

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2016-0046-EA**

March 2018

Gillis Ranch Road

Location: Approximately 16 Miles Southwest of Green River, Utah

**Applicant/Address: Emery County Commission
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Gillis Ranch Road

DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2016-0046-EA

1. PURPOSE & NEED

1.1. Introduction

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to disclose and analyze the environmental consequences of authorizing a right-of-way (ROW) to Emery County in perpetuity, for the continued maintenance of an existing road. The EA is a site-specific analysis of potential impacts that could result with the implementation of a proposed action or alternatives to the proposed action. The EA assists the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in project planning and ensuring compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and in making a determination as to whether any “significant” impacts could result from the analyzed actions. “Significance” is defined by NEPA and is found in regulation 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1508.27. An EA provides evidence for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a statement of “Finding of No Significant Impact” (FONSI). If the decision maker determines that this project has “significant” impacts following the analysis in the EA, then an EIS would be prepared for the project. If not, a Decision Record may be signed for the EA approving the selected alternative, whether the proposed action or another alternative. A Decision Record (DR), including a FONSI statement, documents the reasons why implementation of the selected alternative would not result in “significant” environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in Price Field Office Resource Management Plan (October 2008).

1.2. Background

On May 13, 2015, Emery County was granted an as-is, where-is ROW (serial number UTU-89586) on an existing road (County System Road No. 6816). This road has been in existence since at least 1885 as shown on the original survey map approved on March 12, 1885. Routine maintenance activities are authorized under the terms of the ROW grant, the grant requires that all activities associated with the ROW be contained within the authorized limits of the ROW. The representative width of the road ranges from 20 – 28 feet and the length of the road is approximately 52,800 feet (10 miles). The maintenance that is authorized includes work that is reasonably necessary to preserve the existing road in its present condition. Including the physical upkeep or repair of wear, or damage, whether from natural or other causes, repair or replacement of existing culverts and other existing drainage structures, raising the level of the road, applying road base for stabilization, maintaining the shape of the road, grading it, making sure that the shape of the road permits drainage, essentially preserving the status quo.

An extreme weather event during the summer of 2015 caused rainwater to accumulate northeast of the road. The water gathered into the wash that typically crosses the road, but in this event, it rerouted itself down the roadway approximately a quarter mile. The resulting erosion scoured the road corridor and left a wash 50 feet wide. After the flooding, the existing roadway was gone. Emery County road crew reshaped the road, graded it, re-established drainage with bar ditches and the installation of a culvert, which would gather future storm water and pass it across the roadway in the original drainage pattern. All activity was conducted within the area scoured by the flood event approximately 50 feet wide, except for the culvert installation, which disturbed approximately 75 feet, 25 feet wider than the flood-scoured area. During 2016, another extreme weather event washed the road out and filled the newly installed culvert with debris. The current authorization on this road does not allow washout repair outside of the representative width, or installation of another culvert.

Emery County applied for a ROW (serial number UTU-91790) on March 7, 2016, in perpetuity that would have an authorized width of 50 feet and would be approximately 6,700 feet long (1.27 miles) and would include a borrow area. The borrow area applied for contains approximately 1.6 acres and would be used to

build the road surface back up and would be used in future maintenance on the roadway (see photos in Appendix B). This borrow area would be self-replenishing with each future weather event.

Where the culverts are installed, the width would be 75 feet for a distance of 30 feet. The 75 foot width is necessary for the installation of another culvert and maintenance of the culverts, the travel surface width would be similar to what it was before the wash out. If the ROW is authorized, Emery County would relinquish the as-is, where-is ROW on this portion of the road.

The Gillis Ranch Road has had many issues in the past, particularly in the section under application. Since 1995, the BLM has requested at least 12 times that Emery County perform necessary maintenance on various locations along the roadway (see Appendix C).

