

**DECISION RECORD
FOR
Campbell County Road and Bridge Department
Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit Expansion
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - WY-070-EA12-087**

DECISION

Decision is to approve Alternative A as described in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) and authorize the Free Use Permit (FUP) for Campbell County Road and Bridge Department's Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit located in the following areas:

- T. 49 N., R. 81 W., Section 5, W2 of Lot 2, and E2 of Lot 3
- T. 50 N., R. 81 W., Section 32, S2SW

This approval is subject to adherence with all of the operating plans and mitigation measures contained in the operator-submitted Mining and Reclamation Plans. This approval is also subject to operator compliance with all mitigation and monitoring requirements contained within the Buffalo Field Office (BFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) approved April 2001 (BLM 2001).

NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action involves the removal of the salable mineral sand and gravel from an existing pit, which is being expanded to the west. This material is to be used for road surfacing purposes by Campbell County Road and Bridge Department. This sand and gravel pit is the only source of these materials to which Campbell County currently has access. The decision is based on this Environmental Assessment, WY-070-EA12-087. The proposed action is in conformance with the Buffalo RMP (BLM 2001), and regulated by 43 CFR 3600.

ALTERNATIVES:

- A. Approve the proposed mineral material FUP to Campbell County Road and Bridge Department.
- B. No action alternative – don't issue the FUP.
- C. Issue the permit for an alternate location.

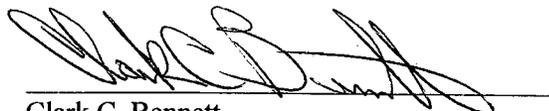
DECISION AND RATIONALE

The issuance of the proposed mineral material FUP to Campbell County Road and Bridge Department as stated in Alternative A is selected.

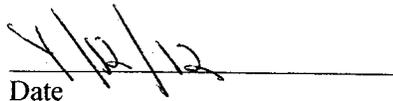
Minimal environmental disturbance will result from the issuance of the proposed mineral material FUP. Selecting the proposed alternative enables the sand and gravel to be utilized for county road construction purposes and is in accordance with various management plans and documents. If Alternative B were selected, the material would not be utilized. Alternative C could result in additional environmental degradation by opening a new pit area in a less desirable location.

The mitigation measures as described in the special stipulations attached as part of the approved FUP will be adequate.

Monitoring of the mineral material FUP stipulations and pit area will be conducted by personnel representing the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality and the BLM Buffalo Field Office (BFO).



Clark C. Bennett,
Associate Field Manager, Mineral and Lands



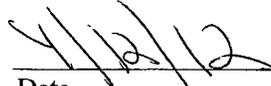
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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

Based on the analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action in the attached environmental assessment, I have determined that NO significant impacts are expected and, therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required.



Clark C. Bennett,
Associate Field Manager, Mineral and Lands



Date

**BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR
Campbell County Road and Bridge Department
Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit Expansion
WY-070-EA12-087**

NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action involves the removal of sand and gravel through the issuance of mineral material Free Use Permit (FUP) from an existing open pit located on private surface/federal mineral lands approximately 8 miles southeast of Buffalo, Wyoming. This pit will also be expanded to the west resulting from this action, with the total area to encompass approximately 55 acres. The sand and gravel will be utilized for road surfacing and construction purposes by Campbell County Road and Bridge Department.

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Alternative A

Campbell County Road and Bridge Department proposes to acquire a mineral material FUP to mine approximately 200,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel from an existing pit consisting of approximately 46 acres. As part of this action, the pit will be expanded toward the west, adding less than 10 acres for approximately 55 acres total. The FUP would be issued for five years. A new FUP would be required once the permitted amount of sand and gravel is removed.

There will be some dust and noise associated with the mining operation. The closest residents will be residences approximately 2.0 miles northeast of the pit. Water obtained from private sources will be used to suppress dust on haul roads, if necessary. No toxic materials will be utilized during the mining operation. No structures will be constructed.

Before mining of the sand and gravel deposit can begin, the topsoil covering the sand and gravel deposit will be removed. This will be accomplished using front-end loaders and dozers. Topsoil will be stockpiled in areas adjacent to the mining area. The mining process will involve using front-end loaders and dozers to remove the sand and gravel to stockpile it for crushing. The stockpiled material will then be fed into a crusher, also using front-end loaders and dozers. The sand and gravel will then be crushed and screened to the desired size specifications. Dump trucks of various types will be used to haul the prepared material, either for immediate use or to add to stockpiles in various locations around the county for use when needed.

