

******FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY******

**STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF STATE PARKS AND RECREATION**

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY (Categorical Exclusion)

Project Name & Sponsor: _____

Project No.: **UT RTP FY(2015)(4)**

Prepared By: _____ Date: _____

Organization: _____ Phone: _____

SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL

UTAH FEDERAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROJECTS

I have reviewed the information presented in the Environmental Study and I hereby attest that the document is complete and the details of the document are correct.

Reviewer: _____ **Date** _____

Utah Recreational Trails Program Grant Administrator

Based upon the information provided in this document and the analysis contained herein, the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) has determined that, pursuant to the provisions of 23 CFR 771.117(a), this project has no significant impacts on the environment and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the UDOT has determined that the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act per 23 CFR 771.117(c)(3). The UDOT has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out, the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, Section 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated **June30, 2014**, executed between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the UDOT.

Approved: _____ **Date** _____

UDOT Environmental Services

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR PROJECT

Explain why this project is needed, including any goals and benefits.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

Describe construction activities, including project limits. Attach project location map and typical cross section or project plan showing proposed design.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Describe public involvement efforts (letters, newsletters, meetings, open houses, etc). Attach copies of any ads or notices and attach documentation of any comments received, with responses.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

If acquisition of right-of-way is required, please complete the following:

- _____ No. of ownership parcels affected.
- _____ No. of acres required

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE EVALUATION

Important, please read. All of the following resources must be evaluated for impacts as part of this Environmental Study. Project sponsor is responsible for contracting with qualified resource professionals to conduct resource surveys and prepare technical reports, evaluations, and/or assessments. All reports and consultation memos/letters must be attached to this document. Any required stipulations, Best Management Practices (BMPs), or permits must be listed under the "Project Stipulations" section. All mitigation measures for all resources must be listed in the "Mitigation Commitments" section.

- **Cultural**
 - Attach cultural resources inventory report, clearance memo, and Native American consultation letters if needed. Contact UDOT Cultural Resources Program Manager for clearance memo and Native American consultation letters.
- **Paleontological**
 - Attach letter from Utah Geological Survey (if not already included with cultural resource report).
- **Rare, Threatened, Endangered, and Candidate Species**
 - Attach a copy of the Biological Evaluation and/or Biological Assessment/Biological Opinion (BA/BO) and consultation letters from Division of Natural Resources (DNR) and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Letters should be less than 1 year old from date of issue or they need to be updated by issuing agency. NOTE: If the USFWS has issued a "**jeopardy**" decision regarding this project, the project cannot proceed without reconsideration.
- **Wildlife**
 - Attach a copy of the wildlife evaluation and consultation letter from Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR). Evaluation should include state-sensitive species, important wildlife habitats, big game migration routes, habitat connectivity, migratory birds, and fish spawning habitat or fish passage.
- **Invasive Species**
 - Contact the county weed supervisor for an on-site inspection of the project area and attach county weed supervisor site-inspection comment letter. Evaluation must include noxious weeds and invasive aquatic species (particularly quagga and zebra mussels). BMPs will be implemented to minimize the spread of invasive species.
- **Wetlands and Water Resources**
 - Attach evaluation of wetland and water resources with proposed project impacts, and clearance memo from UDOT Region Landscape Architect or consultation letters from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Evaluation must consider Waters of the United States, including wetlands, mudflats, lakes, perennial or ephemeral streams, and navigable waters.
- **Floodplains**
 - If project requires new construction or alteration of existing structures within the FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain, a "development permit" may be required from the local permitting official.
- **Storm Water Runoff**
 - If this project disturbs 1 acre or more of ground surface, a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) must be included in the plans and a [Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(UPDES\) permit](#) must be obtained from the Utah Division of Water Quality.
- **Hazardous Waste**
 - Attach results of the search of the Division of Environmental Response and Remediation ([DERR](#)) database and project site visit. If substances that may be hazardous to human health

and/or the environment are present, coordinate with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and attach documentation.

