

Attachment 3a  
Best Management Practices  
LCLA Groundwater Development and Utility Right-of-Way Project  
N-79734  
(Source: Ely District Resource Management Plan, August 2008)

1. Use dust abatement techniques on unpaved, unvegetated surfaces to minimize airborne dust.
2. Post and enforce speed limits (e.g., 25 miles per hour) to reduce airborne fugitive dust.
3. Cover construction materials and stockpiled soils if they are a source of fugitive dust.
4. Use dust abatement techniques before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.
5. Construct access roads and fords that cross stream channels to BLM road standards.
6. Limit stream crossings on travel routes and trails to the minimal number necessary to minimize sedimentation and compaction. The BLM Authorized Officer will determine if any impacts need to be rehabilitated by the right away holder.
7. During periods of adverse soil moisture conditions caused by climatic factors such as thawing, heavy rains, snow, flooding, or drought, suspend activities on existing roads that could create excessive surface rutting. When adverse conditions exist, the operator will contact the BLM Authorized Officer for an evaluation and decision based on soil types, soil moisture, slope, vegetation, and cover.
8. When preparing the site for reclamation, include contour furrowing, terracing, reduction of steep cut and fill slopes, and the installation of water bars, as determined appropriate for site-specific conditions.
9. Restoration requirements include reshaping, re-contouring, and/or resurfacing with topsoil, installation of water bars, and seeding on the contour. Removal of structures such as culverts, concrete pads, cattle guards, and signs would usually be required. Fertilization and/or fencing of the disturbance may be required. Additional erosion control measures (e.g., fiber matting and barriers) to discourage road travel may be required.
10. Where seeding is required, use appropriate seed mixture and seeding techniques approved by the BLM Authorized Officer.
11. The BLM Authorized Officer will specify required special handling and recovery techniques for Joshua trees, yucca, and some cactus in the southern part of the planning area on a site-specific basis.

12. Keep removal and disturbance of vegetation to a minimum through construction site management (e.g., using previously disturbed areas and existing easements, limiting equipment/materials storage and staging area sites, etc.).
13. Generally, conduct reclamation with native seeds that are representative of the indigenous species present in the adjacent habitat. Document rationale for potential seeding with selected nonnative species. Possible exceptions would include use of nonnative species for a temporary cover crop to out-compete weeds. In all cases, ensure seed mixes are approved by the BLM Authorized Officer prior to planting.
14. Certify that all interim and final seed mixes, hay, straw, and hay/straw products are free of plant species listed on the Nevada noxious weed list.
15. An area is considered to be satisfactorily reclaimed when all disturbed areas have been recontoured to blend with the natural topography, erosion has been stabilized, and an acceptable vegetative cover has been established. Use the Nevada Guidelines for Successful Revegetation prepared by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, the BLM, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (or most current revision or replacement of this document) to determine if revegetation is successful.
16. Utility companies will manage vegetation in their rights-of-way for safe and reliable operation while maintaining vegetation and wildlife habitat.
17. Respread weed-free vegetation removed from the right-of-way to provide protection, nutrient recycling, and seed source.
18. Install wildlife escape ramps in all watering troughs, including temporary water haul facilities, and open storage tanks. Pipe the overflow away from the last water trough on an open system to provide water at ground level.
19. Consider seasonal distribution of large wildlife species when determining methods used to accomplish weed and insect control objectives.
20. Protect active raptor nests in undisturbed areas within 0.25 mile of areas proposed for vegetation conversion using species-specific protection measures. Inventory area containing suitable nesting habitat for active raptor nests prior to the initiation of any project.
21. When pumping water from any pond or stream, screen the intake end of the draft hose to prevent fish from being ingested. Screen opening size would be a maximum of 3/16 inch (4.7 millimeters).
22. Use current science, guidelines, and methodologies (Avian Power Line Interaction Committee 1994, 1996, 2005) for all new and existing powerlines to minimize raptor and other bird electrocution and collision potential.