The floor (deepest depth reached) of the current mining area sits approximately 20-30 feet below the natural ground surface. The crushing and screening equipment will sit on the current mining floor, thus the noise from these operations will be muffled to a great degree. However, the removal and stockpiling of the topsoil will occur on the surface of the currently undisturbed ground (the area to be expanded). The noise from these operations will likely not be muffled, except when occurring behind stockpiled materials.

Reclamation of some areas may occur as they are mined out. Approximately 4.5 acres on the northeastern side of the pit have already been reclaimed. Any mined material not meeting size or quality specifications will be stockpiled. This material will be used for back-filling the pit and re-contouring the slopes to no less than a 3:1 slope. The stockpiled topsoil will be re-placed on the re-contoured slopes, and then re-seeded.

The proposed action is in conformance with the terms and the conditions of the Buffalo Resource Management

Plan (RMP) approved April 2001 (BLM 2001). The proposed action is regulated by 43 CFR 3600.

Alternative B

The no action alternative would involve no mineral material Free Use Permit being issued for the sand and gravel deposit contained within the subject area.

Alternative C

The third alternative would be to select an alternate location for the proposed sand and gravel pit. Sand and gravel is limited to scattered areas surrounding the proposed pit location and could probably be mined elsewhere instead of the subject area. Selecting an alternate location would require additional surface disturbance, however. Access to other deposits may be more difficult, and would require additional road construction and other surface disturbance.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The climate is semi-arid in the pit area, receiving approximately 10 inches of precipitation annually. The proposed pit site is situated at an elevation of about 5180 feet above sea level. There are no toxic materials or significant drainages present in the area that would be affected by the mining operation. The depth to which the excavation will take place is above the water table. The area is stable and not susceptible to erosional damage. No flooding problems are known to exist within the area.

The current mining area encompasses approximately 46 acres. The proposed action includes expansion of the pit to the west, adding less than 10 acres. Thus, less than 10 acres of sparse native range grasses intermixed with lichen will be disturbed during this proposed operation.

Economics

There will be no major adverse effects on the local economy from permitting the proposed mining operation. A small positive effect will result, as existing sources of manpower and equipment are currently employed by Campbell County Road and Bridge Department, and will continue to be employed as a result of approval of this project. The present and projected demand for sand and gravel is moderate throughout the subject region and primarily for road construction. Access to the site will be via United States Highway I-90.

Special Designations

No WSA's, potential ACEC's, scientific sites, or scenic features are present or obstructed by the proposed pit.

Paleontology

The project area is mapped as occurring within the Wasatch Formation, which has a Potential Fossil Yield Classification of 2-3, or low to moderate. Known fossils in the general area are marine invertebrates, such as brachiopods and corals. None of these fossils are considered of special significance.

Cultural

Class III cultural resource inventory was performed for the Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit Expansion prior to on-the-ground project work (BFO project no. 70120028). A class III cultural resource inventory following the Archeology and Historic Preservation, Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines (48CFR190) and the *Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office Format, Guidelines, and Standards for Class II and III Reports* was provided by the BFO. Seth Lambert, BLM Archaeologist, reviewed the report for technical adequacy and compliance with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) standards, and determined it to be adequate. The following resources are located in or near the project area. (or No Cultural resources are located in the project area.)

Site Number	Site Type	Eligibility
JO664	Prehistoric	U
JO4322	Prehistoric	U

Wildlife

Native range grasses are the predominant vegetative cover in the pit area, intermixed with lichen. Sagebrush shrublands occur in moderately dense stands to the north and east of the existing gravel pit.

Current wildlife surveys were not provided to BLM BFO prior to this analysis. The BLM biologist visited the project area on February 14, 2012 to perform a habitat assessment, and databases maintained by the BLM-BFO were used for analysis.

Big Game

Big game animals utilize the area in the vicinity of the project location. The project area is located in yearlong range for mule deer and pronghorn. Yearlong use is when a population of animals makes general use of suitable documented habitat sites within the range on a year-round basis. Animals may leave the area under severe conditions.

