

STATE OF  
COLORADO

Ebert - DNR, Jared &lt;jared.ebert@state.co.us&gt;

**Fwd: Solitario Resources Cat Creek Project NOI application and supplemental paperwork...**

5 messages

**Girardi - DNR, Chris** <chris.girardi@state.co.us>  
To: Jared Ebert - DNR <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Wed, Sep 4, 2024 at 8:08 AM

Jared, I'm assuming I need to send these pdfs to Eleni to be scanned and uploaded to LaserFische, right?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sandor AOL Account** <ringhoffer@aol.com>

Date: Tue, Sep 3, 2024 at 3:04 PM

Subject: Solitario Resources Cat Creek Project NOI application and supplemental paperwork...

To: DRMS Chris Girardi <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

Cc: Peter Christensen <Peter.Christensen@respec.com>, <tchristensen@solitariocorp.com>

Good afternoon Mr. Girardi...

My name is Sandor Ringhoffer. I'm a consulting geologist working for Solitario Resources, a junior exploration company located in Wheatridge Colorado. I left you a couple of voicemails earlier this afternoon in regard to submitting an NOI a project I'm working on for Solitario Resource Corp.

The NOI and supporting documents are for an exploration drilling project on USFS lands located ~25 miles SW of Monta Vista in Conejos County Colorado. I'm working with Peter Christensen of RESPEC here in Denver (copied) and we believe we have completed all the required paperwork. The USFS project PoO is complete and is attached here along with the required DRMS forms. I have a set of printed, signed copies (one bound and one un-bound) I can hand deliver Wednesday, September 3, to the DRMS offices at 1313 Sherman street along with a check for the initial \$2,000 financial assurance/bond. We have other paperwork to complete which require an NOI/project file number that DRMS needs to assign us. This NOI number is also needed to create/activate an ePermitting account which we would like to do.

Please confirm you received this email and attachments and let me know if you would like to meet at the Sherman Street office tomorrow (Wednesday) so I can drop off the printed copies and provide a check for the initial \$2000 bond amount. If tomorrow doesn't work for you, my next available time would be next Tuesday, September 10. It might be that the electronic forms attached here are sufficient to get us an NOI number assigned and I only need to get a \$2000 check off at the DRMS office. We realize that DRMS will calculate a final bond amount based on the scope of the drilling project as described in the PoO and NOI. Let me know if hard copies need to be dropped off or if the attached electronic copies are sufficient. In either case, I'll make it work.

In closing, I'll be traveling to western Colorado Thursday and won't return until next Monday evening and would like to get our NOI paperwork in the chute and an NOI number assigned so we can complete the required One Site BLM Exploration Form and the Affidavit of Authority – Exploration Form. I will check emails and respond to calls as soon as I get them while away from Golden. Feel free to call or email anytime.







Sincerely,

Sandor Ringhoffer CPG, SME RM

Cat Creek PM/geologistsit

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**6 attachments**

-  **Cat\_Creek\_Project\_Location\_Map\_USFS\_PoO\_Version .pdf**  
3057K
-  **CatCreekDrillingExploration\_DMSigned.pdf**  
1002K
-  **20240829 RE\_ [External Email]Cat Creek revised PoO, Solitario signed attached.pdf**  
7513K
-  **Cat Creek DRMS Cover Letter.pdf**  
75K
-  **Cat Creek POO stelprdb5366168\_Updated\_2024-08-18\_Solitario\_Signed.pdf**  
7586K
-  **Cat\_Creek\_Project\_Location\_Map\_DRMS\_NOI.pdf**  
444K

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**Ebert - DNR, Jared** <jared.ebert@state.co.us>  
To: "Girardi - DNR, Chris" <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

Wed, Sep 4, 2024 at 8:28 AM

Please send them to Alysha Hernandez and give her the heads up we are receiving a new NOI today. She can generate a new NOI number and scan this into LF.

Jared

Jared Ebert

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist



P 303.866.3567 | F 303.832.8106 | Cell (720) 413-6466

Physical: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

[jared.ebert@state.co.us](mailto:jared.ebert@state.co.us) | <https://drms.colorado.gov/>

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Girardi - DNR, Chris** <chris.girardi@state.co.us>  
To: Alysha Hernandez - DNR <alysha.hernandez@state.co.us>  
Cc: Jared Ebert - DNR <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Wed, Sep 4, 2024 at 8:34 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sandor AOL Account** <[ringhoffer@aol.com](mailto:ringhoffer@aol.com)>

Date: Tue, Sep 3, 2024 at 3:04 PM

Subject: Solitario Resources Cat Creek Project NOI application and supplemental paperwork...

To: DRMS Chris Girardi <[chris.girardi@state.co.us](mailto:chris.girardi@state.co.us)>

Cc: Peter Christensen <[Peter.Christensen@respec.com](mailto:Peter.Christensen@respec.com)>, <[tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)>

Good afternoon Mr. Girardi...

My name is Sandor Ringhoffer. I'm a consulting geologist working for Solitario Resources, a junior exploration company located in Wheatridge Colorado. I left you a couple of voicemails earlier this afternoon in regard to submitting an NOI a project I'm working on for Solitario Resource Corp.

The NOI and supporting documents are for an exploration drilling project on USFS lands located ~25 miles SW of Monta Vista in Conejos County Colorado. I'm working with Peter Christensen of RESPEC here in Denver (copied) and we believe we have completed all the required paperwork. The USFS project PoO is complete and is attached here along with the required DRMS forms. I have a set of printed, signed copies (one bound and one un-bound) I can hand deliver Wednesday, September 3, to the DRMS offices at [1313 Sherman street](#) along with a check for the initial \$2,000 financial assurance/bond. We have other paperwork to complete which require an NOI/project file number that DRMS needs to assign us. This NOI number is also needed to create/activate an ePermitting account which we would like to do.

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Sincerely,

Sandor Ringhoffer CPG, SME RM

Cat Creek PM/geologsit

Good morning Alysha,

This email chain contains an NOI application for Conejos County. A consultant for the operator is going to hand-deliver hard copies of the application to me today as well.

Thanks,

Chris Girardi

Environmental Protection Specialist Intern



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

P: (720) 793-3041

Physical: [1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203](#)

Mailing: DRMS Room 215, [1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216](#)

[chris.girardi@state.us.co](mailto:chris.girardi@state.us.co) | <https://drms.colorado.gov/>

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**6 attachments**

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444K

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**Hernandez - DNR, Alysha** <[alysha.hernandez@state.co.us](mailto:alysha.hernandez@state.co.us)>  
To: Jared Ebert <[jared.ebert@state.co.us](mailto:jared.ebert@state.co.us)>

Wed, Sep 4, 2024 at 8:37 AM

Can you reach out to him. I'm home sick I tested for covid.

