Attachment 11E(1)

Explanatory Note for the Bureau of Land Management
May 3, 2010

Attached is the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) report for projects that are funded under Section 1609 (c) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The BLM NEPA report documents the NEPA status for all BLM ARRA projects through March 31, 2010.

The BLM currently has 472 NEPA actions for 610 ARRA projects. In some cases, ARRA projects have been grouped together and evaluated under one NEPA document where appropriate. This refers to projects marked withdrawn – see table below. To date, BLM has completed 436 of the 472 NEPA actions. The BLM documents CEs by completing a NEPA compliance checklist for ARRA projects. NEPA documentation for many CEs reported as pending in the previous BLM ARRA NEPA report has been completed.

NEPA for some ARRA projects were completed prior to ARRA. BLM has reviewed these completed NEPA actions and concluded that there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts, and that the conditions of and around the projects have not changed significantly.

Following the last report, the BLM District and Field Offices had a deadline of Friday, March 26, 2010 to complete all NEPA documentation for ARRA projects. We were able to complete 92% up from 86% of the required NEPA documentation and made significant progress towards our goal. BLM District and Field Offices will continue efforts to complete the remaining pending NEPA actions for ARRA projects.

The BLM submits the following explanations summarizing BLM's changes from the previous report.

<u>Total ARRA appropriations for MLR and Construction Funds</u> – The appropriation totals reflected in this report are only for the project categories and do not include the funds allocated towards administrative support of ARRA. The total shown for MLR on the report is $119,700,000. The total shown for Construction is $174,724,000. These funds have increased from the last reporting cycle due to a transfer of funds from administrative overhead.

<u>Progress towards obligating funds</u> - For the period ending 12/31/2009, we had obligated $91,040,717. At the end of this reporting period (3/31/2010), we have obligated $188,099,877. This is an increase of $97,059,160 in a 3 month period. The amounts reflected on Recovery.gov are lower than the amounts reflected in this report. This report includes agreements with other agencies to accomplish various components of the ARRA projects which are not included in the amounts reported on Recovery.gov.

Withdrawn Projects – There are a total of 71 withdrawn projects. This is an increase from 22 reported in the last cycle. There are various reasons why these projects have been withdrawn from ARRA funding.

Row	Title/Project	Project / Activity	Reason for withdrawal
473	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	East Pacific/Chartam Mine Reclamation	The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), which is a cooperating agency on this project has lost its funding for the project and would not be able to meet their obligations.
474	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Islander Mine - install access barriers and fencing to reduce risks and protect habitat.	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
475	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Jelly Roll mine closure project	The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), which is a cooperating agency on this project has lost its funding for the project and would not be able to meet their obligations.
477	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Utah Shaft Closures - physical safety hazards	Unable to complete in ARRA timeframes
479	Capital Improvement	Baker Oregon, Ground Source Heat Pump replacement	Unable to complete in ARRA timeframes
481	Capital Improvement	Craig Hot Shot Photovoltaic	Unable to complete in ARRA timeframes
492	Capital Improvement	Kipp Campground replace visitor contact station.	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
493	Capital Improvement	LA Posa Recreation Site - Waste Water Facility	Unable to acquire State water permits in ARRA timeframes
504	Capital Improvement	Windy Point Boat Launch	Contracting issues
505	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Castle Gardens Recreation Site replace and relocate Comfort Station to resolve safety and health is	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
506	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Imperial Dam Lagoon remediation of wastewater treatment lagoon from (CASHE), PH I	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
508	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Paxon Lake Campground Entrance Road Repair for access to the Gulkana National Wild River	Completion of first project eliminated need for this project
509	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Piedras Blancas Lightstation Potable Water System	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
510	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Replace the chilling unit as part of an on-going contract to repair the aging heating ventilation a	Project funded with appropriated $ to avoid delays during project selection process
511	Deferred Maintenance Construction	South Park Canyon Bridge	Completion of first project eliminated need for this project
512	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Tyrrell Seed Orchard Pollen Lab Replacement	Unable to meet ARRA Timeframes
513	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Vernon Flood Repair	Funded with non-ARRA money during project selection phase
515	Deferred Maintenance Construction	White Mountain National Recreation Area - rehabilitation of Nome Creek Road	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
517	Deferred Maintenance MLR	Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite Repair	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
519	Habitat Restoration	HR Digitize Upper Missouri River Riparian Areas	Did not meet ARRA goals
520	Habitat Restoration	HR Native Fish Enhancement Project	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
521	Habitat Restoration	HRB Ibapah Biomass Stewardship Contract	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
522	Habitat Restoration	HRB Knox Mt. Juniper Project	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
523	Habitat Restoration	HRB Rockhouse Thinning Stewardship - Contract for the thinning of Pinyon and Juniper on 3000 acres t	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
524	Habitat Restoration	HRB Roseburg Biomass Utilization	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
525	Habitat Restoration	HRB South Cleghorn/grasshopper Stewardship/bio-mass,	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
526	Habitat Restoration	HRB Uncompaghre Ponderosa	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
527	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Barrell Springs Road Gravel	Completed prior to project approval
528	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Black Rock NCA Access Roads	Engineering estimate higher than available funds