Migratory Birds and Raptors

Suitable nesting habitat for migratory birds that rely on sagebrush or grassland habitats occurs within the vicinity of the existing gravel pit disturbance. Migratory birds that are also BLM-sensitive species that use these habitat types include Brewer's sparrow, loggerhead shrike, sage sparrow, and sage thrasher.

Four raptor nests are known to occur within 1 mile of the existing gravel pit. See Table 1 for details. Nest 12606 was active with ferruginous hawks, a BLM-sensitive species, in 2010. All 4 nests are out of the line of sight of the existing mine.

Table 1. Raptor Nests Within 1 Mile of Campbell County's Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit.

BLM ID	Location	Species	Distance to Hakert Pit (miles)
208	T49N R81W SESE S6	Unknown Raptor	0.9
213	T49N R81W NWNW S8	Unknown Raptor	1.0
12605	T50N R81W SESW S31	Ferruginous Hawk	0.9
12606	T50N R81W NWSE S31	Ferruginous Hawk	0.7

Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, and Sensitive Species

Tables 2 and 3 list, respectively, threatened and endangered species that occur within the BFO, and BLM sensitive species that occur within the BFO. Also included are the habitats of these species, whether the species is likely to occur in the project area, effects of the proposed project on the species, and the rationale for that determination. Sage-grouse are discussed below in further detail.

Greater Sage-Grouse

A description of the affected environment for sage-grouse can be found in the Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit Environmental Assessment (WY-070-EA10-101), 2010. Additional, or updated information, is discussed below.

In 2010, USFWS determined that the greater sage-grouse was warranted for federal listing across its range, but the listing was precluded by other higher priority listing actions. Sage-grouse are listed as a WGF Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) because populations are declining, and they are experiencing ongoing

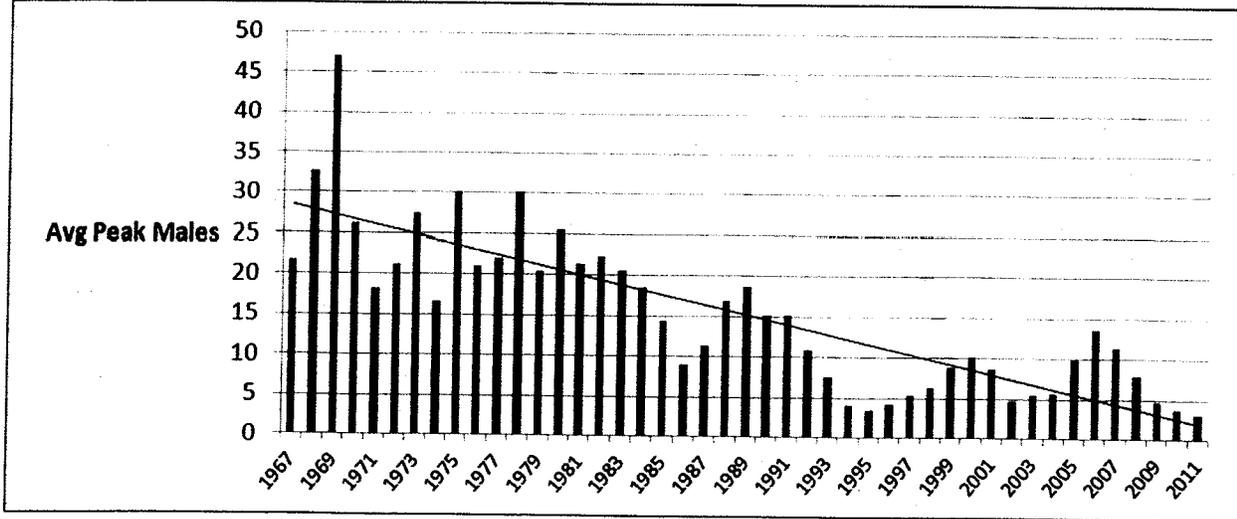
significant loss of habitat. The Wyoming Bird Conservation Plan rates sage-grouse as a Level I species, indicating they are clearly in need of conservation action. They are also listed by USFWS as a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) for the region that includes BFO (Region 17).