The lands under application are located in south-central Utah within the Colorado Plateau physiographic province. The elevation is approximately 1,264 feet. The proposed project area is located approximately 16 miles southwest of the town of Green River, Utah. The Gillis Ranch Road is one of the roads that connect Highway 24 with the Antelope Valley Road.

The Iron Wash and San Rafael River Grazing Allotments are accessed along their entire length by these roads, as is most of the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) San Rafael Wildlife Plan Area. Cattle graze in the winter months, from November - mid April. The Ranchers use the road to access the allotments.

Historic and current land uses in the area are livestock grazing, livestock trailing and recreation. Hunting, OHV riding, horseback riding, and hiking are popular activities in this area.

Vegetation and weather is typical of the desert; the vegetation communities are comprised of shadscale, buckwheat, galletta, Indian Rice grass, Rabbit brush, Greasewood, Prickly Pear cactus, Claret-cup cactus, and Mormon tea.

1.3. Purpose(s) and Need of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the BLM's federal action is to respond to Emery County's application for a ROW for culvert installation, borrow area, and continued road maintenance on BLM managed land in Emery County, Utah.

The BLM's need is to respond to the proposal in accordance with the objectives of the RMP and to fulfill BLM's responsibility under the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) and BLM ROW regulations found at 43 CFR 2800. Which are to manage the public lands for multiple uses in a manner that avoids or reduces impacts to sensitive resource values associated with the project area and prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of public lands.

The decision to be made is whether or not to grant a ROW, and if so, under what terms and conditions.

1.4. Conformance with BLM Land Use Plan(s)

The proposed action (described in Chapter 2) is in conformance with the 2008 Price Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP). The following goals, objectives, and management decisions in the RMP relate to this project:

Lands and Realty (LAR) (Page 115, 120)

Goals:

- *Make public lands available through ROWs or leases for such purposes as transportation routes, utilities, transmission lines, and communication sites, in coordination with other resource goals.*

Objectives:

- *Maintain availability of public lands to meet the habitation, cultivation, trade, mineral development, recreation, and manufacturing needs of external customers and the general public.*

- *Make public lands available to meet the needs for smaller ROWs (e.g., roads or pipelines for oil fields).*

Management Decisions (LAR-28):

- *Additional ROWs will be granted consistent with RMP goals and objectives.*

Transportation (TRV) (Page 148)

Objectives:

- *Upgrade and construct roads to provide essential access for resource management purposes.*
- *Continue to support Carbon and Emery counties and the State of Utah in providing a network of roads across public lands.*

1.5. Relationship to Statutes, Regulations, or Other Plans

The EA is being prepared in accordance with NEPA, as amended (42 USC §§ 4321 to 4370e) and in compliance with all applicable regulations and laws passed subsequently, including the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations 40 CFR 1500–1508, U.S. Department of Interior requirements (Department Manual 516, Environmental Quality), BLM Handbook H 1790 1, Guidelines for Assessing and Documenting Cumulative Impacts, and Considering Cumulative Effects under the National Environmental Policy Act. As the lead agency, the BLM is responsible for analyses and documents that conform to NEPA, CEQ, and other pertinent Federal laws and regulations.

In accordance with FLPMA (Section 103[c]), public lands are to be managed for multiple use that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to grant ROWs on public lands for roads, trails, highways, railroads, canals, tunnels, tramways, airways, livestock driveways, or other means of transportation. (Section 501 [a][6]).

The Proposed Action is consistent with Emery County’s General Plan of 1996, revised in 1999, 2012 and 2016, which states on page 9 “To ensure greater County involvement in public land management, the County will: work to preserve and maintain public land access routes, such as those recognized in legitimate land planning processes such as resource management plans, travel management plans and the County’s Transportation Plan; and support these efforts through the Emery County Public Lands Council and the staff position of a Public Lands Administrator”.