529	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Lime Kiln Dozer Road Realign and Repair	Engineering estimate higher than available funds
530	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Painted Rocks Petroglyph Access Road Surfacing	Engineering estimate higher than available funds
532	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Repair the 5-Springs Road - install guard rails and drainage structures on the access road to the r	Completed without ARRA funding
534	Trails Deferred Maintenance	National Historic Trail Interpretive Site Maintenance/upgrade and trail marking	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
535	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Pot trail repair - Provide sustainable hiking trail in the Bear Trapp Wildernes Area	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
536	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Sand Mountain Trails - rehabilitation of 10 miles of Off Highway Vehicle trail in the Carson City Ne	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
537	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Shotgun Off Highway Vehicle Trails Development	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
538	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Trail Condition Assessments	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes
539	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Trail restoration of 100 miles of OHV intrusions in WSAs	Unable to meet ARRA timeframes

Rows that have been combined with other ARRA projects:

Row	Title/Project	Project / Activity	Reason for withdrawal
476	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Sonoma Mine - mercury contamination - EE/CA- mine waste removal	Combined with Sonoma Mine Project (LXABH0170000). New name is Contact Sonoma Mine which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
478	Capital Improvement	Aravaipa West Ranger Station Solar Power Installation	Combined into ESPC Contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
480	Capital Improvement	BLM AZ Communications Sites Solar Power Systems Installation (6 Sites - Oatman, Hayden, Smith, Guthr	Combined into ESPC Contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
482	Capital Improvement	Crossman Peak Communications Site Safety & Security Improvements	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
483	Capital Improvement	Empire Ranch Solar Power Installation (Vail House, Huachuca House, Garage, Tack Room, and Field Stat	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
484	Capital Improvement	Farmington Photovoltaic (PV) Solar power System	Combined with building construction which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
485	Capital Improvement	Four Mile Campground Solar Power Installation	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
486	Capital Improvement	Install a wind turbine at a BLM-owned facility to reduce energy costs.	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
487	Capital Improvement	Install solar panels at the Pinedale Field Office's shop building in order to reduce energy costs.	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
488	Capital Improvement	Install solar power to the Cody Interagency Dispatch Center to reduce energy costs.	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
489	Capital Improvement	Install solar power to the Worland Field Office to reduce energy costs.	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
490	Capital Improvement	Installation of 25 solar lighting packages at recreation sites provide safety for the public	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
491	Capital Improvement	Kanab - GSENM Photovoltaic System	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
494	Capital Improvement	Oxbow Recreation Site Solar Power Installation	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
495	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract - Arizona	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
496	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract - California	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
497	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract - Colorado	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
498	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract - Idaho	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
499	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract - Oregon	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
500	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract - Utah	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
501	Capital Improvement	Phase 3 - Energy Saving Performance Contract New Mexico	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
502	Capital Improvement	Senator Wash Reservoir Boat Ramp Solar Power Installation	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
503	Capital Improvement	Senator Wash Reservoir South Mesa LTVA Solar Power Installation	Combined into ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.

507	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Miles City Ops Building Accessibility Retrofit	Combined with project LDDFR350000 which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
514	Deferred Maintenance Construction	West Twin Culvert and Creek Crossing Rehabilitation	Combined with another East Twin which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
516	Deferred Maintenance MLR	Intern House furnace. Replace inefficient furnace and crawl space at the AHC	Combined with ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
518	Deferred Maintenance MLR	Replace all the shop windows with energy efficient windows	Combined with ESPC contract which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
531	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Reclaim Old Access Road	Combined with LDRBC47000 for procurement which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
533	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Howry Island Recreation Area - trail repair to provide safe walking paths.	Combined with Project LDTDFO470000 which is not being funded by ARRA funds.
540	Renewable Energy Authorization	Contract for estimated 225,000 pages of patents to be scanned and placed on-line for public use.	Combined with Land Records Project – not being funded under ARRA
541	Renewable Energy Authorization	Ecological Assessments Chihuahuan Desert NM	Combined with other projects which are not being funded under ARRA
542	Renewable Energy Authorization	Green River Basin Sage Grouse habitat Assmts	Combined with other projects which are not being funded under ARRA
543	Renewable Energy Authorization	Programmatic EIS for the Imperial Valley West Federal Renewable Energy Zone. Funding would support	Combined with other projects which are not being funded under ARRA

Pending Actions:

There are currently 36 pending NEPA actions (23 Environmental Assessments and 13 Categorical Exclusions) for ARRA projects. BLM has reduced the number of pending NEPA actions from 65 to 36 since the last reporting cycle. To date, BLM has completed 92% of the NEPA actions which is an increase from 86% reported in the last report ending on December 31, 2009. We estimate an additional 32 NEPA actions will be completed by the end of the next reporting period, with the remaining 4 completed in the following reporting period. Efforts are being made to move up those 4 pending NEPA actions and be closer 100% complete by the end of this next reporting period.

