



Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena MT 59620-1001

Jim Lynch, Director
Brian Schweitzer, Governor

April 11, 2005

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APR 12 2005

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE

Environmental Quality Council
Legislative Environmental Policy Office
P.O. Box 201704
Helena MT 59620-1704

Subject: Project No.: STPE 7(39)
Project Name: Neihart School Rehab - Cascade
Control No.: 5049

Attached is one (1) copy of the Categorical Exclusion group (c) environmental document for this proposed project for your files.

This document complies with the provisions of **75-1-103** and **75-1-201 M.C.A.** (see ARM 18.2.261, MEPA "Actions that qualify for a Categorical Exclusion" as applicable to the Montana Department of Transportation).

David C. Larson, P.E.
CTEP Project Engineer

DCL:

Attachment

copy: Project File

S:\CTEP_PROJECTS\207_CASCADE_CO\5049_NEIHART-SCHOOL\ENV-DOC\5049EQC DIST LTR.DOC

GREAT FALLS CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

SERVING THE COUNTY OF CASCADE AND CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

March 22, 2005

Janice W. Brown, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
2880 Skyway Drive
Helena, MT 59602

Subject: Categorical Exclusion Group (d) Action Letter

Project No.: STPE 7 (39)
Project Name: Neihart School Rehab-Cascade
Control No.: 5049

This is a request for the FHWA's concurrence that this proposed project meets the criteria for classification as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of 23 CFR 771.117(d). This proposed action also qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of ARM 18.2.261 (Sections **75-1-103** and **75-1-201 MCA**). Project location maps are attached.

This proposed project is: minor rehabilitation of an historic building, including minor foundation repairs, replacement of doors, rehabilitation of a brick chimney, repair/replacement of deteriorated logs, and installation of a new metal roof.

The location of this proposed project is: Historic Neihart School, 200 South Main, Neihart, Montana, adjacent to US Highway 89.

The intent of this proposed project is to rehabilitate the exterior of an historic building adjacent to a federal highway.

This proposed project has been evaluated for, and does not have any adverse effect on the following environmental areas of concern:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Runoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prime & Unique Farmlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Section 404 - Clean Water Act</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplains (E.O. 11988/FEMA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Economic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stream Preserv./Water Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical/Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threatened/Endangered Species
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Changes in Land Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands (E.O. 11990)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>USDOT - 4(f)/NL&WCF - 6(f) Acts</i>	

The proposed project will have a minor effect on the following environmental area(s):

Historic/Cultural Resources - The Neihart School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) on March 7, 2003. A Section 106 Determination of Effect for the proposed work under this project has resulted in a finding of "No Adverse Effect" on March 8, 2005, with concurrence in that determination by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on March 16, 2005. A Copy of the Determination letter is attached.

Asbestos - The building's roofing material was tested for asbestos products, and was found to contain no asbestos material.

Lead-based Paint – The building's materials have been tested for lead-containing paint. The results of the test indicate that the existing exterior paint is not lead-containing.

Americans with Disabilities Act – The Neihart School currently has access for disabled persons, and this project will improve that access by installing new ADA compliant doors. All improvements constructed as a part of this project will be installed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (**PL 101-336**).

Public Involvement – The public was made aware of the potential use of funds for historic preservation projects through ads placed in the Great Falls Tribune, Cascade Courier, Belt Times, Consumers Press and the Fairfield-Sun Times. In addition, direct mailings were sent to individuals, groups and organizations that might have an interest. Finally, a press release was sent to the local press.

A presentation on the project was given to the Great Falls City-County Planning Board. Then, at a regular, public Planning Board meeting, the Board approved the project, and recommended approval by the Great Falls City and Cascade County Commissions. The City and County Commissions subsequently approved the project at regular, public meetings.

Cumulative Impacts – Cascade County, the Town of Neihart and Montana Department of Transportation currently have no active and no proposed projects in the vicinity of this proposed project. Therefore, there is no cumulative environmental impact to be considered.