1.6. Identification of Issues

Potential issues were identified for the proposed action based on internal scoping by an interdisciplinary team of BLM resource specialists. Appendix A, the Interdisciplinary Team Checklist (IDT Checklist), identifies those resources that could potentially be affected and are evaluated in detail in this EA. Issues identified include those natural resources, resource values, natural processes, and other components of the human environment having the potential to be affected directly, indirectly, or cumulatively by the proposed action. Those resources and associated resource issues identified as potentially impacted (PI) by the proposed action are summarized below. The as-is, where-is, ROW (serial number UTU-89586) CX was posted on the Environmental Notification Bulletin Board on June 17, 2014 to inform the public of the projects initiation. No comments were received from this notification. A Native American consultation letter was sent on April 12, 2013. The Paiute Indian Tribe commented on April 18, 2013, that they did not have any objections to the project. The Hopi Tribe commented on May 13, 2013. They requested a copy of the cultural resource survey report and any proposed treatment plan. A second Native American consultation letter was sent on July 19, 2016, to inform them of the new proposal (serial number UTU-91790) and to provide the opportunity for additional comments.

1.6.1. Cultural Resources

How would Historic Properties eligible for inclusion on the National Register be affected by the proposed action?

1.7. Issues Considered but Eliminated from Further Analysis

Appendix A, the IDT Checklist, summarizes the issues and identifies those that have been dismissed because they are not present or, if present, would clearly not be affected. Those resources identified as not present (NP) in the proposed project area or not impacted (NI) were not carried forward for analysis into the EA.

1.8. Summary

This chapter has presented the purpose and need of the proposed project, as well as the relevant issues, i.e., those elements of the human environment that could be affected by the implementation of the proposed project.

2. PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1. Introduction

This section describes the range of alternatives to be addressed in the EA. This section will also provide the basis for analyzing the potential impacts of the reasonable alternatives in a comparative form. This will assist in defining the issues and providing a clear basis for choice among options by the decision maker and the public.

Two alternatives were determined to be reasonable and will be considered for further analysis in this document: The Proposed Action and the No Action alternative.

2.2. Alternative A – Proposed Action

The BLM is considering authorizing a ROW to Emery County in perpetuity for installation of another culvert, a borrow area and continual maintenance of an existing road. Emery County submitted an application for a ROW on March 7, 2016, for a portion of the Gillis Ranch road, on BLM-managed land.

The legal description for the project area is:

T. 22 S., R. 14 E., Salt Lake Meridian, Emery County, Utah

Section 27: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Section 34: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The overall width and length of the road being applied for is 50 feet wide and approximately 6,700 feet long, and where the culverts are installed the width would be 75 feet for a distance of 30 feet, encompassing approximately 7.8 acres and the borrow area contains approximately 1.6 acres.

Culvert installation would be performed by first shaping the road with material from the borrow area, establishing the grade of the travel surface, excavating a cut laterally across the road and a little wider than the width of the culvert. The gradient of base of the cut would be minimal, in order not to accelerate water flow. The culvert sections (three 20-foot sections) would then be placed in the bottom of the cut and banded together to create a 60-foot long structure. The excavation would be backfilled in lifts, compacted and re-graded to match the road travel surface and surrounding topography.

The second culvert would be installed prior to seasonal storm events, which typically generates runoff. A final gravel surface would be placed when a material source is determined and road crew schedules allow.

Typical maintenance would be performed on the travel surface and shoulder of the road. Extreme flooding may require some work on the back slopes, inlet and outlet ends of the culverts. The culverts would be 6 feet x 60 feet and 36 inches x 50 feet.

Borrow material from the proposed borrow area would be utilized to elevate the road surface to its pre-storm existing elevation. The County Road Department crew would re-establish the roadway over time, as material in the borrow area is replenished by storm events. A front-end loader, excavator (track hoe) end dump and belly-dump trucks would be used to move the material. The crew would maintain a passable road surface as they intermittently re-establish the road.