Row #	Title/Program	Project/ Activity	Quantity	NEPA	Reasons for Pending
437	Capital Improvement	California Statewide Renewable Energy Projects. Install Photovoltaics at 17 BLM facilities	1	CE	Received results of contractor assessment 4-19-10; must review and determine which sites will require NEPA (CE)
438	Habitat Restoration	HR Native Plant Materials Development	1	CE	NEPA completed 2-1-10
439	Habitat Restoration	HRB Stottard Gulch Biomass	1	CE	NEPA completed 1-8-10
440	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Barstow Off Highway Vehicle Physical Safety Hazards	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 5-15-10 completion
441	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Calavera County Physical Safety Hazard Sites	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
442	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Edith E Mine Physical Safety Hazard	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
443	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	El Centro Off Highway Vehicle Physical Safety Hazards	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 5-15-10 completion
444	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	El Dorado and Amador County Physical Safety Hazard Sites	1	CE	NEPA completed 1-26-10
445	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Northern Nevada Abandoned Mine Lands-Install mine entrance closures to eliminate hazards	1	CE	In final review
446	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Palm Springs Off Highway Vehicle Physical Safety Hazards	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 5-15-10 completion

447	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Ridgecrest Off Highway Vehicle Physical Safety Hazards	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
448	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Tuolomne and Mariposa County Physical Safety Hazard Sites	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
449	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Yuba, Nevada and Placer County Physical Safety Hazard Sites	1	CE	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
450	Deferred Maintenance Construction	Clear Creek Staging Areas 1, 2, and 5	1	EA	NEPA completed 1-22-10
451	Habitat Restoration	HR Dalton Weed Management, Dalton Highway Corridor	1	EA	Scheduled for 6/1/2010
452	Habitat Restoration	HR Needles Field Office Riparian Restoration	1	EA	NEPA completed 2-25-10
453	Habitat Restoration	HRB Blue Door Flat Juniper Project	1	EA	NEPA completed 3-31-10
454	Habitat Restoration	HRB Border	1	EA	NEPA completed 2-4-10
455	Habitat Restoration	HRB Flat Creek Biomass	1	EA	NEPA completed 4-2-10
456	Habitat Restoration	HRB Hoadley Peak	1	EA	NEPA completed 3-18-10
457	Habitat Restoration	HRB Medford Biomass Utilization - Medford biomass utilization for energy production from stewardship	1	EA	NEPA on last units to be completed in early May. Areas are of low risk to protest. If NEPA issues develop, other NEPA-cleared units are available and work will shift accordingly.
458	Habitat Restoration	HRB S. Mitchell Hill Juniper Project	1	EA	NEPA completed 4-7-10
459	Habitat Restoration	HRB South Coast	1	EA	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
460	Hazardous Fuels	International Border Fuel Break/Biomass Utilization	1	EA	Funds returned; project cancelled
461	Hazardous Fuels	Shasta Fire Mgt Unit WUI Hazardous Fuel Reduction	1	EA	NEPA completed 4-16-10
462	Hazardous Fuels	South Coast Hazardous Fuels Reduction/Biomass Utilization	1	EA	Remaining NEPA actions scheduled for 6-30-10 completion
463	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Abandoned Mine Lands Grand Junction Field Office Mine Closure and Reclamation	1	EA	NEPA analysis nearing completion. Expect signed NEPA by 4/30/10.
464	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Box Canyon Mine closure	1	EA	This work is being completed as part of BLM's agreement (Cooperative Agreement) with the Colorado State Div. Of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. NEPA is being completed as part of this agreement. Currently Bats are being inventoried and this effort should be completed the week of April 26, followed by completion of remaining NEPA requirements.
465	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Grape Creek mine closure project	1	EA	This work is being completed as part of BLM's agreement (Cooperative Agreement) with the Colorado State Div. Of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. NEPA is being completed as part of this agreement. Currently Bats are being inventoried and this effort should be completed the week of April 26, followed by completion of remaining NEPA requirements.
466	Remediation of Abandoned Mines	Wyoming Abandoned Mine site reclamation-Secure and seal hazardous mine openings in WY	1	EA	Working with partner, should be done by 6/1/2010
467	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	All weather Road Surfacing	1	EA	DNA on EA-FONSI is not yet complete (filed and on record). Should be done by the end of