The sage-grouse population within northeastern Wyoming has been exhibiting a steady long term downward trend, as measured by lek attendance and shown in Figure 1 (WGFD 2011). Figure 1 illustrates a 10-year cycle of periodic highs and lows. Each subsequent population peak is lower than the previous peak. Research suggests that the declines since 2001 are a result, in part, of energy development (USFWS 2010, Taylor et al. 2012).

In 2009, the WY BLM initiated a contract to research the potential impacts to the NE WY sage-grouse population from oil and gas development in the Powder River Basin. The report, entitled “Viability analyses for conservation of sage-grouse populations: Buffalo Field Office, Wyoming,” indicated that the sage-grouse populations in the PRB remain viable, but that viability is being impacted by multiple stressors including West Nile virus (WNV) and energy development. Those impacts are most discernible at the spatial scale of 20 km (12.4 mi) (Taylor et al. 2012). The findings of this report echo results from previous studies conducted in the basin, wherein basin-wide population declines have been observed (Walker et al. 2007). There are 13 leks within 12.4 miles of the proposed expansion, 10 of which are in the Buffalo core area.

Since the previous permit was issued, Executive Order 2008-2 has been replaced by Executive Order 2011-5, Greater Sage-grouse Core Area Protection. In addition, BLM IM WY-2010-012 has been replaced by BLM IM WY-2012-019, Greater Sage-grouse Habitat Management Policy on Wyoming Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Administered Public Lands Including the Federal Mineral Estate. This guidance set forth new management guidelines and tools for evaluating projects within Core Areas. Because this project is within a Core Area, Campbell County was required to complete an evaluation of the level of existing disturbance within 4 miles of the project area using the Density/Disturbance Calculation Tool (DDCT) (EO 2011-5). The executive order states that surface disturbance will be limited to 5% of suitable sage-grouse habitat per square mile. It also describes a threshold of one disruption per square mile. Please refer to EO 2011-5 for a detailed description of the DDCT process, as well as definitions available at the following website: <http://www-wsl.state.wy.us/sis/wydocs/execorders.html>.

Figure 1. Average males per lek for all leks within 4 miles of the Buffalo Field Office (from WGFD 2011).



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

If the proposed action is approved, the only resulting adverse impacts would be the temporary loss of vegetation from the newly disturbed area, and decrease in air and sound quality during mining, crushing, screening, and transporting activities. Short-term use of the site and eventual long-term productivity will not be affected as a result of allowing the sand and gravel deposit to be mined.

Selection of the no action alternative would result in no adverse environmental impacts occurring in the area of the proposed operation. However, a commitment has been made in the Buffalo Resource Area Management Plan to dispose of salable minerals throughout the Buffalo Field Office jurisdiction. In addition, this is an existing pit (approximately 46 acres). The area to be added is relatively minimal (less than 10 acres), resulting in a relatively small additional disturbance. Short-term use and long-term productivity will not be adversely affected. Note that vegetation will be temporarily disturbed, but re-seeded during reclamation activities.

The possible selection of an alternate location to mine the sand and gravel is not environmentally-viable. This would likely result in the opening an additional pit in a less desirable location, and an access road to it, resulting in increased surface disturbance overall.

The following mandatory items have been considered and either do not occur, or will not be adversely affected, within/near the project area:

- Air quality
- Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)
- Environmental justice
- Prime or unique farmlands
- Flood plains
- Hazardous or solid wastes
- Invasive, non-native species
- Livestock grazing
- Native American religious concerns
- Noxious weeds
- Paleontology
- Recreation
- Soils
- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Traditional Cultural Properties
- Vegetation
- Visual resource management
- Water quality and prime or sole source of drinking water
- Wetlands and riparian zones
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Wilderness values

ALTERNATIVE A

If the proposed action is approved, the only resulting adverse impacts would be the continued temporary loss of vegetation from disturbed areas, and the decrease in air and sound quality during mining, crushing, screening, and transporting activities. Short-term use of the site and eventual long-term productivity will not be affected as a result of allowing the gravel deposit to be mined. Note that vegetation is temporarily disturbed, but will be re-seeded during reclamation activities.