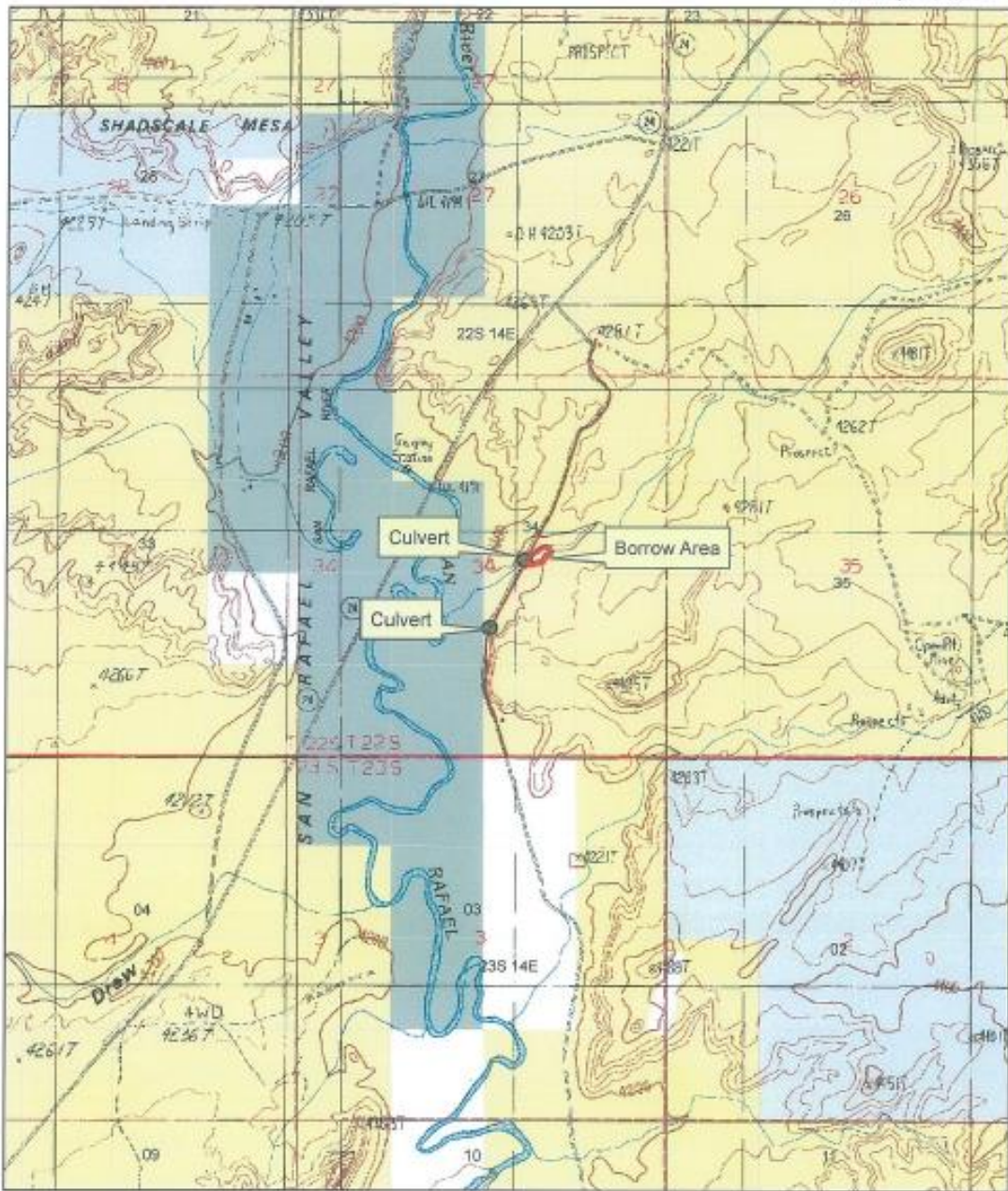
The project would entail three workers, a grader, loader, track hoe, water trailer and two tractor-trailers with belly dumps. Emery County would like to begin the work as soon as possible after receipt of the authorized ROW grant.