Thanks

[Quoted text hidden]

--

*Alysha Hernandez*

*Department of Natural Resources*

*State of Colorado*

*Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety*

*Active Mines Coal/Mineral Program Assistant*

[1313 Sherman St. Room 215](#)

[Denver, Co 80203](#)

*Main: (303) 866-3567*

*Direct: (303) 866-3567 Ext 8125*

*Fax: (303) 832-8106*







[alysha.hernandez@state.co.us](mailto:alysha.hernandez@state.co.us)

Website: [www.mining.state.co.us](http://www.mining.state.co.us)



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**Ebert - DNR, Jared** <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Wed, Sep 4, 2024 at 8:41 AM

To: "Hernandez - DNR, Alysha" &lt;alysha.hernandez@state.co.us&gt;, Chris Girardi - DNR &lt;chris.girardi@state.co.us&gt;

Hi Alysha,

Chris has been in contact with him and we will meet him today when he drops off the application. We will initiate a new NOI number and get the ball rolling.

Jared

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Jared Ebert

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3567 | F 303.832.8106 | Cell (720) 413-6466

Physical: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

[jared.ebert@state.co.us](mailto:jared.ebert@state.co.us) | <https://drms.colorado.gov/>



September 04, 2024

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver CO 80203

Subject: Solitario Resources Corp., Cat Creek Prospecting Operations, CO DRMS Notice of Intent

Attached please find a Notice of Intent package for proposed exploration on Cat Creek claims located in the Rio Grande National Forest (Conejos Peak Ranger District).

Our understanding of the process coordinating between agencies is the USFS will sign the Plan of Operations after Solitario posts the financial warranty as determined by the DRMS.

Concerning notice to Conejos County, we contacted the county board of commissioners (Carlos Garcia) and was advised that the notice should be sent to the County Land Use Department.

Attachments:

Notice of Intent to Conduct Prospecting Operations

- Location Map
- USFS Plan of Operations (including correspondence confirming receipt by USFS)
- USFS NEPA Review
- Notice to Conejos County
- Notice to USFS

Please contact Sandor Ringhoffer  
Cell: 303-887-2931  
Email: [rnghoffer@aol.com](mailto:rnghoffer@aol.com)

or

Todd Christensen  
605-269-1776  
Email: [tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)

Regards,  
Sandor Ringhoffer CPG, SME RM  
Consulting Geologist, Cat Creek Project Manager

**From:** [Sandor AOL Account](#)  
**To:** ["Jones, Andrea - FS, CO"; "Perez, Judi - FS, CO"](#)  
**Cc:** [Peter Christensen; "Todd Christensen"](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Cat Creek revised PoO, Solitario signed attached...  
**Date:** Thursday, August 29, 2024 12:32:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[Cat Creek POO stelprdb5366168 Updated 2024-08-18 Solitario Signed.pdf](#)

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**This Message Is From an External Sender**

This message came from outside your organization.

Hello Andrea...

Please find attached a Solitario signed, "CLEAN" version of the updated PoO you reference below. I cleaned up font colors and size in addition to changing all of the finalized responses in each section to *italics*. The attached document is what we will send to CO DRMS along with our NOI application paperwork. Once we get an NOI number assigned, and the final bond amount Colorado calculates posted, we will forward documentation of the posted bond to you for a final PoO signature by USFS. Thanks again for the reviews and if we are missing anything at this point in the process please let us know.

Sincerely,  
Sandor Ringhoffer CPG

---

**From:** Jones, Andrea - FS, CO <andrea.jones@usda.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 1:38 PM  
**To:** Sandor AOL Account <ringhoffer@aol.com>; Perez, Judi - FS, CO <Judith.Perez@usda.gov>  
**Cc:** 'Peter Christensen' <Peter.Christensen@respec.com>; 'Todd Christensen' <tchristensen@solitariocorp.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Cat Creek NEPA document...

Hi. The updated PoO is good to go if you want to send it to the state.

**Andrea M. Jones**  
**District Ranger**  
**Forest Service**  
**Conejos Peak Ranger District**

p: 719-274-8971 x6309

c: 719-850-1500

f: 719-274-6301

[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)

15571 County Rd. T.5

La Jara, CO 81140

[www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov)



Caring for the land and serving people

---

**From:** Sandor AOL Account <[ringhoffer@aol.com](mailto:ringhoffer@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 10:14 AM  
**To:** Jones, Andrea - FS, CO <[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)>; Perez, Judi - FS, CO <[Judith.Perez@usda.gov](mailto:Judith.Perez@usda.gov)>  
**Cc:** 'Peter Christensen' <[Peter.Christensen@respec.com](mailto:Peter.Christensen@respec.com)>; 'Todd Christensen' <[tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Cat Creek NEPA document...

Good morning Andrea...  
Hope you getting settled back in your normal routine...  
Any word back from your Mining Lead folks on the updated PoO??

As an FYI, I'll be making a site visit to the drill pads tomorrow (Wednesday) with a drill foreman who is a part of the team currently drilling for us in the northern Black Hills. They are interested in bidding on the job at Cat Creek. They've been doing a great job for us up on that project in terms of keeping impacts to the drill areas minimal and have to date been great to work with. At this point we have two contractors eager to get a contract and mobile to the project area. Ping me back with any news you can share when you get a moment.

Thanks,  
Sandor

---

**From:** Jones, Andrea - FS, CO <[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2024 11:30 AM  
**To:** Sandor AOL Account <[ringhoffer@aol.com](mailto:ringhoffer@aol.com)>; Perez, Judi - FS, CO <[Judith.Perez@usda.gov](mailto:Judith.Perez@usda.gov)>  
**Cc:** 'Peter Christensen' <[Peter.Christensen@respec.com](mailto:Peter.Christensen@respec.com)>; 'Todd Christensen' <[tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Cat Creek NEPA document...

Hi Sandor. Thank you for following up. I'm in my first week returning to my normal position as District Ranger and it has been a busy one. I looked through the revised PoO and I think it looks good. I have passed it to our mining lead for the Forest for one quick glance and hopefully we will be ok. To move forward. I'm also following up on your questions regarding the bond.

Thank you,



**Andrea M. Jones**  
**District Ranger**  
**Forest Service**  
**Conejos Peak Ranger District**  
p: 719-274-8971 x6309  
c: 719-850-1500  
f: 719-274-6301  
[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)  
15571 County Rd. T.5

La Jara, CO 81140

[www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov)



**Caring for the land and serving  
people**

---

**From:** Sandor AOL Account <[ringhoffer@aol.com](mailto:ringhoffer@aol.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2024 11:07 AM

**To:** Jones, Andrea - FS, CO <[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)>; Perez, Judi - FS, CO <[Judith.Perez@usda.gov](mailto:Judith.Perez@usda.gov)>

**Cc:** 'Peter Christensen' <[Peter.Christensen@respec.com](mailto:Peter.Christensen@respec.com)>; 'Todd Christensen' <[tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)>

**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Cat Creek NEPA document...

Hello Andrea and Judi...