Wildlife

Big Game

Mule deer and pronghorn may avoid using the area adjacent to the project, to avoid impacts from noise, dust, and human activities. Big game would likely be displaced from the project area during disruptive activities such as mining and crushing of gravel. A study in central Wyoming reported that mineral drilling activities displaced mule deer by more than 0.5 miles (Hiatt and Baker 1981). A multi-year study on the Pinedale Anticline suggests not only do mule deer avoid mineral activities, but after three years of drilling activity the deer have not become accustomed to the disturbance (Madson 2005). Mule deer are more sensitive to operation and maintenance activities than pronghorn, and, as the Pinedale Anticline study suggests, mule deer do not readily habituate. A study in North Dakota stated "Although the population (mule deer) had over seven years to habituate to oil and gas activities, avoidance of roads and facilities was determined to be long term and chronic" (Lustig 2003). Deer have even been documented avoiding dirt roads that were used only by 4-wheel drive vehicles, trail bikes, and hikers (Jalkotzy et al. 1997).

Migratory Birds and Raptors

Migratory birds and raptors may avoid nesting or foraging in proximity of the project, in order to avoid impacts from noise, dust, and human activities. Drilling and construction noise can be troublesome for songbirds by interfering with the males' ability to attract mates and defend territory, and the ability to recognize calls from conspecifics (other birds of the same species) (BLM 2003).

The BLM is required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (1918) and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (1999), both administered by the USFWS. The USFWS Ecological Services Office issued recommendations for species specific spatial and seasonal buffers for breeding raptors in December 2009. The BLM signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2010 with the USFWS to promote the conservation of migratory birds, as directed through Executive Order 13186 (Federal Register V. 66, No. 11). Implementation of the recommendations issued in 2009 ensures compliance with the MBTA and BGEPA.

The pit location is within the 1 mile spatial buffer recommended by the USFWS for ferruginous hawk nests 12605 and 12606. Given the combination of distance, visual barrier, and existing disturbance from the existing mines in the area, instituting a seasonal timing stipulation for nesting raptors is not likely to reduce impacts to existing nests.

Greater Sage-Grouse

A description of the environmental consequences for sage-grouse can be found in the Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit Environmental Assessment (WY-070-EA10-101), 2010. A dditional, or updated information, is discussed below.

Campbell County contracted with Knight Technologies, Inc. (KTI), to complete a DDCT analysis for the proposed pit expansion (KTI 2012). KTI determined there is 4.76% disturbance (including the 10 acre expansion) within the analysis area, an area of 24.4 square miles. KTI determined there to be 0.33 disruptions per square mile, well under the threshold set by EO 2011-5. The WGFD determined in its comment letter that the project is not likely to cause declines in sage-grouse populations (Appendix A).

Biologists from the WGFD surveyed the suitable habitat to the north of the project area on March 9, 2012, and no sage-grouse sign was found (Bud Stewart, Personal Communication, March 12, 2012). Based on the lack

of sign, and that the Negro Creek lek has not been active since 2004, WGFD has determined that the habitat is unoccupied (Appendix A), and no mitigation is recommended.

Hens may be avoiding otherwise suitable habitat surrounding the project due to elevated noise levels from crushing of gravel. Research has shown that hens are sensitive to noise from oil and gas drilling operations when selecting a location for nesting, and they may therefore be sensitive to noise from other surface disturbing activities such as mining and crushing of gravel (Holloran et al. 2005, Holloran et al. 2007, Aldridge and Boyce 2007, Walker et al. 2007, Doherty et al. 2008, WGFD 2009). Two other existing gravel pits occur within 1 mile of the Campbell County Hakert pit, to the east and west. Active pits also occur to the north of the project. Sage-grouse are likely to continue to avoid the area.

Cultural

No historic properties will be impacted by the proposed project. Following the Wyoming State Protocol Section VI(A)(1) the Bureau of Land Management electronically notified the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on 04/16/2012 that no historic properties exist within the APE. If any cultural values [sites, artifacts, human remains (Appendix L PRB FEIS)] are observed during operation of this lease/permit/right-of-way, they will be left intact and the Buffalo Field Manager notified. Further discovery procedures are explained in the Standard COA (General)(A)(1).