The ROW grant would be monitored periodically throughout the life of the authorization to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the authorizing document.

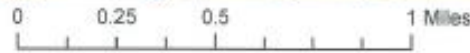
Gillis Ranch Road

February 21, 2017

BLM



PRICE FIELD OFFICE



- Legend**
- GillisRanchRoad
 - GillisBorrowArea
 - GilliesRanchRoadCulverts



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. Original data was compiled from various sources. The information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be subject to minor variations.

2.3. Alternative B – No Action

The No Action Alternative would result in denying Emery County's ROW application (serial number UTU-91790).

The new ROW would not be issued; the road would continue to be used. The County would continue to maintain the road authorized under their as-is, where-is ROW (serial number UTU-89586). It is anticipated that another storm event could close the road and repairs would be necessary outside of the authorized width of the existing ROW.

2.4. Alternatives Considered, but Eliminated from Further Analysis

Within the range of alternatives to the proposed action, BLM resource specialists did not identify additional resource conflicts that would require other alternatives. The proposal is to authorize culvert installation, a borrow area, and continual maintenance of an existing road. No other alternative would serve the intended purpose.

3. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.1. Introduction

This chapter presents the potentially affected existing environment (i.e., the physical, biological, social, and economic values and resources) of the impact area as identified in the IDT Checklist found in Appendix A and presented in Chapter 1 of this assessment. This chapter provides the baseline for comparison of impacts and/or consequences described in Chapter 4.

3.2. General Setting

A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Gillis Ranch to Horse Bench Road was conducted in 2014. Historic properties eligible for inclusion on the National Register are located in the area of potential affect.

There are two historic homesteads along these roads, the Gillis Ranch and The Frenchman.

The Upper and Lower Gillis Ranch were purchased in the early 1900s by Daniel Sinclair Gillis. Several of his sons lived on and off at the Lower Gillis Ranch which had the corrals, cabins and a house. In 1965, the ranch was sold and the ownership changed hands several times after that, the land finally wound up being given to the Department of Wildlife Resources.

The land containing the Frenchman, otherwise known as the Nougquier Ranch, was patented to Joseph Cunha in 1900. It is believed that the Nougquier Ranch had a “mail room” attached to or inside one of the cabins there. A Pony Express-like mail carrier delivered mail between the railhead at Green River and Hanksville, Cainsville, and Hite. It is also believed that the Nougquier Ranch had a rest stop, stable and a change of horses with a pasture for the carriers. In 1901, the land was sold and it changed hands many more times before being given to the Department of Wildlife Resources.

As provided by NEPA regulations, found at 40 CFR 1502.21, the 2008 Price Field Office Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (2008 RMP/FEIS) are hereby incorporated by reference since these documents fully describe the affected environment and the affected resources of the area.

3.3. Resources/Issues Brought Forward for Analysis

3.3.1. Cultural Resources

Two historic properties as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act regulations set forth in 36CFR800.4 are located immediately adjacent to the existing road corridor and area of disturbance for the section of road being considered for issuance of a ROW grant.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

4.1. Introduction

The potential consequences of effects of each alternative are discussed in this section. The intent is to provide the scientific and analytical basis for comparison on the effects of each alternative.

4.2. Direct and Indirect Impacts

Direct effects are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place. Indirect effects are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.

4.3. Alternative A – Proposed Action

4.3.1. Cultural Resources

The issuance of an ROW for a 50 foot width expanding to a 75 foot width of 30 feet long at the areas proposed for culvert installation will not affect the two known historic properties, as the current area of disturbance adjacent to the properties is 50 feet in width. No historic properties are located near the proposed culvert locations.

4.4. Alternative B – No Action

4.4.1. Cultural Resources

The no action alternative would not affect the two known historic properties because the existing as-is, where-is ROW does not authorize the widening of the road or work outside of the authorized ROW width. Since the known historic properties are located outside of the existing as-is, where-is ROW, there would be no impacts to those historic properties.