This project will not induce significant land use changes or promote unplanned growth. There will be no significant affects on access to adjacent properties or present traffic patterns. This project will not create disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations (**E.O. 12898**) and complies with Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964* (**42 USC 2000d**). In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117(a), this action will, neither individually nor cumulatively, have any significant environmental impacts. Therefore, we are requesting FHWA's concurrence that this proposed project is properly classified as a Categorical Exclusion.



Andrew Finch
Environmental Certifying Official for Cascade County

Concur 
Mike Wherley, P.E.
CTEP Engineer

3/30/05
Date

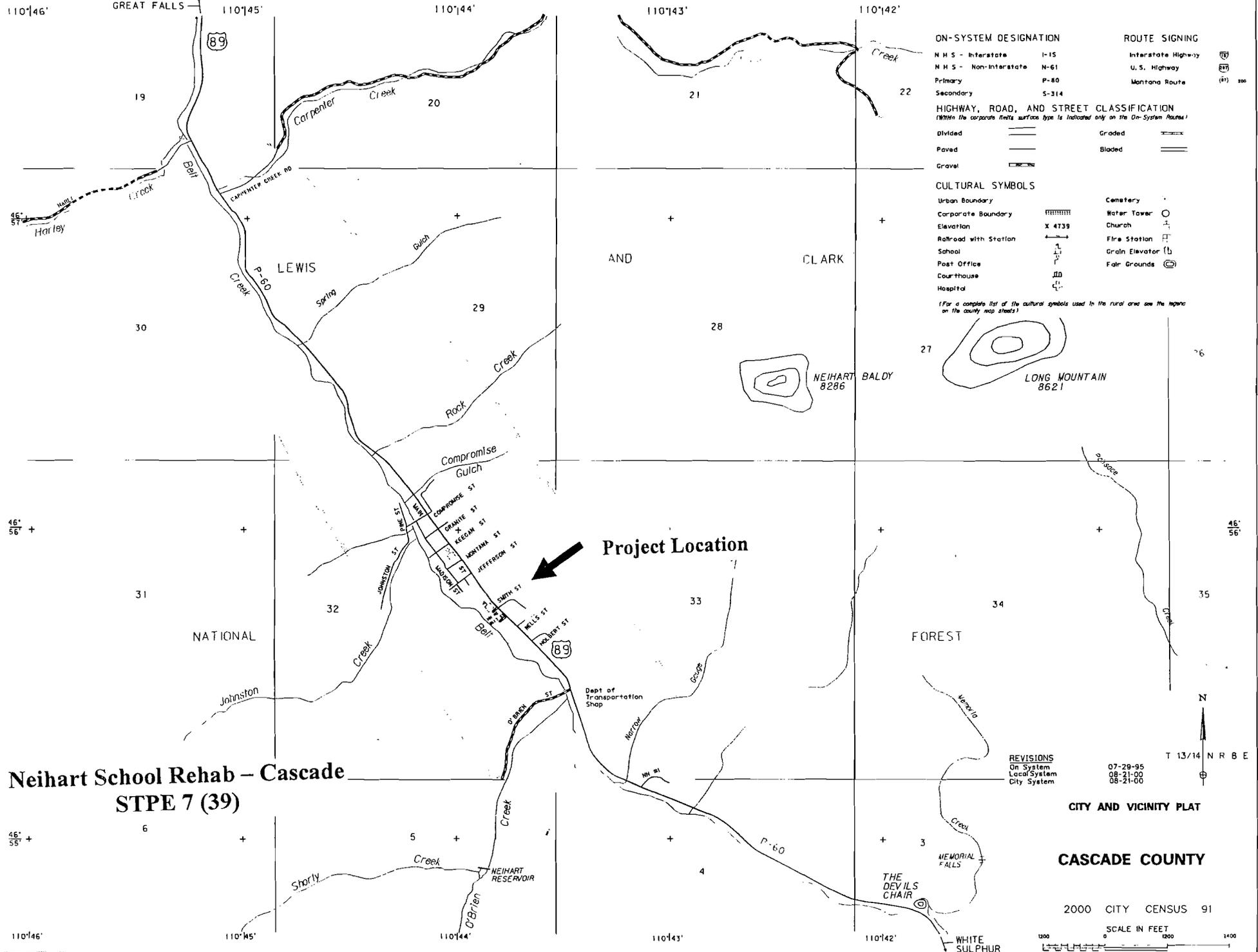
Concur 
Federal Highway Administration

4/6/05
Date

"ALTERNATIVE ACCESSIBLE FORMATS OF THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PROVIDED ON REQUEST"

Attachment: Environmental Checklist
Project Location Maps

- cc: Michael Johnson, MDT, District Administrator – Great Falls
- Tom Martin, P.E., MDT, Consultant Design Engineer
- Jean Riley, P.E., MDT, Environmental Services Manager
- David W. Jensen, MDT, Supervisor – Fiscal Programming Section
- Mike Wherley, P.E., MDT, CTEP Engineer
- Environmental Quality Council



ON-SYSTEM DESIGNATION		ROUTE SIGNING	
N H S - Interstate	I-15	Interstate Highway	
N H S - Non-Interstate	N-61	U. S. Highway	
Primary	P-80	Montana Route	
Secondary	S-314		

HIGHWAY, ROAD, AND STREET CLASSIFICATION			
<i>(Within the corporate limits surface type is indicated only on the On-System Routes)</i>			
Divided		Graded	
Paved		Bladed	
Gravel			

CULTURAL SYMBOLS	
Urban Boundary	
Corporate Boundary	
Elevation	X 4739
Railroad with Station	
School	
Post Office	
Courthouse	
Hospital	
Cemetery	
Water Tower	
Church	
Fire Station	
Grain Elevator	
Fair Grounds	

(For a complete list of the cultural symbols used in the rural areas see the legend on the county map sheets)

Neihart School Rehab - Cascade STPE 7 (39)