MITIGATION AND MONITORING

1. Mitigation measures submitted by Campbell County Road and Bridge Department in their proposed mine plan and additional measures listed in the special stipulations issued with the Free Use Permit are determined sufficient.
2. Monitoring will be conducted by Buffalo Field Office personnel and the staff of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ). The pit area will be monitored until final reclamation of the area has been completed.
3. Unevaluated site 48JO4322 is located on the SW boundary of expansion. All surface disturbing activity must avoid this location by a minimum of 100'. Prior to the commencement of any surface disturbing activity related to this permit, a pre-construction onsite will be conducted and a working buffer will be delineated.

CONSULTATION

WGFD was consulted in order to determine if the proposed project would be in accordance with the State of Wyoming Core Population Area objectives. They have determined the proposed project to be in accordance with these objectives, and have provided a letter of concurrence (Appendix A). Appendix A is attached at end of this document.

REFERENCES CITED

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Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD). 2009. Minimum Recommendations for Development of Oil and Gas Resources within Crucial and Important Wildlife Habitats on BLM Lands. WGFD. Cheyenne, Wyoming, USA.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM PREPARERS AND REVIEWERS

This document was prepared by Casey Freise, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist and Project Manager, BLM Buffalo Field Office. Individuals consulted prior to the issuance of the proposed mineral material Free Use Permit include:

- Seth Lambert, Archaeologist
- Darci Stafford, Wildlife Biologist
- Kerry Aggen, Geologist
- John Kelley, NEPA Coordinator and Planning and Environmental Coordinator
- Clark Bennett, Associate Field Manager, Minerals and Lands

Table 2. Summary of Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat and Project Effects.

Common Name (scientific name)	Habitat	Presence	Project Effects	Rationale
<i>Threatened</i>				
Ute ladies'-tresses orchid	Riparian areas with permanent water	NP	NE	Habitat not present.
<i>Candidate</i>				
Greater Sage-grouse	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub	NP	NE	Project is located in unsuitable habitat and further than 0.6 miles from occupied habitat.
Project Effects				
LAA - Likely to adversely affect				
NE - No Effect				
NLAA - May Affect, not likely to adversely affect individuals or habitat.				
NLJ - Not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species				
MIH - May impact individuals and habitat				
NP - Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area.				

Table 3. Summary of Sensitive Species, Habitat, and Project Effects.

Common Name (scientific name)	Habitat	Presence	Project Effects	Rationale
<i>Amphibians</i>				
Northern leopard frog (<i>Rana pipiens</i>)	Beaver ponds and cattail marshes from plains to montane zones.	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Columbia spotted frog (<i>Rana pretiosa</i>)	Ponds, sloughs, small streams, and cattails in foothills and montane zones. Confined to headwaters of the S Tongue R drainage and tributaries.	NP	NI	The project area is outside the species' range, and the species is not expected to occur.
<i>Fish</i>				
Yellowstone cutthroat trout (<i>Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri</i>)	Cold-water rivers, creeks, beaver ponds, and large lakes in the Upper Tongue sub-watershed	NP	NI	The project area is outside the species' range, and the species is not expected to occur.

Common Name (scientific name)	Habitat	Presence	Project Effects	Rationale
<i>Birds</i>				
Baird's sparrow (<i>Ammodramus bairdii</i>)	Shortgrass prairie and basin-prairie shrubland habitats; plowed and stubble fields; grazed pastures; dry lakebeds; and other sparse, bare, dry ground.	NS	MIIH	Nesting habitat not present in the disturbance area. Foraging habitat may be impacted by dust, noise, and human activities. Species may avoid area.
Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	Mature forest cover often within one mile of large water body with reliable prey source nearby.	S	MIIH	Foraging habitat may be impacted by dust, noise, and human activities. Species may avoid area.
Brewer's sparrow (<i>Spizella breweri</i>)	Sagebrush shrubland	NS	MIIH	Nesting habitat not present in the disturbance area. Foraging habitat may be impacted by dust, noise, and human activities. Species may avoid area.
Ferruginous hawk (<i>Buteo regalis</i>)	Basin-prairie shrub, grasslands, rock outcrops	K	MIIH	Nesting and foraging habitat may be impacted and human activities will increase
Loggerhead shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub	NS	MIIH	Nesting habitat not present in the disturbance area. Foraging habitat may be impacted by dust, noise, and human activities. Species may avoid area.
Long-billed curlew (<i>Numenius americanus</i>)	Grasslands, plains, foothills, wet meadows	NS	MIIH	Nesting habitat present in the disturbance area. Dust, noise, and human activities from current mining activities likely preclude nesting curlews. Species may avoid area.
Mountain Plover	Short-grass prairie with slopes < 5%	NS	MIIH	Nesting habitat present in the disturbance area. Dust, noise, and human activities from current mining activities likely preclude nesting plovers. Species may avoid area.
Northern goshawk (<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>)	Conifer and deciduous forests	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	Cliffs	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Sage sparrow (<i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>)	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub	NS	NI	Nesting habitat not present in the disturbance area. Species is unlikely to occur in the area.