4.5. Cumulative Impacts Analysis

Cumulative Impact Area (CIA):

The CIA for cultural resources is the area of the proposed ROW and those areas located within 30 meters of the area of existing disturbance.

Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions:

4.5.1. Cultural Resources

Past road maintenance activities which have occurred outside of the area of the existing road corridor have incurred damages to the historic properties which immediately abut the road shoulder. Continued flash flooding of the road corridor has increased erosion of the sites as the road corridor has channeled flows along the road shoulders and ditches. The proposed action could potentially contribute to cumulative impacts by increasing the potential for erosion at the intersection of the historic properties and the area of disturbance, by redirecting water flow. Building up of the road surface to the current elevation of surrounding landforms will reduce the cumulative impacts from continued erosion resulting from localized water flows. The current as-is, where-is ROW contains approximately 26 acres of authorized maintenance width. If the proposed action is authorized, the new maintenance width and the borrow pit area would add approximately 5.4 acres for a total of 31.4 acres.

5. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

5.1. Introduction

The issue identification section of Chapter 1 identifies those issues analyzed in detail in Chapter 4. The IDT Checklist provides the rationale for issues that were considered but not analyzed further. The issues were identified through the public and agency involvement process described in sections 5.2 and 5.3 below.

5.2. Persons, Groups, and Agencies Consulted:

Table 5-1

List of all Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted for Purposes of this EA.

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	Consultation for undertakings, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 USC 470)	A cultural resource Class III survey for the area was conducted as part of project U-14-BL-0646b, which included the current road ROW APE. SHPO consultation conducted between December 2014 and February 2015 resulted in a determination of “No Historic Properties Affected”.
Northwestern Band of Shoshone Nation Southern Ute Tribal Council Eastern Shoshone Tribe Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Pueblo of Zuni Ute Mountain Tribe Hopi Tribal Council Ute Indian Tribe Navajo Nation Paiute Indian Tribe	Consultation as required by the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 (42 USC 1531) and NHPA (16 USC 1531)	A tribal consultation letter was mailed on July 19, 2016, to describe the proposed action and to provide the opportunity to comment. No responses were received.

5.3. Summary of Public Participation

During preparation of the EA, the public was notified of the proposed action by posting on the ePlanning site on July 8, 2016.

5.4. List of Preparers

Table 5.4 List of Preparers

Name	Title	Responsible for the Following Section(s) of this Document
Jacob Palma	NEPA Specialist	Quality Control
Connie Leschin	Realty Specialist	Project Lead
Nicole Lohman	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources/Native American Religious Concerns

REFERENCES:

Wolfe, Michael S.

- 2014 Cultural Resource Inventory of the Gillis Ranch to Horse Bench Road in Emery County, Utah (U-14-BL-646b). Manuscript on file at the BLM-Price Field Office, Price, Utah.

6. ACRONYMS

6.1. List of Acronyms

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CEQ	Council of Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIA	Cumulative Impact Area
DR	Decision Record
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ENBB	Environmental Notification Bulletin Board
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FONSI	Finding of No Significant
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team Checklist
IMP	Integrated Pest Management
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NI	Not Impacted
NP	Not Present
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
OHV	Off Highway Vehicle
PI	Potentially Impacted
RMP	Price Field Office Resource Management Plan
ROW	Right-of-Way

Appendix A – Interdisciplinary Team Checklist

Project Title: Gillies Road

NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2016-0046-EA

File/Serial Number: UTU-91790

Project Leader: Connie Leschin

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 relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale for Determination column may include NI and NP discussions.

