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DNRC - Trust Land Management Division

D.N.R.C.

DS-252

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name: Spring development and stockwater pipeline with tanks. Proposed Implementation Date: November 24, 2003. Proponent: Mike Lundy, N Hanging 5 Ranch, State Lease #2716. Type and Purpose of Action: A spring development with stockwater pipeline and tanks that is part of a LTA with NRCS. Location: E1/2, Sec. 36, T25N, R9E County: Chouteau

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED: Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project. Mt.DNRC, USDA-FSA & NRCS, Henry Burkwhat-conservationist, Stewart Lomax-conservationist, Damon Murdo-cultural records manager, Kieth Robertson-conservationist, Mike Lundy-lessee. This project is part of a Long Term Agreement with the NRCS. 2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED: None. 3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: The "No Action" alternative. The alternative to proceed with the proposed spring development and pipeline project.

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geological features? Are there special reclamation considerations? [N] Sandy soils are present. It is located upon the Rowe Bench above the Missouri River. There are no special reclamation considerations.

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

<p>5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?</p>	<p>[Y] The Missouri River lies just ¼ mile to the east.</p>
<p>6. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?</p>	<p>[N] Pollutants and particulates will not be produced.</p>
<p>7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present?</p>	<p>[N] There are no rare plants or cover types present. The pipeline will be pulled into the ground with a cable laying devise. This will provide for minimal ground disturbance. There is a leafy spurge infestation on this tract. Control is being exercised.</p>
<p>8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?</p>	<p>[N] There is some use, but not substantial.</p>
<p>9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Sensitive Species or Species of special concern?</p>	<p>[N] There are no species of special concern that utilize this area that I am aware of.</p>
<p>10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archeological, or paleontological resources present?</p>	<p>[N] There are no historical, paleontological or archaeological resources present. Damon Murdo-Cultural Records Manager states: "I have conducted a cultural resource file search ... According to our records there have been no previously recorded historic or archaeological sites within the designated search locales." Henry Burkwhat-NRCS filed a "Negative Findings Report" for this project.</p>
<p>11. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographical feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?</p>	<p>[N] This project is not in a populated area, nor is it on a prominent location.</p>

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

<p>12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?</p>	<p>[Y] Water is a limited resource. There are no other activities nearby that will affect this one.</p>
<p>13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?</p>	<p>[N] None.</p>

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

<p>14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risk in the area?</p>	<p>[N] Human health and safety will not be a factor with this project.</p>
<p>15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?</p>	<p>[Y] Better livestock management and health should be realized from this project. This in turn would affect agricultural and commercial activities.</p>
<p>16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number.</p>	<p>[N] New jobs will not be created.</p>
<p>17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?</p>	<p>[N] The tax base and tax revenues will not be affected.</p>
<p>18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?</p>	<p>[N] Other services will not be required.</p>
<p>19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc., zoning or management plans in effect?</p>	<p>[Y] A USDA-NRCS long term agreement (LTA) is in effect. A Special Lease Stipulation for Mt.DNRC reads: "The lessee shall chemically control the establishment of leafy spurge in the upland areas on an annual basis. Chemical (in accordance with label restrictions and guidelines), mechanical, and biological control of this weed will be applied on the bottomland areas adjoining the Missouri River."</p>

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

20.	ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	[Y] There is some recreational potential within this tract.
21.	DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	[N] Additional housing will not be required.
22.	SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[N] Disruption is not likely.
23.	CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[N] There should be no shift.
24.	OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL CIRCUMSTANCES:	[N] None.

EA Checklist Prepared By:

BARNY D. SMITH, Lewistown Unit Manager, Northeastern Land Office



 Signature

Date: November 13, 2003

IV. FINDING

25.	ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:	The alternative to proceed with the spring development and pipeline project.
26.	SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:	There should be minimal negative impacts with this project. The pipeline will be pulled in with a cable laying device for minimal ground disturbance. Fresh tank water being available will be a positive impact for area wildlife and livestock.
27.	Need for Further Environmental Analysis:	

IV. FINDING

EIS More Detailed EA No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Approved by:
CLIVE ROONEY, Area Manager, Northeastern Land Office


Signature _____
Date: 11-18-03