I'm following up on an email I sent out to the group last Friday, August 18, in regard to your email below. As mentioned, the Cat Creek Project PoO was updated per USFS recommendations as is attached again with this email. Updates were made based on feedback from a July 30 site visit with the drilling contractor and your recommendations below.

In regard to the bond (page 6, Section B.), that financial assurance instrument will be held in this instance by CO DRMS. We'd like to confirm with you that this information is not required at this point. In other words, how would you like that section handled in the attached, updated PoO? The Terms and Conditions of the PoO state that it will only be approved once a bond is in place. We anticipate providing CO DRMS a copy of the updated PoO noting it will get final approval by USFS once we post the bond with CO DRMS. In short we'd like to know if you are comfortable with the updates in the attached PoO. If anything else needs to be addressed before making a clean, updated copy, please let me know and we'll make any other changes needed ASAP.

Below is a summary of the updates made to the attached PoO. Modifications/updates are shown in red in the text boxes, original wording is in blue in the Adobe document:

- The project schedule shown in Part I was updated to reflect a late startup this year and or a possible July 1, 2025 startup in case of potential Colorado DRMS NOI/bond paperwork delays, contractor availability delays, logistical and/or possible early fall weather issues.
  - Currently the drilling contractor is ready to mobilize once we have all the required USFS and the CO DRMS NOI/bond/financial assurance in place.
- Part II, Principals, was updated with my contact info. Previously Walt's contact info was shown.
- Part VI (Description of the Operation) was updated with equipment/logistical recommendation feedback from the drill contractor. Most of these updates are related to water hauling equipment and logistics.

- Wording clarifying the SPCP plan was added in Part V, G.3. I have prepared a separate, Cat Creek SPCP plan which can be provided upon request if wording in Part V.G.3 is insufficient.
- Per your email below, I added the recommendations from the **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW** found on pages 2 and 3 of that document to Part VI.A (page 6). As I noted in my email last Friday, this section seemed to make the most sense to insert the exclusion review recommendations. I was not sure if they belonged in that section or were to be added as an addendum or as an attachment.

Sincerely,  
Sandor Ringhoffer, CPG  
Cat Creek Project Manager

---

**From:** Jones, Andrea - FS, CO <[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:38 PM  
**To:** Sandor AOL Account <[ringhoffer@aol.com](mailto:ringhoffer@aol.com)>; Perez, Judi - FS, CO <[Judith.Perez@usda.gov](mailto:Judith.Perez@usda.gov)>  
**Cc:** Peter Christensen <[Peter.Christensen@respec.com](mailto:Peter.Christensen@respec.com)>; 'Todd Christensen' <[tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: [External Email]Cat Creek NEPA document...

Hi. Attached are the NEPA decision memo and the letter I sent to Walt with the most recent plan of operations. I know Walt had update this plan of operations after our field visit to the sites, but we completed the NEPA after that and it contains some project design features. I am requesting that these project design features (on pages two and three of the Decision) be incorporated into the final POO to ensure it is in compliance with the NEPA decision. Then I think I owe you a signature on page 7, correct?

Thanks!



**Andrea M. Jones**  
**Acting Deputy Director for Renewable Resources**

**Forest Service**  
**Rocky Mountain Region**

**p: 719-850-1500**  
**[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)**

1617 Cole Boulevard  
Lakewood, CO 80401

[www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov)



**Caring for the land and serving people**

---

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**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2024 11:07 AM

**To:** Jones, Andrea - FS, CO <[andrea.jones@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.jones@usda.gov)>; Perez, Judi - FS, CO <[Judith.Perez@usda.gov](mailto:Judith.Perez@usda.gov)>  
**Cc:** Peter Christensen <[Peter.Christensen@respec.com](mailto:Peter.Christensen@respec.com)>; 'Todd Christensen' <[tchristensen@solitariocorp.com](mailto:tchristensen@solitariocorp.com)>  
**Subject:** [External Email]Cat Creek NEPA document...

You don't often get email from [ringhoffer@aol.com](mailto:ringhoffer@aol.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

**[External Email]**

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;  
Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.  
Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: [Spam.Abuse@usda.gov](mailto:Spam.Abuse@usda.gov)

Good morning Andrea and Judi...

I was wondering if you could forward to myself the final Cat Creek NEPA document so we can complete our digital files??

Also, to follow up an email I sent last Friday to the group, we are looking for the final, approved and signed Cat Creek Project POO (the USFS and Solitario approval signature page is page 7). We don't have that in our files, we do have. It might be that page 7 was never signed? I am ready to digitally sign the POO on page 7 but need USFS to sign to complete the process so we can provide a fully signed copy to Colorado DRMS along with our DRMS NOI documents.

Thanks for any help you can provide.

Sincerely,  
Sandor Ringhoffer

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# PLAN OF OPERATIONS FOR MINING ACTIVITIES ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

USE OF THIS FORM IS OPTIONAL! 1<sup>st</sup> TIME USERS SHOULD DIRECT QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS FORM OR REGULATIONS (36 CFR 228A) TO THE FOREST SERVICE DISTRICT OFFICE NEAREST YOUR AREA OF INTEREST.

Submitted by:	<i>Walter Hunt</i>	Chief Operating Officer	Oct. 31 2023
	Signature	Title	Date (mm/dd/yy)
	Signature	Title	Date (mm/dd/yy)
Plan Received by:		District Ranger	
	Signature	Title	Date (mm/dd/yy)

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Name of Mine/Project: Cat Creek Drilling Project
- B. Type of Operation: Drilling  
(lode, placer, mill, exploration, development, production, other)
- C. Is this a (☒new/☐continuing) operation? (check one).  
If continuing a previous operation, this plan (☐replaces/☐modifies/☐supplements) a previous plan of operations. (check one)
- D. Proposed start-up date (mm/dd/yy) of operation: Sept. 1, 2024
- E. Expected total duration of this operation: 5 1/2 months (Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 2024 and/or July 1, 2025 to Oct. 15 2025)
- F. If seasonal, expected date (mm/dd/yy) of annual reclamation/stabilization close out: October 31, 2024
- G. Expected date (mm/dd/yy) for completion of all required reclamation: October 31, 2025

## II. PRINCIPALS

- A. Name, address and phone number of operator:  
Solitario Resources Corp. 4251 Kipling St. Ste 390, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
- B. Name, address, and phone number of authorized field representative (if other than the operator).  
Attach authorization to act on behalf of operator.  
Sandor Ringhoffer, Solitario Resources Corp. 4251 Kipling Street, Suite 390 Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033  
Cell: 303-887-2930
- C. Name, address and phone number of owners of the claims (if different than the operator):  
Cat Creek, LLC, 630 20 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81507 (970) 250-4031

(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)