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)				
NI	Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Overall, air quality in the project area is considered to be in attainment of the NAAQS. There are no regulatory monitoring data for the project area. Dust emissions currently occur from vehicles utilizing the subject roads. It is anticipated that the incremental change from this project's alternatives would be so small as to be undetectable by both models and monitors. There are currently no regulatory standards for controlling GHG emissions or accepted analytical methods for evaluating project specific impacts related to GHG emissions. As a consequence, the impacts of site-specific proposals cannot be determined. Based on the nature of the action, GHG emissions are expected to be minimal.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NP	BLM natural areas	There are no BLM Natural Areas within the proposed project area as per GIS and RMP review	Matt Blocker	6/29/16

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
PI	Cultural Resources	Historic properties eligible for inclusion on the National Register are located in the area of potential affect.	Amber Koski	6/14/16
		The proponent has modified the Plan of Development to reduce the width of the ROW to 50' outside of the areas proposed for culvert installation, which will remain at 75'. This reduction in ROW width reduces the area of the ROW to the existing area of disturbance in the areas adjacent to historic properties. As long as the "as-is" where is condition is abided to, the resulting action will have "no adverse effect".	Nicole Lohman	7/14/2017
PI/NI	Cultural: Native American Religious Concerns	Historic properties eligible for inclusion on the National Register are located in the area of potential affect.	Amber Koski	6/14/16
		Native American tribes have not identified areas of religious or traditional cultural concern within the proposed project area. The proposed undertaking would not impact access to any unidentified areas of cultural importance.	Nicole Lohman	7/14/2017
NP	Designated Areas: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	After review of GIS and the approved RMP there are no ACEC's located within the proposed action.	Josh Winkler	6/22/16
NP	Designated Areas: National Trails and Backways	There are no National Trails within the proposed project area.	Matt Blocker	6/29/16
		There are no Backways located within the project area.	Josh Winkler	6/22/16
NP	Designated Areas: Wild and Scenic Rivers	There are no designated Wild and Scenic Rivers within the proposed project area as per GIS and RMP review	Matt Blocker	6/29/16
NP	Designated Areas: Wilderness Study Areas	There are no BLM WSA within the proposed project area as per GIS and RMP review	Matt Blocker	6/29/16
NI	Environmental Justice	No minority or economically disadvantaged communities or populations would be disproportionately adversely affected by the proposed action or alternatives.	Jacob Palma	6/24/16
NP	Farmlands (prime/unique)	According to the NRCS soils surveys and knowledge of the soils, there are no prime and unique soils mapped within the project area.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Fuels/Fire Management	The installation of culverts and road maintenance as proposed, will not impact fire/fuels to a degree that warrants detailed analysis.	Josh Relph	6/27/16
NI	Geology / Minerals / Energy Production	The Gillies Ranch Road corridor does not pass through or over any existing fluid or solid federal mineral leases or permits. While there may be either oil or gas resources or possibly other mineral resources within the corridor, this road maintenance action would not have any significant impact on potential development of any of the energy or mineral resources.	Michael Glasson	06/28/2016
NI	Lands/Access	A review of LR2000 and the Master Title Plats showed that the proposed action is compatible with the existing land use and authorized right-of-ways. There are no conflicts with other land use authorizations.	Connie Leschin	6/13/16
NI	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics	The lands with wilderness characteristics inventory will have to be adjusted to reflect the additional affects to naturalness.	Matt Blocker	6/29/16
NI	Livestock Grazing	The proposed ROW would not affect livestock grazing in the area.	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NP	Paleontology	Surface materials are either alluvium with no probability for the presence of vertebrate fossils or Summerville Fm. which similarly, at least at this location has a very low probability of vertebrate fossils. So the proposed project will not be harming vertebrate fossils.	Michael Leschin	6.30.16
NP	Vegetation: BLM Sensitive	After review of sensitive plant species data for the Price Field Office, there are no known BLM Sensitive species populations within the project area.	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NI	Vegetation: Invasive Species / Noxious Weeds	Surface disturbing activities have the potential to introduce/spread invasive species/noxious weeds. Noxious weeds within the project area include Salt Cedar and Russian olive. Invasive species within the project area include Russian thistle, halogeton and cheat grass. Equipment should be free of mud and debris to help eliminate the possibility in introducing new invasive species/noxious weeds into the area. Emery county will be responsible for noxious weed control within the new ROW. The emergency installation of the culverts was in a previously disturbed area, therefore, it is expected that minimal impacts to invasive species/noxious weeds would occur.	Stephanie Bauer	7/8/16

