the ACEC. No effects to forest/woodland products would occur.
Geology and Mineral Extraction	Proposed action would not alter mineral uses or BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Watershed Management	Proposed action would not alter watershed condition or status or BLM management objectives for the ACEC
Fire Management	Proposed action would not alter fire condition status or BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Noxious and Invasive Weed Management	Project would employ accepted Best Management Practices to eliminate risk of introduction or spread

	of noxious or invasive weeds.
Special Designations	No wilderness occurs in the ACEC and the proposed action would not alter land status or BLM management objectives for the ACEC.
Economic Conditions	Project would not affect the local economy or community development. Analysis area is inside an ACEC where economic or community development is very limited.
Social Conditions	Proposed project would not affect social values or attitudes towards public land management. Actions would not affect populations or demographics of local communities or White Pine County, NV.
American Indian Issues	Proposed action would not affect American Indian traditional values. There are no 'Indian Trust' assets identified within the project area. Letters requesting comments were sent to tribal leaders.
Environmental Justice	Proposed action would not affect minority or low-income populations.
Health and Safety	Proposed action would not affect the health and safety management program within the analysis area.

5.0 CONSULTATION

National Historic Preservation Act: A Cultural Resources Needs Assessment was completed on September 14, 2009 and resulted in No Effect exclusion in accordance with Section VII A, 3. Complete avoidance of historic swimming pool was stipulated.

Endangered Species Act: BLM is working with FWS to Append the Programmatic Biological Opinion for the Bureau of Land Management's Ely District Resource Management Plan (File No. 84320-2008-F-0078) to incorporate Shoshone Well No. 2.

6.0 LIST OF PREPARERS AND REVIEWERS

Name	Title	Resource Area Prepared or Reviewed
Brett Covlin	Range Management Specialist	Livestock Grazing
Mark D'Aversa	Hydrologist	Water Resources; Watershed; Soil Resources; Vegetation Management
David Davis	Geologist	Geology and Mineral Extraction

David Jacobson	Wilderness Planner	Special Designations Management (Wilderness)
Shawn Gibson and Lorie Leshner	Archaeologist and SCEP Archaeologist	Cultural Resources; Paleontological Resources
Brenda Linnell	Lands and Realty Specialist	Lands and Realty
Ben Noyes	Wild Horse and Burro Specialist	Wild Horses
Melanie Peterson	Environmental Protection Specialist	Health and Safety
Zach Peterson	Forester/ NEPA Coordinator	Air Resources; Renewable Resources; Fire Management; NEPA Compliance; Economic Conditions; Social Conditions; Environmental Justice
Paul Podborny	Wildlife Biologist	Fish and Wildlife; Special Status Species; Vegetation Management; Special Designations Management (ACEC)
Mindy Seal	Natural Resource Specialist	Noxious and Invasive Weeds
Elizabeth Townley	Recreation Planner	Visual Resources; Recreation; Travel Management
Elvis Wall	Native American Coordinator	American Indian Issues

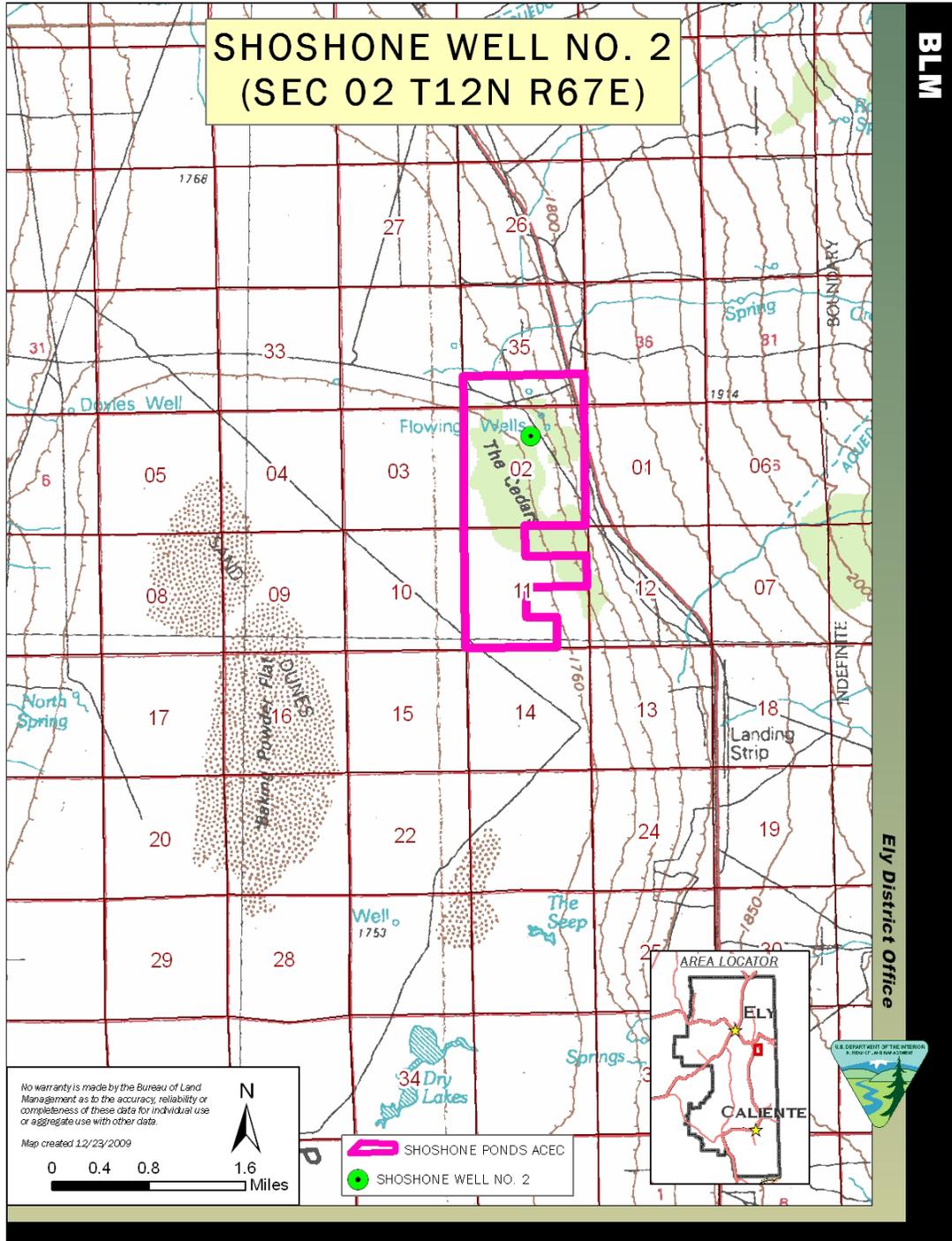
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Appendix A



Appendix B