Common Name (scientific name)	Habitat	Presence	Project Effects	Rationale
Sage thrasher (<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>)	Basin-prairie shrub, mountain-foothill shrub	NS	MIH	Nesting habitat not present in the disturbance area. Foraging habitat may be impacted by dust, noise, and human activities. Species may avoid area.
Trumpeter swan (<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>)	Lakes, ponds, rivers	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Western Burrowing owl (<i>Athene cucularia</i>)	Grasslands, basin-prairie shrub	NP	NI	No prairie dog colonies or burrows occur within 0.25 miles of the proposed expansion.
White-faced ibis (<i>Plegadis chihi</i>)	Marshes, wet meadows	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Yellow-billed cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>)	Open woodlands, streamside willow and alder groves	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
<i>Mammals</i>				
Black-tailed prairie dog (<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>)	Prairie habitats with deep, firm soils and slopes less than 10 degrees.	NP	NI	The nearest known colonies are approximately one mile from the proposed expansion.
Fringed myotis (<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>)	Conifer forests, woodland chaparral, caves and mines	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Long-eared myotis (<i>Myotis evotis</i>)	Conifer and deciduous forest, caves and mines	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Swift fox (<i>Vulpes velox</i>)	Grasslands	NS	NI	No known dens occur in the proposed expansion area. Foraging habitat may be impacted by dust, noise, and human activities. Species may avoid area.
Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>)	Caves and mines.	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
<i>Plants</i>				
Limber Pine (<i>Pinus flexilis</i>)	Mountains, associated with high elevation conifer species.	NP	NI	Habitat not present.
Porter's sagebrush (<i>Artemisia porteri</i>)	Sparsely vegetated badlands of ashly or tuffaceous mudstone and clay slopes 5300-6500 ft.	NP	NI	Habitat not present.

Common Name (scientific name)	Habitat	Presence	Project Effects	Rationale
William's wafer parsnip (<i>Cymopterus williamsii</i>)	Open ridgetops and upper slopes with exposed limestone outcrops or rockslides, 6000-8300 ft.	NP	NI	Project area outside of species' range.
<p>Presence</p> <p>K - Known, documented observation within project area.</p> <p>S - Habitat suitable and species suspected, to occur within the project area.</p> <p>NS - Habitat suitable but species is not suspected to occur within the project area.</p> <p>NP - Habitat not present and species unlikely to occur within the project area.</p> <p>Project Effects</p> <p>NI - No Impact.</p> <p>MIH - May Impact Individuals or Habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards Federal listing or a loss of viability to the population or species.</p> <p>WIPV - Will Impact Individuals or Habitat with a consequence that the action may contribute to a trend towards Federal listing or cause a loss of viability to the population or species.</p> <p>BI - Beneficial Impact</p>				

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST
FOR
Campbell County Road and Bridge Department
Hakert Sand & Gravel Pit
WY-070-EA12-087**

The following Buffalo Field Office Specialists have reviewed the information contained in the attached Environmental Assessment. Comments received during the review have been incorporated into the assessment.

Specialist	Initials	Date	Comments (attach, if necessary)
Seth Lambert, Archaeologist	SL	4/12/12	
Darci Stafford, Wildlife Biologist	DS	4/12/12	
Kerry Aggen, Geologist	Kerry Aggen	4/12/12	
Casey Friese Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, and Project Manager	Casey Friese	4/12/12	
John Kelley, Planning & Environmental Coordinator	J. Kelley	4/12/12	
Clark Bennett, Associate Field Manager	Clark Bennett	4/12/12	