

## Appendix A

### BLM Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Record Checklist INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS RECORD CHECKLIST

**Project Title:** Seep Ridge Road Paving Project

**NEPA Log Number:** UT-080-08-0238

**File/Serial Number:** UTU 69125-35

**DETERMINATION OF STAFF: (Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)**

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for significant impact analyzed in detail in the EA; or identified in a DNA as requiring further analysis

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section C of the DNA form.

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
<b>PI</b>	<b>Air Quality</b>	There would be impacts to Air Quality primarily in terms of fugitive dust.	Mark Wimmer	04/07/09
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	None Present as per Vernal RMP	Jason R. West	05/19/08
NP	BLM natural areas	None present, as per Vernal RMP GIS data	Mark Wimmer	04/30/09
<b>PI</b>	<b>Cultural Resources</b>	Based on previous inventories, there is a wide variety of historic and prehistoric sites along the road.  kad comments: The area of potential effect (APE) is defined as 45 miles of roadway defined as the Seep Ridge road project, with a 300 foot corridor (150 feet either side of center). An additional 4 acres were allotted for the relocation of the Monument Ridge Pasture Corral and the construction of 1 watering pond/reservoir on federal land.	Blaine Phillips Gabrielle Elliot Kathie A. Davies	05/19/08 07/02/10