- D. Name, address and phone number of any other lessees, assigns, agents, etc., and briefly describe their involvement with the operation, if applicable:

n/a

---

### III. PROPERTY OR AREA

*(Name of claim, if applicable, and the legal land description where the operation will be located.)*

<i>MC#</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Section</i>	<i>Township</i>	<i>Range</i>
<i>CO101870630</i>	<i>Cat Creek 12</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>T. 36 N</i>	<i>R. 6 E</i>

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### IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE OPERATION

- A. **Access.** *Show on a map (USGS quadrangle map or a National Forest map, for example) the claim boundaries, if applicable, and all access needs such as roads and trails, on and off the claim. Specify which Forest Service roads will be used, where maintenance or reconstruction is proposed, and where new construction is necessary. For new construction, include construction specifications such as widths, grades, etc., location and size of culverts, describe maintenance plans, and the type and size of vehicles and equipment that will use the access routes.*

*No new road construction needed. Access to drill sites will use USFS 250, 251, 237 and 1A (Figure 1). Minor road maintenance will consist of filling holes manually or by utilizing a backhoe or similar type of wheeled equipment which will be limited to the existing footprint of the road 237, 1A. Figure 1 shows the Cat Creek claim block in relation to drill sites and access. Rd 237 1A is not currently designated a Forest Service System road on all maps.*

- 
- B. **Map, Sketch or Drawing.** *Show location and layout of the area of operation. Identify any streams, creeks or springs if known. Show the size and kind of all surface disturbances such as trenches, pits, settling ponds, stream channels and run-off diversions, waste dumps, drill pads, timber disposal or clearance, etc. Include sizes, capacities, acreage, amounts, locations, materials involved, etc.*

*The attached figures show access roads, drill site locations and parking/storage. Short term use of existing roads and off road parking should result in only minimal disturbance. No activities will involve excavation or physical ground disturbance. No water bodies will be disturbed and no modification of vegetation will occur. Detailed description of activities and equipment/materials follows.*

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*(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)*

- 
- C. **Project Description.** *Describe all aspects of the operation including mining, milling, and exploration methods, materials, equipment, workforce, construction and operation schedule, power requirements, how clearing will be accomplished, topsoil stockpile, waste rock placement, tailings disposal, proposed number of drillholes and depth, depth of proposed suction dredging, and how gravels will be replaced, etc. Calculate production rates of ore. Include justification and calculations for settling pond capacities, and the size of runoff diversion channels.*

*Each of the two drill sites shown on Figure 1 will have one core hole drilled and, depending on initial results, three additional drill holes if warranted by results. Depths of drill holes will be determined by the geology encountered during drilling. Holes may vary from 0 to 2800 ft in depth but are likely not to exceed 1500 ft. The depth will depend on the geology encountered. Drill holes will be collared within the footprint of the road to eliminate new surface disturbance. Other vehicles listed below will be parked on adjacent flat area at each site (staging areas) as located on Figure 1 and images. Due to the short time of use of each site, no stripping of existing topsoil will occur and vehicles and other tools/structures will be parked on native grass/soil which will be seeded and reclaimed as described in H.*

- 
- D. **Equipment and Vehicles.** *Describe that which is proposed for use in your operation (Examples: drill, dozer, wash plant, mill, etc.). Include: sizes, capacity, frequency of use, etc.*

*Vehicles and equipment used at each drill site will be one track mounted core drill, one trailer mounted solid recovery unit (centrifuge), up to three pickup trucks, one or two, 2000 to 6000 gallon water trucks, one backhoe, two stock watering tanks for settling of drill water, a water tank or bladder for water storage, mud pump and mixing tank for grout and cement for drill hole reclamation, parts trailer, waste receptacles labeled for trash and recyclables, generator, 2 light plants and a Porta Potty.*

- 
- E. **Structures.** *Include information about fixed or portable structures or facilities planned for the operation. Show locations on the map. Include such things as living quarters, storage sheds, mill buildings, thickener tanks, fuel storage, powder magazines, pipelines, water diversions, trailers, sanitation facilities including sewage disposal, etc. Include engineering design and geotechnical information for project facilities, justification and calculations for sizing of tanks, pipelines and water diversions, etc.*

**No structures will be required.**

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## V. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES (SEE 36 CFR 228.8)

- A. **Air Quality.** *Describe measures proposed to minimize impacts on air quality such as obtaining a burning permit for slash disposal or dust abatement on roads.*

*The access roads are generally rocky and vehicle traffic does not result in excessive fugitive dust. However, speeds of vehicle on the project secondary roads will be limited to a maximum of 25 mph. Drilling will use water so the drilling itself will not generate dust. All vehicles and other motorized equipment will be operated according to manufacturer's recommended operating parameters. No open burning will be allowed.*

---

**B. Water Quality.** *State how applicable state and federal water quality standards will be met. Describe measures or management practices to be used to minimize water quality impacts and meet applicable standards.*

1. *State whether water is to be used in the operation, and describe the quantity, source, methods and design of diversions, storage, use, disposal, and treatment facilities. Include assumptions for sizing water conveyance or storage facilities.*
2. *Describe methods to control erosion and surface water runoff from all disturbed areas, including waste and tailings dumps.*
3. *Describe proposed surface water and groundwater quality monitoring, if required, to demonstrate compliance with federal or state water quality standards.*
4. *Describe the measures to be used to minimize potential water quality impacts during seasonal closures, or for a temporary cessation of operations.*
5. *If land application is proposed for waste water disposal, the location and operation of the land application system must be described. Also describe how vegetation, soil, and surface and groundwater quality will be protected if land application is used.*

*Non-saline water will be used in drilling as a drill lubricant and coolant as well as to evacuate drill cuttings from the drill face. The amount of water to be used will be determined by the permeability of the geologic formations encountered in a drill hole. Water will be recirculated to the extent possible. Water will be transported to the site from permitted private or public sources depending on availability. A 4000 gallon highway capable water truck in combination with an off-road capable water hauling truck or buggy will transport water to the site and deposit the water into an on-site tank or bladder for storage. A wheeled, flat top, 21,000 gallon or similar storage tank will be staged in an existing turn around area on the south side of Fr 271, approx. 1/2 mile west of the intersection of Fr 271 and Fr 250 to facilitate transfer of water to the off-road water buggy. Water usage is estimated to vary up to 5,000 gallons per day; however, if circulation of drill water is lost, larger quantities may be required until circulation can be reestablished. Water will be recirculated during drilling and placed in either contained water settling tanks or water will be clarified using a Solids Removal Unit. Solids will be returned to the drill hole, removed from the site or dispersed, mulched and seeded.*

**C. Solid Wastes.** *Describe the quantity and the physical and chemical characteristics of solid waste produced by the operation. Describe how the wastes will be disposed of including location and design of facilities, or treated so as to minimize adverse impacts.*