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NP	Vegetation: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate	After review of TES data for the Price Field Office, there are no known TES plant species populations within the project area.	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NI	Vegetation: Vegetation Excluding USFW Designated Species and BLM Sensitive Species	The proposed project would not affect vegetation resources within project area.	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NI	Vegetation: Wetland/Riparian	After review of the wetland/riparian areas within the Price Field Office, it was determined that the project area would not affect the marginal riparian vegetation within the project area.	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NP	Vegetation: Woodlands/Forest ry	There are no merchantable woodlands/forestry products within the project area.	Stephanie Bauer	7/20/16
NI	Rangeland Health Standards	The proposed action will not affect soils, vegetation or ecological processes to a degree that would affect rangeland health standards.	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NI	Recreation	The proposed action is located within an Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). The proposed action will have no impacts for recreation management objectives within the proposed action.	Josh Winkler	6/22/16
NI	Socio-Economics	No impact to the social or economic status of the county or nearby communities would occur from this project due to its small size in relation to ongoing development throughout the PFO.	Jacob Palma	6/24/16
NI	Soils	This project is on previously disturbed lands. No new measurable surface disturbance is projected.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NI	Visual Resources	The proposed action is located within our VRM class III management area. Management directives are to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. The proposed action would meet management directives for the area.	Josh Winkler	6/22/16

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Wastes (hazardous/solid)	No chemicals subject to reporting under SARA Title III will be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of annually in association with the 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 the project. Trash would be confined in a covered container and disposed of in an approved landfill. No burning of any waste will occur due to this project. Human waste will be disposed of in an appropriate manner in an approved sewage treatment center.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NP	Water: Floodplains	After an inspection of USGS 7.5 minute maps of the area, it is determined no floodplains as defined by EO 11988, FEMA, or Corps of Engineers is found on or near the project area	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NI	Water: Groundwater Quality	The proposed project would not interrupt any groundwater. No disturbance to groundwater is expected.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NI	Water: Hydrologic Conditions (stormwater)	Hydrologic conditions would be slightly improved due to installation of a culvert to direct overland flows.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NI	Water: Surface Water Quality	The proposed project is designed to return surface water to previously established condition. No new impacts to water quality are expected.	Jeffrey Brower	07/01/16
NP	Wild Horse / Burro	The project area is not within a Wild horse or Wild Burro Herd Management Area	Karl Ivory	7/8/16
NI	Wildlife: BLM Sensitive	Although the San Rafael River is located within a tenth of a mile to the proposed Right-of-Way, improvements to the road surface and installation of additional culverts would help to improve water flow and quality and would reduce erosional impacts that otherwise could negatively affect BLM sensitive fish that occur within the river.	Jared Reese	6/14/16

Determination	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
NI	Wildlife: Migratory Birds (including raptors)	The lower portion of the Right-of-Way was located within and adjacent to valuable lowland riparian breeding habitat for migratory birds. Extreme weather events in 2015 and 2016 scoured out the road corridor and left a wash at least 50 feet wide. A site visit confirmed that the majority of the vegetation has been removed within the project area. The installation of culverts and road maintenance will not affect potential breeding habitat. The proposed action may benefit future nesting species in the riparian area by reducing the chance of extreme erosion events.	Dana Truman	4/11/2017
NP	Wildlife: Non-USFWS Designated	According to GIS review, there are no known crucial habitats identified for wildlife within the project area.	Jared Reese	6/14/16
NP	Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate	According to GIS review, there are no known populations of threatened, endangered, or proposed candidate species that occur within the proposed action area.	Jared Reese	6/14/16

FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator			
Authorized Officer			