- **Prime, Unique, Statewide or Locally Important Farmland**
 - Determine if this project requires additional right-of-way or is located in an urbanized area not currently used for farming activities and whose land use maps indicate future farming activities are unlikely. If this project may affect Prime, Unique, Statewide, or Locally Important Farmland, attach letter from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) letter and [Form AD 1006](#). Letters should be less than 1 year old from date of issue or they need to be updated by issuing agency.

- **Air Quality**
 - If this project has the potential to increase particulate matter due to construction activities and the project will disturb one-quarter acre of ground surface or greater, or involves material storage, hauling, or handling operations, submit a [fugitive dust-control plan](#) to the [Division of Air Quality](#) (DAQ), in accordance with Utah Administrative Rule R307-309. BMPs will be implemented to minimize fugitive dust.

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS CONSIDERED

In some cases, the project may affect other environmental factors in addition to those listed above. If the project will have serious or lasting effects on any the following environmental factors, additional documentation is required and must be attached to this document. If not, nothing else is required for this section.

- Relocations
- Visual
- Energy
- Social/Economic
- Geology/Soils
- Natural Resources
- Wild/Scenic Rivers
- Construction
- Ecology

SUMMARY

Please answer the following questions. NOTE: For the document to be approved by UDOT, the answer must be "YES" to all of these questions.

- Yes ___ No ___ All of the above resources have been reviewed for potential impacts.
- Yes ___ No ___ All of the necessary clearances and reports are attached to this document.
- Yes ___ No ___ Any required stipulations or permits are listed below.
- Yes ___ No ___ Any required mitigation commitments are listed below.
- Yes ___ No ___ The "Preparer's Checklist" has been completed for this document.

CONCLUSION

Please answer the following questions. NOTE: For a Categorical Exclusion to be applicable to this project, the answer must be "NO" to all of these questions.

- Yes ___ No ___ Significant environmental impacts are expected.
- Yes ___ No ___ Substantial controversy exists on environmental grounds.
- Yes ___ No ___ Inconsistencies with any federal, state, or local law, requirement or administration determination relating to the environmental aspects of the action are expected.

PROJECT STIPULATIONS

1. If a suspected historic, archaeological, or paleontological item, feature, or site is encountered, construction operations shall be immediately stopped and the project sponsor shall be notified of the nature and exact location of the findings. It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to notify the Utah Division of State History or the State Paleontologist of the discovery and to follow the recommended procedures.

2. Invasive species BMPs will be followed to minimize the spread of invasive species. List in the project plans and specifications.
 - a. For projects in or close to riparian or aquatic habitat, or when the equipment has been used in waters infested with invasive aquatic species (particularly quagga and zebra mussels) or in any other waters subject to a closure order under R657-60-8 or control plan under R657-60-9, the following BMP must be followed:

All equipment must be decontaminated prior to arriving at, and prior to departing from, the project site. Equipment to be decontaminated may include, but is not limited to, footwear, gloves, survey or sampling equipment to be used in the water, holding boxes, coolers, scales, ropes, anchors, buoys, and other associated equipment; boats, barges, other watercraft, flotation platforms, water haul equipment, including pumps, hoses, strainers, valves and tanks; vehicles (rubber tired or tracked), especially parts that become wetted; wetland crossing mats and shoring boxes; or any other wetted equipment having contact with raw water, the "green strip", or aquatic animals.

NOTE: Utah Law (Rule R657-60) only recognizes two AIS decontamination protocols; self-decontamination or professional decontamination. To view these protocols, visit: <http://wildlife.utah.gov/dwr/invasive-mussels.html>.
3. If the project disturbs 1 acre or more of ground surface, a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) must be included in the plans and a Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) Permit from the Utah Department of Water Quality must be obtained. Permits can be obtained at the following website: <http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/UPDES/stormwatercon.htm>
4. Air quality BMPs to minimize fugitive dust will be incorporated into the project in accordance with DAQ procedures. A fugitive dust-control plan may be required. List in the project plans and specifications.
5. Excess construction/renovation material will be disposed of off-site at an approved location.
6. **List any required permits here:**

MITIGATION COMMITMENTS

The following mitigation measures are required for this project:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.