*All of the solid wastes generated on site will be transported, as needed, to approved solid waste facilities for disposal except for the drill cuttings as discussed above. These cuttings consist of crushed/pulverized rock from the drill hole with a consistency of mud or sand.*

*Human waste will be managed by using portable toilets under contract with a commercial provider. The disposal of this waste will be undertaken by the contractor at a licensed and permitted facility. Trash and recyclable refuse will be transported to a licensed disposal or recycling facility.*

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**D. Scenic Values.** *Describe protection of scenic values such as screening, slash disposal, or timely reclamation.*

*Proposed drill sites and the staging area are located in an area that avoids visibility from paved roads, permanent structures, dwellings, or developed campgrounds.*

*If drilling occurs during nighttime hours, then portable light plants will be required for work to safely proceed. To minimize stray light and light pollution, a maximum of two directional light plants would be used on a drill site. Directional lighting will generally minimize unnecessary glare by focusing the light downward on the worksite and away from populated areas to reduce stray light. Shielding of the sides will reduce scattered light skyward and laterally. The 7 mile distance of the drill sites from line-of-site population in valley bottom will limit visibility.*

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- E. **Fish and Wildlife.** *Describe measures to maintain and protect fisheries and wildlife, and their habitat (includes threatened, endangered, and sensitive species) affected by the operations.*

**Fisheries:** No fisheries exist on the property covered by this Plan. Solitario will consult with the Forest on existing T&E and wildlife studies and will coordinate with the Forest if additional studies are deemed necessary.

- 
- F. **Cultural Resources.** *Describe measures for protecting known historic and archeological values, or new sites in the project area. Two assets of potential historical or archaeological importance have been identified in the immediate vicinity of the drill site CC-02:*

- *Extensive erosion control channels exist throughout the general project area that are elongate trenches that parallel contours on broad open slopes on the northern side of the ridge between Cat and Willow Creeks. These trenches are CCC-era features. Their locations are downslope from the drill sites. Care will be taken to avoid encroaching on these features with vehicles or manual labor.*
- *A Culturally Modified Tree (Ponderosa Pine) exists near the site of drill hole CC-02. It has metal signage attached and may require further study to verify indigenous provenance.*

- 
- G. **Hazardous Substances.**

1. *Identify the type and volume of all hazardous materials and toxic substances which will be used or generated in the operations including cyanide, solvents, petroleum products, mill, process and laboratory reagents.*

*The only significant hazardous substances anticipated on site will be diesel fuel used in drilling and lesser quantities of gasoline for use in a portable generator or light plant. Diesel fuel will be transported to the site in a permanently mounted steel tank in a pickup truck and stored in a permanently mounted tank on the drill rig. Gasoline, if present, will be held in a portable container and stored in the parts trailer or pickup truck. Any cleaning solvent will be stored in the parts trailer.*

- 
2. *For each material or substance, describe the methods, volume, and frequency of transport (include type of containers and vehicles), procedures for use of materials or substances, methods, volume, and containers for disposal of materials and substances, security (fencing), identification (signing/labeling), or other special operations requirements necessary to conduct the proposed operations.*

**A spill prevention control plan (SPCP) will be prepared and presented to the Conejos Peak Ranger District (CPRD) for review and approval prior to commencing work. The SPCP will include volumes of materials and descriptions of containment from the contractor selected.**

- 
3. *Describe the measures to be taken for release of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material or the release of a toxic substance. This includes plans for spill prevention, containment, notification, and cleanup. Solitario personnel, contractors and/or subcontractors will not store large quantities of hazardous/flammable materials for its work at the Site that would require an EPA specified SPCC (Spill Prevention, Control and Counter measure) plan. Contractors will be handling daily working volumes of petroleum-based fuels, lubricants and coolants along with small quantities of other materials to complete the work. Safety and spill response preparation will include a spill response kit containing appropriate and sufficient clean-up materials (e.g., absorbent pads) to handle at a minimum the 25 gallon release reporting limit. These will be found at working areas where these materials will be in use. Details are found in the Solitario Cat Creek SPCP plan. The SPCP will also include spill response measures from the contractor selected.*
-

- H. **Reclamation.** *Describe the annual and final reclamation standards based on the anticipated schedule for construction, operations, and project closure. Include such items as the removal of structures and facilities including bridges and culverts, a revegetation plan, permanent containment of mine tailings, waste, or sludges which pose a threat of a release into the environment, closing ponds and eliminating standing water, a final surface shaping plan, and post operations monitoring and maintenance plans.*

*This Plan of Operations is designed to avoid new surface disturbance by avoiding excavating or breaking native soil horizons at the site. The staging areas directly adjacent to the drill collars on road 1A will be used to park vehicles at the site but no vegetation is planned to be removed. The intent is to maintain native vegetation to facilitate natural revegetation. Upon closure, any areas of compacted soil will be roughed, seeded with a seed mix recommended by the CPRD, and mulched to promote revegetation. The affected area at each drill site will be raked reseeded and mulched. Soil is very thin at the sites so it is intended to leave the soil undisturbed due to the short-term use of these areas. No recontouring will be required as a result of planned activities. The area on the road around the drill hole collars will be returned to the preexisting roadbed contours by manual raking if needed.*

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## VI. FOREST SERVICE EVALUATION OF PLAN OF OPERATIONS

- A. **Required changes/modifications/special mitigation for plan of operations:**

*PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES incorporated from the project **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW**:*

- *To reduce impacts to soils, use a water recycling method that limits the overall amount of soil disturbance.*
- *To maintain visitor access, provide through access or space for vehicles to drive around the operation.*
- *To protect historic resources in the project area:*
  - *Avoid driving through or parking in the CCC furrows at the project site; and*
  - *Avoid impacting culturally modified trees (CMTs) in and adjacent to the project area.*
- *To prevent the spread of noxious weeds and nonnative invasive species, wash all equipment before entering NFS lands, use only weed-free mulch, and minimize soil disturbance.*
- *To prevent displacement of bighorn sheep during their reproductive period, project can commence after July 1. This includes moving equipment and materials to site.*

- B. **Bond.** *Reclamation of all disturbances connected with this plan of operations is covered by Reclamation Performance Bond No. \_\_\_\_\_, dated (mm/dd/yy) \_\_\_\_\_, signed by \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Surety), for the penal sum of \_\_\_\_\_. This Reclamation Performance Bond is a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions listed below, and with the reclamation requirements agreed upon in the plan of operations. This Reclamation Performance Bond also extends to and includes any unauthorized activities conducted in connection with this operation.*

*The bond amount for this Reclamation Performance Bond was based on a bond calculation worksheet. The bond amount may be adjusted during the term of this proposed plan of operations in response to changes in the operations or to changes in the economy. Both the Reclamation Performance Bond and the bond calculation worksheet are attached to and made part of this plan of operations. Acceptable bond securities (subject to change) include:*