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		<p>A Class III cultural inventory was conducted by SWCA on part of the APE in 2008. It was later determined that the area surveyed was not adequate and SWCA was asked to go back and survey the entire APE. In April 2009 SWCA completed an intensive cultural inventory (U-08-ST-0654b,p,s) across the entire APE.</p> <p>In 2008 ten archaeological sites were recorded within the APE; five of the sites were recommended as eligible to the NRHP. The other five sites were recommended as “not-eligible” to the NRHP. All eligible sites were avoidable under the current road design except site 42Un1779, which is a large lithic scatter.</p> <p><b><u>Table of sites and landownership</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="344 532 1535 873"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>#</th> <th>BLM</th> <th>#</th> <th>State</th> <th>#</th> <th>Private</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Revisits (no IMAC Forms)</td> <td>NR Eligible</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not Eligible</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>42Un0646</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revisits (updated IMAC Forms)</td> <td>NR Eligible</td> <td>2</td> <td>42Un1779 42Un2487</td> <td>1</td> <td>42Un1782</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not Eligible</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>42Un5506</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Recordings (IMACs)</td> <td>NR Eligible</td> <td>1</td> <td>42Un7633 (recorded in 2009)</td> <td>1</td> <td>42Un7040</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not Eligible</td> <td>1</td> <td>42Un7041</td> <td>2</td> <td>42Un7039 42Un7635</td> <td>1</td> <td>42Un7634</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>An alternative route to the west of site 42Un1779 was specifically surveyed in the 2009 report to allow avoidance of the large “eligible” lithic site. A new site, 42Un7633, was identified during that cultural inventory. Site 42Un7633 is a small prehistoric site with one thermal feature, eight pieces of pottery, nine flakes and one distal end of a point. There is little potential for depth at the site since the entire site lies on a sandstone table.</p> <p>BLM archaeologists visited site 42Un7633 to determine whether or not an alternative route could be designed around the site or if the site would have to be mitigated. It was determined that because of the terrain the only acceptable solution would be to avoid site 42Un1779 and go through site 42Un7633. The Deputy State Preservation Officer, Lori Hunsaker, was consulted and an agreement was made to map and surface collect the site as mitigation. The site will also be monitored during construction by a qualified archaeologist. The site is very shallow and has little potential for additional depth because it rests on a sandstone ledge.</p> <p>The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) was invited to join consultation on the project on 7/1/2010. We received a formal response on 7/2/2010 declining our offer. An MOU will be created between the SHPO, the BLM and the Uintah County defining the mitigation requirements.</p>			#	BLM	#	State	#	Private	Revisits (no IMAC Forms)	NR Eligible								Not Eligible					1	42Un0646	Revisits (updated IMAC Forms)	NR Eligible	2	42Un1779 42Un2487	1	42Un1782				Not Eligible				42Un5506			New Recordings (IMACs)	NR Eligible	1	42Un7633 (recorded in 2009)	1	42Un7040				Not Eligible	1	42Un7041	2	42Un7039 42Un7635	1	42Un7634		
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<b>Determination</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determination</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
NP	Environmental Justice	No minority or economically disadvantaged populations would be disproportionately adversely affected by the proposed paving.	Stephanie Howard	05/19/08
NP	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	All prime or unique farm lands in the Uintah County must be irrigated to be considered under this designation, among other factors. No irrigated lands are located in the proposed action area; therefore this resource will not be carried forward for analysis.	Mark Wimmer	04/07/09
<b>PI</b>	<b>Floodplains</b>	Crosses and parallels about 1.5 miles of Cottonwood Wash floodplain.	Karl Wright	05/19/08
NI	Fuels / Fire Management	No expected increases in unplanned fire starts. There is a proposed fuels project in the vicinity of the Seep Ridge Road, but the project would not take place within the proposed construction area.	Steve Strong	05/21/08
NI	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Resources	Uinta formation through Green River formation. Will not preclude oil/gas or other mineral extraction.	Robin Hansen	05/19/08
<b>PI</b>	<b>Invasive Plants / Noxious Weeds</b>	Road construction is a common carrier for invasive weeds through the creation of disturbance and unclean equipment. By paving the Seep Ridge Road, more access would be provided to recreationists who could also bring in new weed species and encourage the spread of existing weeds.	Jessie Salix	05/19/08
<b>PI</b>	<b>Lands / Access</b>	Pipelines paralleling and crossing the road will have to be taken into account. Uintah County would need to coordinate with the existing R/W holders during the implementation of the proposed action. BLM will notify all affected right-of-way holders of the proposal and provide Uintah County a list of affected right-of-way holders.	Cindy McKee	03/10/08
<b>PI</b>	<b>Livestock Grazing</b>	Coordination with grazing permittees is needed to properly locate cattle guards at allotment boundaries, pastures, etc...A survey of range improvements (ponds, corrals, fences) shows that re-location of these improvements will be necessary.	Mark Wimmer	05/19/08
NP	Native American Religious Concerns	No known sites are near enough the road to be impacted directly or indirectly.  kad comments: Tribal consultation letters were sent on January 21, 2010. The letters defined the mitigation measures that would be taken on site 42Un7633. We received two responses on the letter. One was a no impact letter and another letter from the Ute Tribe wholeheartedly supporting the road construction. There were no other concerns raised at that time.	Blaine Phillips  Kathie A. Davies	05/19/08  07/02/10
NP	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	The existing Seep Ridge Road and the proposed realignment sections of the road cross areas that were evaluated during the 2007 wilderness character inventory conducted in support of the Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan revision. This 2007 inventory was reviewed for compliance with Secretarial Order 3310 and under the related 6300 LWC BLM manuals. The 2007 inventory and subsequent land use planning decisions were determined to be in compliance with BLM policy and guidance for LWC. The Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan Record of Decision determined that none of these areas were found to have wilderness characteristics based on the 2007 inventory. Consequently, LWC are not present in the project area and will not be brought forward for analysis.  Under Section 201 of FLPMA, BLM is to maintain an inventory of lands with wilderness characteristics (LWC). Under Secretarial Order 3310, BLM is to protect these lands where they are identified under a wilderness character inventory and BLM is to avoid impairing these lands. Impairment, as defined in the 6300 BLM LWC manual, would limit BLM's ability to manage LWC in a way that would preclude the BLM from exercising its discretion to designate an LWC or a portion of an LWC as a wild land unless BLM concludes through its decision making process that impairment of wilderness characteristics is appropriate.	Mark Wimmer/Jason West	01/13/11

