

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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| Project Name: | Snow Piling |
| Proposed Implementation Date: | 2010/2011 Winter |
| Proponent: | Mike Prester, MVP Masonry |
| Location: | 1S 5E Section 36 |
| County: | Gallatin |
| Trust: | Common Schools |

I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

The proposed Land Use License would allow for snow piling on School Trust Land. The snow to be piled is being removed from a federal building parking lot. The contract for the snow removal calls for the snow to be kept clean (no chemicals added in the process of removing the snow).

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.

William Tataraka, Lessee – gave permission to the licensee previously, unable to contact.

2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

No other governmental agencies with jurisdiction.

3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Action: Grant the Land Use License to allow for the piling of snow on State Trust Land.

No Action: Do not grant the Land Use License to allow for the piling of snow on State Trust Land, leaving the land as is.

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" if no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:

Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.

The soil on this parcel is used to grow crops, however this year there will be no crop grown on the parcel. As the piled snow melts, it will drain into the field adding moisture to the soil.

5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:

Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.

Water will be added to the field as the snow melts and drains. The melted snow will be free from chemicals, per the contract on the parking lot the snow is being removed from.

6. AIR QUALITY:

What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.

There will be no impact to air quality.

7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:

What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.

The snow will be piled onto frozen ground. The ground is a field that is not in crop, and when a crop is replanted the land will first be tilled.

8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:

Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.

No direct or cumulative effects are expected to occur to fish and/or wildlife.

9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:

Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.

The Montana Natural Heritage Program list the Golden Eagle, Great Blue Heron, Cassin's Finch, Black-billed Cuckoo, Bald Eagle, Clark's Nutcracker, Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout, Stonefly, and Western Pearlshell as species of concern for the Township and Range of the proposed Land Use License. Due to the limited scope of the proposed license, no direct or cumulative impact to unique, endangered, fragile or limited environmental resources is anticipated.

10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:

Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.

The parcel for which the snow will be piled is registered as an historic travel/railroad/stage route. The short term and limited scope of the piled snow will not affect the historical nature of the site.

11. AESTHETICS:

Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.

Depending on snow conditions, a large snow pile will be visible during winter and into spring until the pile melts. Any garbage or debris that may be in the parking lot when the snow is plowed and piled may be visible once the snow melts.

12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:

Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.

None.

13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:

List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.

None.

| IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.• Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.• Enter "NONE" if no impacts are identified or the resource is not present. |

14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.

None.

15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:

Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.

The parcel is used as a field to grow crops; however the field will not be planted this year.

16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:

Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.

None.

17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:

Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.

None.

18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services

None.

19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:

List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.

None.

20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:

Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.

No effect.

21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:

Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing.

None.

22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:

Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.

None.

23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:

How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?

No affect.

24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:

Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

The Land Use License would generate \$150.00 in revenue for the trust.

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| EA Checklist Prepared By: | Name: Katie Svoboda /s/ | Date: 12/20/2010 |
| | Title: Bozeman Unit Office Manager | |

V. FINDING

25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED: Grant the Land Use License to allow for the piling of snow on State Trust Land.

26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS: No significant impact would be expected. **The additional moisture on the highpoint of the fallow field will benefit next year's crop. Licensee will be required to pick up any debris left after the snow melts in the spring.**

27. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

EIS More Detailed EA No Further Analysis

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| EA Checklist Approved By: | Name: Craig Campbell |
| | Title: Bozeman Unit Manager |
| Signature: Craig Campbell/s/ | Date: 12/21/2010 |