1. *Negotiable Treasury bills and notes which are unconditionally guaranteed as to both principle and interest in an amount equal at their par value to the penal sum of the bond; or*
  2. *Certified or cashier's check, bank draft, Post Office money order, cash, assigned certificate of deposit, assigned savings account, blanket bond, or an irrevocable letter of credit equal to the penal sum of the bond.*
-

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## VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. If a bond is required, it must be furnished before approval of the plan of operations.
- B. Information provided with this plan marked confidential will be treated in accordance with the agency's laws, rules, and regulations.
- C. Approval of this plan does not constitute certification of ownership to any person named herein and/or recognition of the validity of any mining claim named herein.
- D. Approval of this plan does not relieve me of my responsibility to comply with other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations.
- E. If previously undiscovered cultural resources (historic or prehistoric objects, artifacts, or sites) are exposed as a result of operations, those operations will not proceed until notification is received from the Authorized Officer that provisions for mitigating unforeseen impacts as required by 36 CFR 228.4(e) and 36 CFR 800 have been complied with.
- F. This plan of operations has been approved for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ or until (mm/dd/yy) \_\_\_\_\_. A new or revised plan must be submitted in accordance with 36 CFR part 228, subpart A, if operations are to be continued after that time period.

---

## VIII. OPERATING PLAN ACCEPTANCE

☐I/☒We have reviewed and agreed to comply with all conditions in this plan of operations including the required changes, modifications, special mitigation, and reclamation requirements.

☐I/☒We understand that the bond will not be released until the Authorized Officer in charge gives written approval.

---

Signature of ☐Operator (or ☒Authorized Representative)

---

8-29-2024

(Date)

(mm/dd/yy)

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## IX. OPERATING PLAN APPROVAL

---

(Name)

---

(Title)

---

Signature of (Authorized Officer)

---

(Date)

(mm/dd/yy)

### Burden and Non-Discrimination Statement

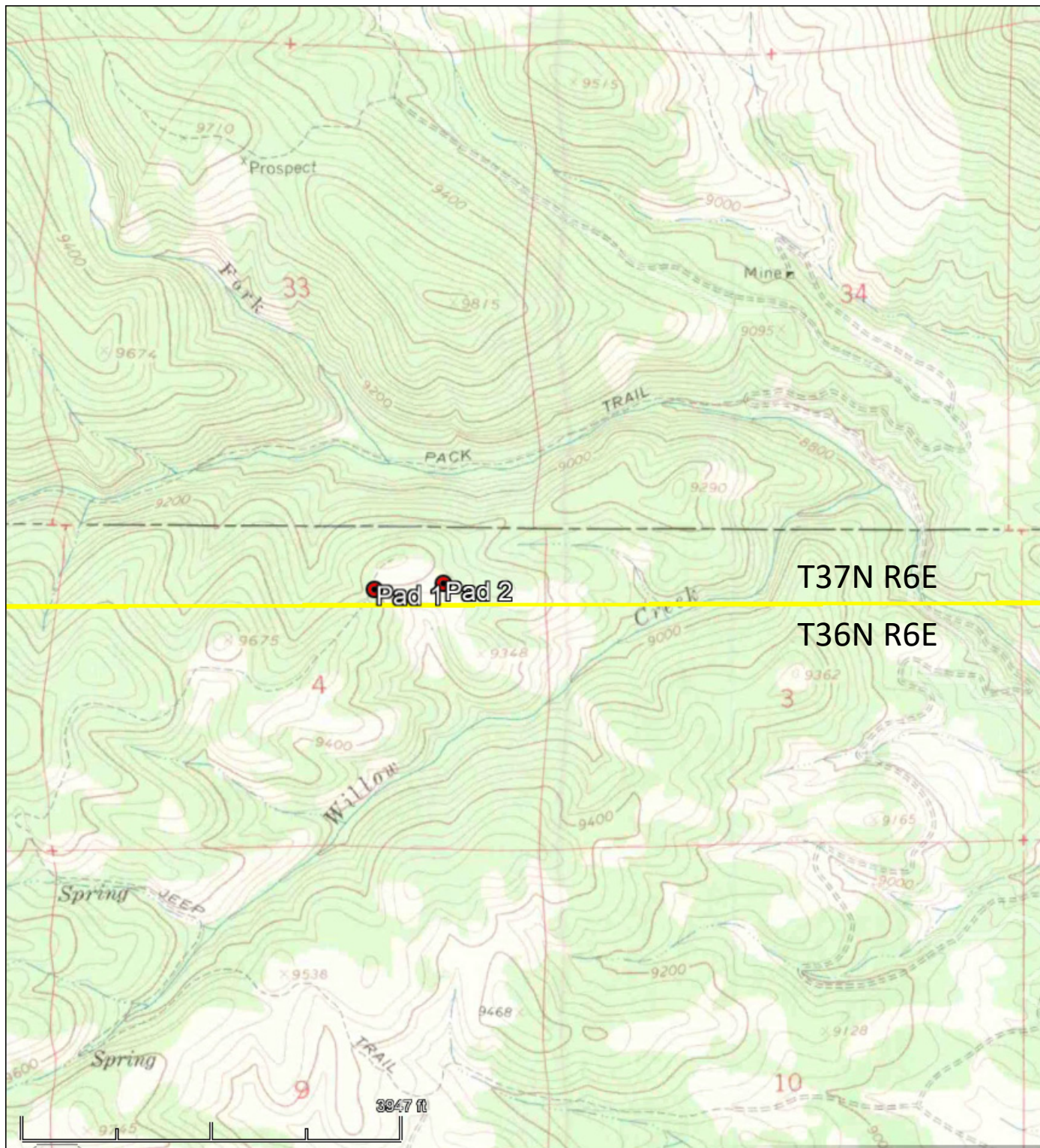
*According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0022. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 12 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.*

*The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).*

*To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**(If more space is needed to fill out a block of information, use additional sheets and attach form)**