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
PI	Paleontology	Six segments of the proposed project will require paleontological monitoring totaling 6.4 miles as reported in the survey dated 8-26-2008. (UT08-14583.27)	Robin Hansen	05/19/08
NI	Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines	This area has not been assessed for land health standards. It is not anticipated, however, that the proposed action would prevent standards from being met due to design features found in the proposed action.	Mark Wimmer	04/14/09
PI	Recreation	Access issues for dispersed camping. Impacts to OHV, designated sites, and planned sites. Paving plans and proximity to Recreation facilities. Part of the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek Hunting unit. Can be mitigated.	Jason West	1/3/2011
PI	Socio-economics	The road project would affect socioeconomics due to its scale and scope in the larger economy of the area.	Mark Wimmer Bill Stevens	07/07/10
PI	Soils	Slight increase in sediment during construction phase	Steve Strong	05/21/08 1/7/2010
PI	Special Status Animal Species Other than USFWS Candidate or Listed Species e.g. Migratory Birds	Two Sage-grouse leks adjacent to the Project Area near Monument Ridge. Potential White-tailed Prairie dog and Burrowing owl habitat north-end of Project Area. Raptors and migratory birds in general. BLM & UDWR designated crucial deer fawning and elk calving habitat, crucial deer and elk winter range, and Monument Ridge deer migration corridor.	Brandon McDonald	05/19/08
PI	Special Status Plant Species Other than USFWS Candidate or Listed Species	<i>Penstemon grahamii</i> occurs in several locations along the Seep Ridge Road and would likely be adversely impacted. Surveys will be necessary for the area between Buck Canyon and Sunday School Canyon. Vegetation would be disturbed in the construction of the new road.	Jessie Salix	05/19/08
PI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species	Habitat not present within Project Area. The water used for this project would be obtained from the state water rights permit 41-3523, which are considered to be historic depletions. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) addresses new and historic depletions differently under the Section 7 agreement of March 11, 1993. Historic depletions (permitted prior to January 1988), regardless of size, do not pay a depletion fee to the Recovery Program. Also, consultation for historic depletions was conducted in association with that 1993 agreement. New depletions over 100 acre-feet per year result in a fee	Brandon McDonald	05/19/08
PI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species	<i>Schoenocrambe argillacea</i> occur in areas adjacent to the current Seep Ridge Road.  <i>Sclerocactus wetlandicus</i> habitat is present along the northern terminus of the project. When the EA was initially offered for public comment this habitat was not recognized by the USFWS and the BLM. In winter of 2009-2010, the USFWS produced a new habitat area map and the project area fell within this newly recognized habitat. With habitat present, impacts to this species are now discussed in this EA.	Aaron Roe	07/12/10

<b>Determination</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determination</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>PI</b>	<b>Vegetation</b>	Vegetation would be removed as part of the Proposed Action	Mark Wimmer	04/30/09
NI	Visual Resources	VRM I near south canyon road. If the project extends to the Divide road, where south canyon road intersects with Seep Ridge, it would be a PI. If the project proposal does not go that far south, VRM would be NI. There would be changes in Line, color texture and form from paving and cut/fill/widening, but the visual impacts would be minimal to the casual observer based on the current linear travel feature that exists.	Jason West	1/3/2011
NI	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	<i>Hazardous Waste:</i> No chemicals subject to reporting under SARA Title III in an amount equal to or greater than 10,000 pounds will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of annually in association with this project. Furthermore, no extremely hazardous substances, as defined in 40 CFR 355, in threshold planning quantities, will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of in association with this project  <i>Solid Wastes:</i> Trash would be confined in a covered container and hauled to an approved landfill. Burning of waste or oil would not be done. Human waste would be contained and be disposed of at an approved sewage treatment facility.	Stephanie Howard	05/19/08
<b>PI</b>	<b>Water Quality (surface / ground)</b>	Potential impacts due to increased amounts of water coming off the road. It can be mitigated, at which point it would become an NI. Will need some good engineering to figure out quantities coming off the road and how it will be dispersed.	Karl Wright	05/19/08
<b>PI</b>	<b>Waters of the U.S.</b>	Seep Ridge Road improvements may require culvert extensions at surface water crossings. This work will likely qualify for USACE Nationwide General Permit #14 (minor road crossings). Due to the arid environment and flashy runoff events, the USACE recommends that surface water crossings be designed to withstand 100-year flow events (as opposed to BLM Gold Book design criteria for 25-year event)	Sue Nall	10/17/08
NP	Wetlands / Riparian Zones	No wetlands or riparian areas are present as per GIS review.	Karl Wright	05/19/08
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	None Present as per the Vernal RMP GIS layers.	Jason West	05/19/08
NP	Wild Horses and Burros	No herd areas or herd management areas are present as per the Vernal RMP.	Stephanie Howard	05/19/08
NP	Wilderness/ WSA	None Present as per VFO RMP and East of the eastern border of the Winter Ridge WSA	Jason West	01/13/2011
<b>PI</b>	<b>Woodland / Forestry</b>	The removal of woodland vegetation for road realignment has the potential to impact woodland resources. The RMP direction is to encourage utilization of woodland products from lands that would be converted to other resource uses. The removal of pinyon and juniper trees to create a new road right of way would constitute a conversion to another resource use. A reasonable attempt should be made to utilize any woodland products that would be removed to create new road alignments associated with the Seep Ridge Road Project.	David Palmer	05/19/08

**FINAL REVIEW:**

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
NEPA / Environmental Coordinator		4/13/11	08-0238 EA
Authorized Officer		4/13/2011	