23. When managing weeds in areas of special status species, carefully consider the impacts of the treatment on such species. Wherever possible, hand spraying of herbicides is preferred over other methods.

24. For streams currently occupied by a special status species, do not allow extraction of water from ponds or pools if stream inflow is minimal (i.e., during drought situations) and extraction of water would lower the existing pond or pool level.

25. Ensure that all activities associated with the undertaking, within 100 meters of the discovery, are halted and the discovery is appropriately protected, until the BLM authorized officer issues a Notice to Proceed. A Notice to Proceed may be issued by the BLM under any of the following conditions:

- Evaluation of potentially eligible resource(s) results in a determination that the resource(s) are not eligible;
- The fieldwork phase of the treatment option has been completed; and
- The BLM has accepted a summary description of the fieldwork performed and a reporting schedule for that work.

26. The operator will inform all persons associated with the project that knowingly disturbing cultural resources (historic or archaeological) or collecting artifacts is illegal.

27. When paleontological resources of potential scientific interest are encountered (including all vertebrate fossils and deposits of petrified wood), leave them intact and immediately bring them to the attention of the BLM Authorized Officer.

28. On industrial facilities authorized by the Ely District Office, utilize anti-glare light fixtures to limit light pollution.

29. Design access roads requiring construction with cut and fill to minimize surface disturbance and take into account the character of the landform, natural contours, cut material, depth of cut, where the fill material would be deposited, resource concerns, and visual contrast. Avoid construction of access roads on steep hillsides and near watercourses where alternate routes provide adequate access.

30. Where adverse impacts or safety considerations warrant, limit or prohibit public access when authorizing specific routes to areas or sites under permit or lease.

31. Notify the BLM authorized officer within 5 days of completion of reclamation work so that timely compliance inspections can be completed.

32. Remove vegetation, where appropriate, to protect facilities (e.g., range improvements, communication sites, and recreation sites).

33. When maintaining unpaved roads on BLM-administered lands, avoid the unnecessary disturbance of adjacent native vegetation and the spread of weeds. Grade road shoulders or barrow ditches only when necessary to provide for adequate drainage. Minimize the

width of grading operations. The BLM Authorized Officer will meet with equipment operators to ensure that they understand the objective.

34. Consider nozzle type, nozzle size, boom pressure, and adjuvant use and take appropriate measures for each herbicide application project to reduce the chance of chemical drift.

35. All applications of approved pesticides will be conducted only by certified pesticide applicators or by personnel under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.

36. Prior to commencing any chemical control program, and on a daily basis for the duration of the project, the certified applicator will provide a suitable safety briefing to all personnel working with or in the vicinity of the herbicide application. This briefing will include safe handling, spill prevention, cleanup, and first aid procedures.

37. Store all pesticides in areas where access can be controlled to prevent unauthorized/untrained people from gaining access to the chemicals.

38. Areas treated with pesticides will be adequately posted to notify the public of the activity and or safe reentry dates, if a public notification requirement is specified on the label of the product applied. The public notice signs will be at least 8 ½" x 11" in size and will contain the date of application and the date of safe re-entry.

39. The right-of-way holder will assume liability for and clean up of any and all releases of hazardous substances of oil (more than one quart) disposed on public land as defined in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Subpart 300). The holder will immediately notify the BLM Authorized Officer of any and all releases of hazardous substances or oil (more than one quart) on public land.

40. Properly dispose of all tailings, dumps, and deleterious materials or substances. Take measures to isolate, control, and properly dispose of toxic and hazardous materials.

41. Remove and properly dispose of all trash, garbage, debris, and foreign matter. Maintain the disposal site and leave it in a clean and safe condition. Do not allow burning at the site.

42. Do not drain oil or lubricants onto the ground surface. Immediately clean up any spills under 25 gallons; clean up spills over 25 gallons as soon as possible and report the incident to the BLM Authorized Officer and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.

43. Containerize petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel fuel, helicopter fuel, and lubricants in approved containers. Properly store hazardous materials in separate containers to prevent mixing, drainage, or accidents.