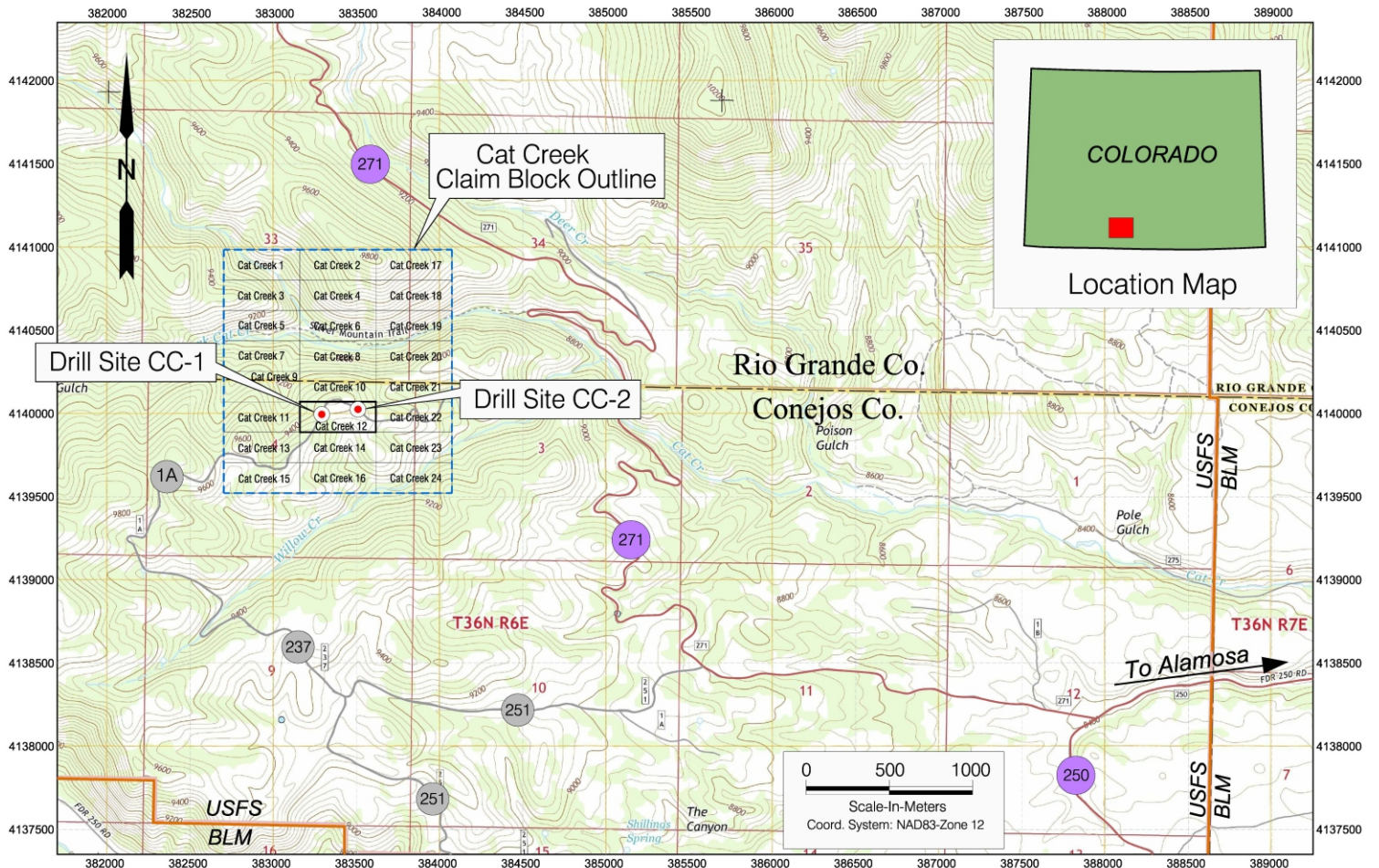
LEGEND
● Drill Site

**Figure 1**  
**Cat Creek Property**  
 Conejos Peak Range District  
 Rio Grand National Forest

**SOLITARIO  
RESOURCES**

Cat Creek Property  
 Showing Proposed Drill Sites and Roads  
 Rio Grande County and Conejos County, Colorado





#### CAT CREEK PROPERTY CLAIMS LIST

Claim Name	Date of Location	Serial Number	Lead File Number	Claimant	Town-Range-Sec
CAT CREEK 1	10/17/2018	CO101719840	CO101719840	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 2	10/17/2018	CO101719841	CO101719841	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 3	10/17/2018	CO101719842	CO101719842	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 4	10/17/2018	CO101870622	CO101870622	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 5	10/17/2018	CO101870623	CO101870623	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 6	10/17/2018	CO101870624	CO101870624	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 7	10/17/2018	CO101870625	CO101870625	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 8	10/17/2018	CO101870626	CO101870626	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 9	10/17/2018	CO101870627	CO101870627	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 9	10/17/2018	CO101870627	CO101870627	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 10	10/17/2018	CO101870628	CO101870628	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04 & T37N-R6E Sec33
CAT CREEK 11	10/17/2018	CO101870629	CO101870629	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 12	10/17/2018	CO101870630	CO101870630	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 13	10/17/2018	CO101870631	CO101870631	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 14	10/17/2018	CO101870632	CO101870632	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 15	10/17/2018	CO101870633	CO101870633	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 16	10/17/2018	CO101870634	CO101870634	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 17	10/17/2018	CO101870635	CO101870635	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33 & T37N-R6E Sec34
CAT CREEK 18	10/17/2018	CO101870636	CO101870636	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33 & T37N-R6E Sec34
CAT CREEK 19	10/17/2018	CO101870637	CO101870637	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33 & T37N-R6E Sec34
CAT CREEK 20	10/17/2018	CO101870638	CO101870638	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T37N-R6E Sec33 & T37N-R6E Sec34
CAT CREEK 21	10/17/2018	CO101870639	CO101870639	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec03, Sec04 & T37N-R6E Sec33, Sec34
CAT CREEK 22	10/17/2018	CO101870640	CO101870640	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec03 & T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 23	10/18/2018	CO101870641	CO101870641	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec03 & T36N-R6E Sec04
CAT CREEK 24	10/18/2018	CO101870642	CO101870642	LARRY R MOYER EXPLOR. LLC	T36N-R6E Sec03 & T36N-R6E Sec04

#### LEGEND

- Drill Site
- Secondary Road
- Primitive Road
- Cat Creek Claims Outline
- USFS/BLM Land Boundary

Figure 1  
Cat Creek Property  
Conejos Peak Range District  
Rio Grand National Forest



Cat Creek Property  
Showing Proposed Drill Sites and Roads  
Rio Grande County and Conejos County, Colorado





Project Name

RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST

# CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW

## PROPOSAL INFORMATION COVER PAGE

**Project Name:** Cat Creek Core Drilling Mining Exploration Project

**Proposal Date:** 10/19/2023

**Proponent Name:** Solitario Resources Corp.

**Line Officer:** Andrea Jones

**District:** Conejos Peak

**County(ies):** Conejos

**Anticipated Implementation:** July 2, 2024

**PALS Tracking #:** 65143

**IDT Lead:** Judi Pérez

**Project File:** <https://usfs.box.com/s/jrinhercjtlrmtwrqb97h6eb8jpm4f5q>

**GIS Info:** T:\FS\NFS\RioGrande\Project\CPRD\Cat Creek Drilling

**General Location:** In the Cat Creek Drainage, on FSR 237.

**Applicable Management Areas:** MA 5 - General Forest

**Legal Description:** T.36N., R.6E., Section 4, New Mexico Prime Meridian

**Is cost recovery anticipated?** No

**Identify access concerns if there are any:** Follow FSR 237.1a. If you are using the MVUM it will look like you are off of the route – but keep going.