					April.
468	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Eugene District Fish Passage Improvments and Culvert Replacement	1	EA	Done as of 3/30/2010
469	Roads and Bridges Deferred Maintenance	Missouri Creek Road repair, rebuild reshape and improve drainage features BLM Road #1062	1	EA	Heavy snow cover prevented completion of cultural work. As of 4/16/10, Archeology field work was completed. Archeological report and NEPA will be completed by 5/1/10
470	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Construct trailhead and designate trail routes for Turtle Mountain Wilderness	1	EA	NEPA completed 4-5-10
471	Trails Deferred Maintenance	McInnis Canyons Travel Management - hire and outfit the Western Colorado Youth Corps and/or others	1	EA	This is a multiple procurement project where Phase 1 is a cultural survey contract (about half of available funding) which was awarded in March. A preliminary cultural survey report is due in May which will allow completion of Phase 2 = NEPA. An assistance agreement for the remaining funds was submitted to COSO procurement 3/1/2010. Once NEPA is completed, Phase 3 will result in the Colorado Youth Corp maintaining the trails. Expected NEPA completion prior to 6/30/10
472	Trails Deferred Maintenance	Secure Western and Northern Boundaries from OHV activity. Restoration, user education, and signing	1	EA	NEPA completed 1-15-10

ARRA Project example that benefitted from the NEPA process

The BLM-NM Royal Gorge Field Office awarded an $880,000 contract under ARRA to Hydro Resources Colorado, LLC., a well construction and pump installation contracting company based in Fort Lupton, Colorado. The company will drill a new well to replace the deteriorating 80-year old Park Center Well near Cañon City, CO. This well has provided municipal water for more than 40 years to Park Center Water District users. After the project is completed, the BLM will begin work on a second contract for the abandonment of the old well.

Alaska: A $24,000 contract supporting ARRA project restoration of the Top of the World Trail was awarded on Mar. 18 to the Student Conservation Association. The association is a national organization that places youth from across the country in natural resource agencies. Participants gain skills and experience in natural resource management and conservation principles while serving America's public lands. The project will harden and rehabilitate approximately 3,500 linear feet of the Top of the World Trail. The trail provides access for recreational and subsistence users while also serving as an access route to the Delta National Wild and Scenic River.

Upper Koyukuk Mine Mine Hazard Inventory Assistance Agreement: On Apr. 6, BLM-AK awarded an assistance agreement under ARRA in the amount of $497,982 to Michigan Technological University to support an Abandoned Mine Land (AML) hazards inventory and sample inventory at the Upper Koyukuk Mine, located in the state's northern interior. The project will give BLM managers the baseline information needed to begin to characterize the nature of abandoned mine land hazards throughout the Fairbanks District and to prioritize future AML efforts across this area.

San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area: This project focuses on the repair/reconstruction of the NCA's 70 miles of primary and secondary multiple-use, non-motorized trails--many miles of which are highlighted in the Arizona State Trails System. Maintenance (brushing, tread repair, drainage devices, etc.) of these trails has been minimal since NCA designation, over 20 years ago. Work shall include maintenance, plus installation of adequate trail signage, over most of these 70 miles of trails. The SPRNCA trail system ties directly into 11 trailheads, which is the focus of another Recovery Act project.

Umpqua Basin Fish Passage Restoration project (LXHAB0930000) (row 263)
The Umpqua Basin Fish Passage project was part of a programmatic Environmental Assessment for aquatic restoration work that was completed in the fall of 2009. The process ensured that BLM followed all applicable regulations and conducted appropriate surveys for resources that could be affected by the ARRA project such as rare and endangered plants and cultural resources. Because of the NEPA process the location of one of the culverts was changed because potentially significant 3 cultural resources were found at the original location.

Lime Kin Salvage Road (LDRBC045000) (row 402)
With this ARRA project, approximately 5.3 miles of new road will be built in order to access and salvage blow down timber north of Lewistown, Montana. About the first mile of the road will be permanent and will give the general public motorized access to BLM land and provide future recreational opportunities. The remaining road (4.3 miles) will access both BLM and state of Montana damaged timber. After the timber sale, with the exception of the first mile, the road will be closed to motorized travel and will be rehabilitated to the extent possible. Some portions will be incorporated into the existing Limekiln Trail System. This project will be completed through contract work.

The public involvement (as part of the NEPA) process was instrumental in helping to design a road system to access the blow down timber and recognize the recreational values of the area.
The public emphasized the need for the area to be maintained as a non-motorized use area but also the need to address the blow down timber and subsequent forest health issues. Several proposals were laid out and discussed during public meetings and ultimately the decision was made to build a road to access salvage logging and then close the road to motorized use at the conclusion. Additionally, portions of the road would be rehabilitated to the extent possible while other portions would be incorporated to expand the existing recreational trails in the area.

The decisions were made and subsequently no protest/appeals were received on the project due in large part to the public involvement.

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