Project Location

REVISIONS	
On System	07-29-95
Local System	08-21-00
City System	08-21-00

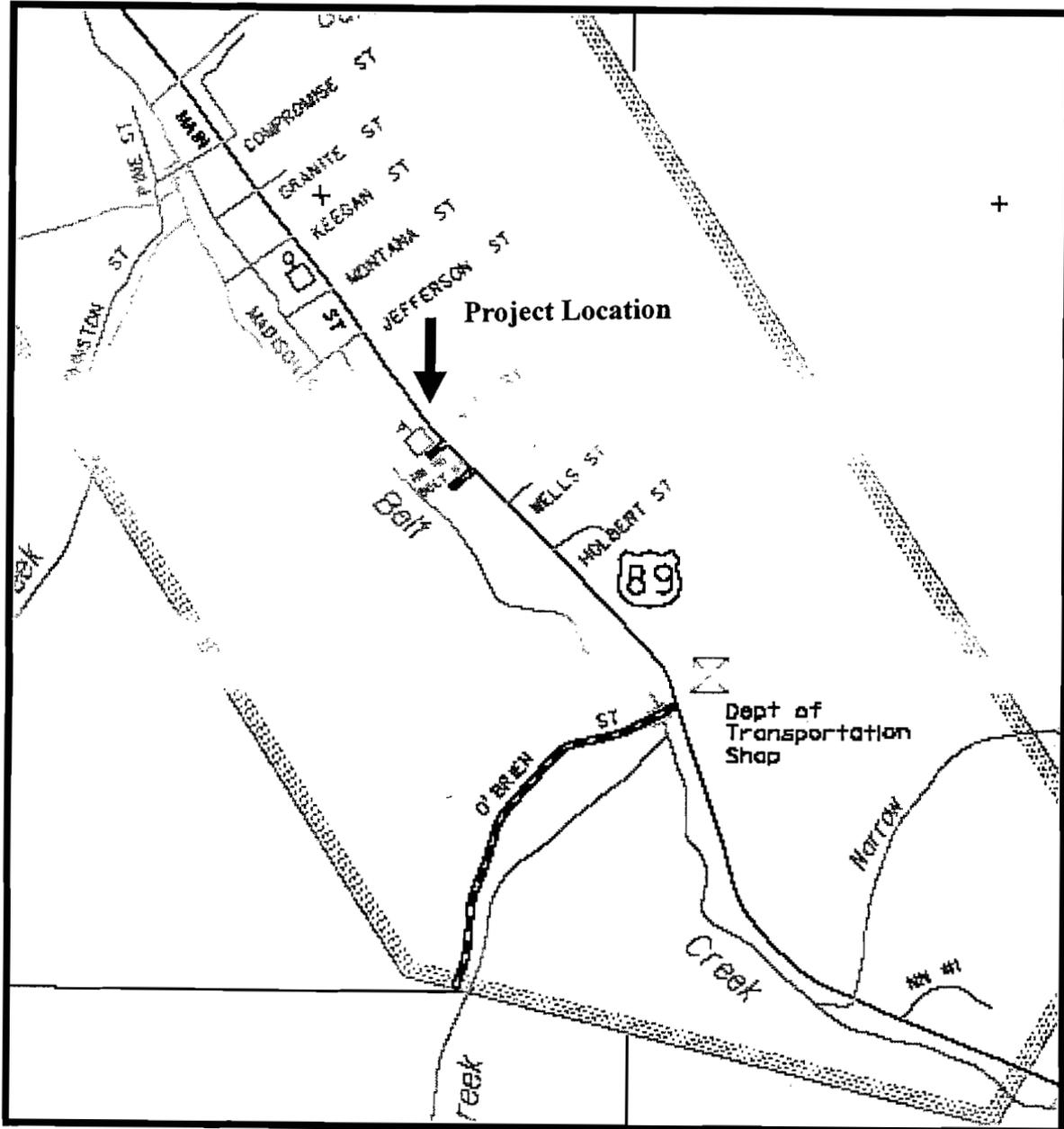
CITY AND VICINITY PLAT

CASCADE COUNTY

2000 CITY CENSUS 91



Neihart School Rehab – Cascade
STPE 7 (39)
Control No. 5049



http://www.mdt.state.mt.us/planning/mapping/city_maps/NEIHART.PDF

Send To Printer

Back To TerraServer

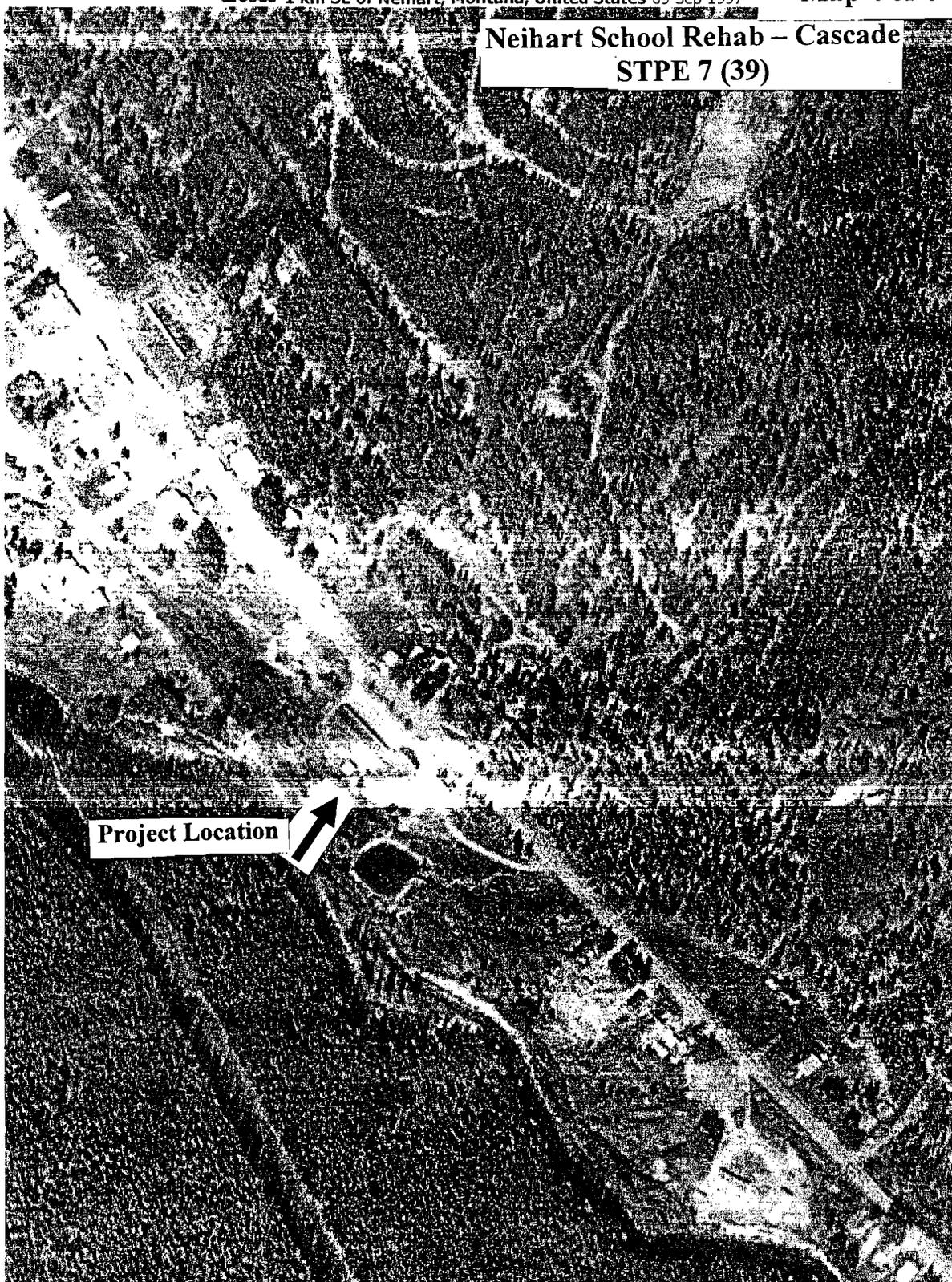
Change to 11x17 Print Size

Show Grid Lines

USGS 1 km SE of Neihart, Montana, United States 09 Sep 1997

Map 4 of 4

Neihart School Rehab – Cascade
STPE 7 (39)



Project Location



0 100M

0 100yd

Image courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey

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Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena MT 59620-1001

Jim Lynch, Director
Brian Schweitzer, Governor

. PETE
. CTEP
. NEIHART
SCHOOL
REHABILITATION

March 8, 2005

2005030908
CONCUR
MONTANA SHPO
DATE 3/16/05 SIGNED [Signature]

Mark Baumler, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Office
1410 8th Avenue
P O Box 201202
Helena, MT 59620-1202

RECEIVED
MAR 17 2005
ENVIRONMENTAL

Subject: STPE 7(39)
Neihart School Rehab - Cascade County
Control No. 5049

Dear Mark:

Enclosed is the preliminary plans for the rehabilitation of the National Register-listed Neihart School (24CA969) in Cascade County. The rehabilitation has been proposed as a CTEP project by Cascade County and the community of Neihart. The project would include masonry and foundation repairs, the replacement of doors, the rehabilitation of a brick chimney, repair of deteriorated logs, and the installation of a new metal roof. Based on the proposed plans, we have determined that the proposed project would have **No Adverse Effect** to the NRHP-listed Neihart School. We request your concurrence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 444-6258.

Jon Axline
Jon Axline, Historian

Environmental Services

Enclosure

cc: Mike Wherly, P.E., CTEP Section Supervisor
Bonnie Steg, Resources Section

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MAR 24 2005
GREAT FALLS CITY COUNTY
PLANNING BOARD OFFICE