**Applicable Category:** **36 CFR 220.6(e)(8)**. Short-term (1 year or less) mineral energy, or geophysical investigations and their incidental support activities that may require cross-country travel by vehicles and equipment, construction of less than 1 miles of low standard roads or use and minor repair of existing roads. Decision Memo is required.

**PROPOSED ACTION AND PURPOSE & NEED**

The Responsible Official would authorize access and the use of equipment to conduct exploratory drilling at two sites on the Conejos Peak Ranger District. Both sites would use core drilling techniques in the footprint of the existing roadbed along National Forest System Road (NFSR) 237. No road construction is anticipated. Minor road maintenance would occur upon completion of the project to fill the exploration holes.

No bodies of water occur in the project area. Drill collars would be positioned within the footprint of the existing road surface. Staging area for associated vehicles would be off the roadbed on native soils, minimizing impacts to native grassland vegetation. Each staging area would be approximately 30 by 60 feet (1800 square feet), or 0.1 of acre of impact. Anticipated vehicles include the track mounted drill rig, a 2,000-to-3,500-gallon water truck, a parts trailer, and 2-3 transport vehicles.

Other on-site equipment includes a water tank or bladder, a mud pump and a mixing tank for grout and cement for hole reclamation, and waste receptacles. The project involves the use of a solids reduction unit to settle particulates out the water.

Implementation would occur during the summer of 2024, after May 1. On site activity would take 1 to 2 weeks, with operations potentially occurring for 24 hours periods. Each site would have one initial core hole drilled. Based on the initial results up to three additional holes could be drilled. Average core hole depth is anticipated to be 400 feet, but the depth may vary up to 1,500 feet. Core holes could be up to 4 inches in diameter.

**PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES**

Include known practices to further reduce impacts that will be included in the analysis and decision.

PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES	Resource Area Benefit									
	Heritage	Range/Botany	Silviculture	Wildlife/Fisheries	Soils	Fuels	Hydrology	Recreation	Visual	Invasive Species
To reduce impacts to soils, use a water recycling method that limits the overall amount of soil disturbance.	x				x		x			x
To maintain visitor access, provide through access or space for vehicles to drive around the operation.								x		
To protect historic resources in the project area <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>avoid driving through or parking in the CCC furrows at the project site; and</li><li>avoid impacting culturally modified trees (CMTs) in and adjacent to the project area.</li></ul>	x									



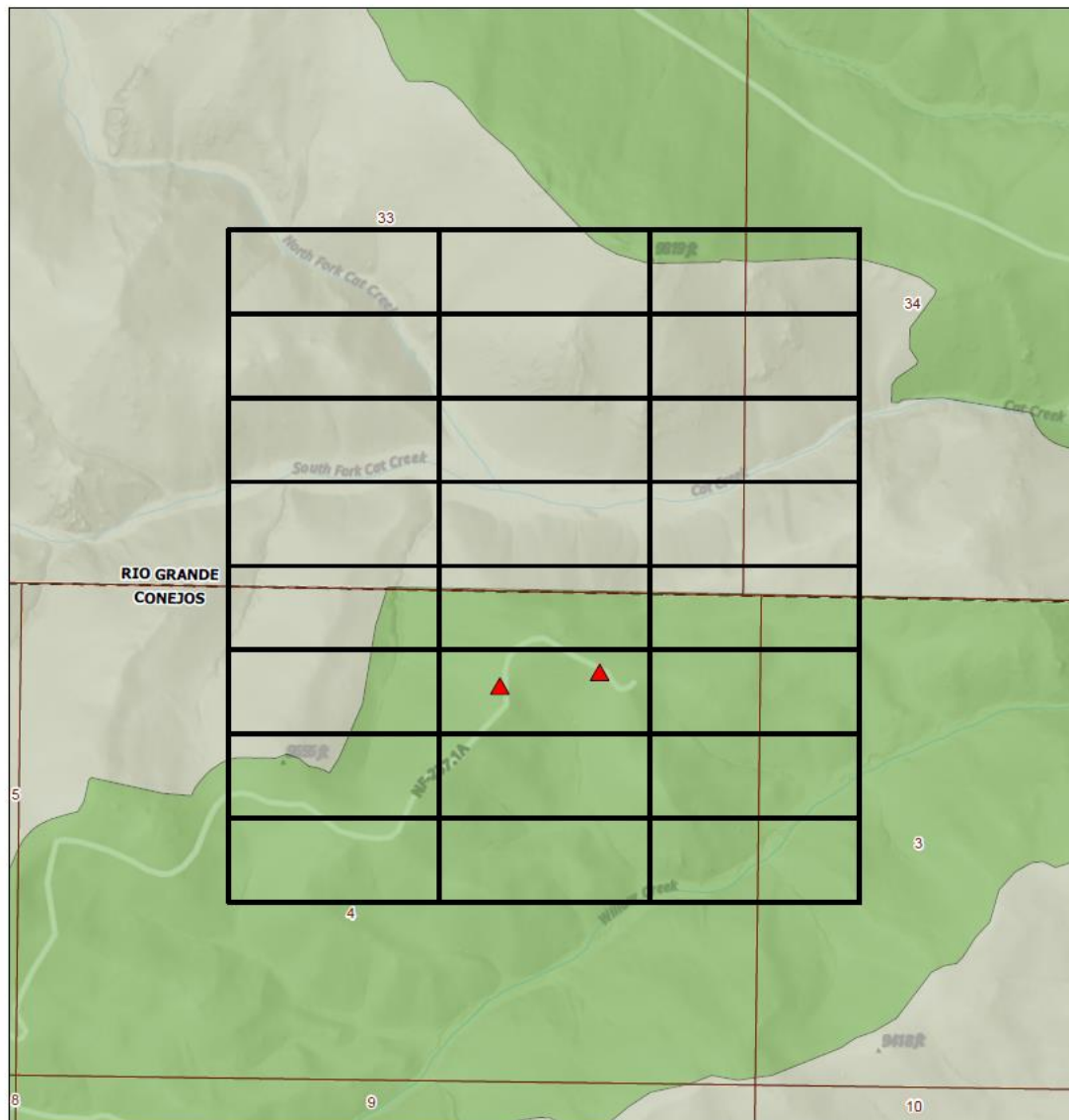
Project Name

RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST

PROJECT DESIGN FEATURES	Resource Area Benefit									
	Heritage	Range/Botany	Silviculture	Wildlife/Fisheries	Soils	Fuels	Hydrology	Recreation	Visual	Invasive Species
To prevent the spread of noxious weeds and nonnative invasive species, wash all equipment before entering NFS lands, use only weed-free mulch, and minimize soil disturbance.		x		x	x		x			x
To prevent displacement of bighorn sheep during their reproductive period, project can commence after July 1. This includes moving equipment and materials to site.				x						



**MAP(S)**

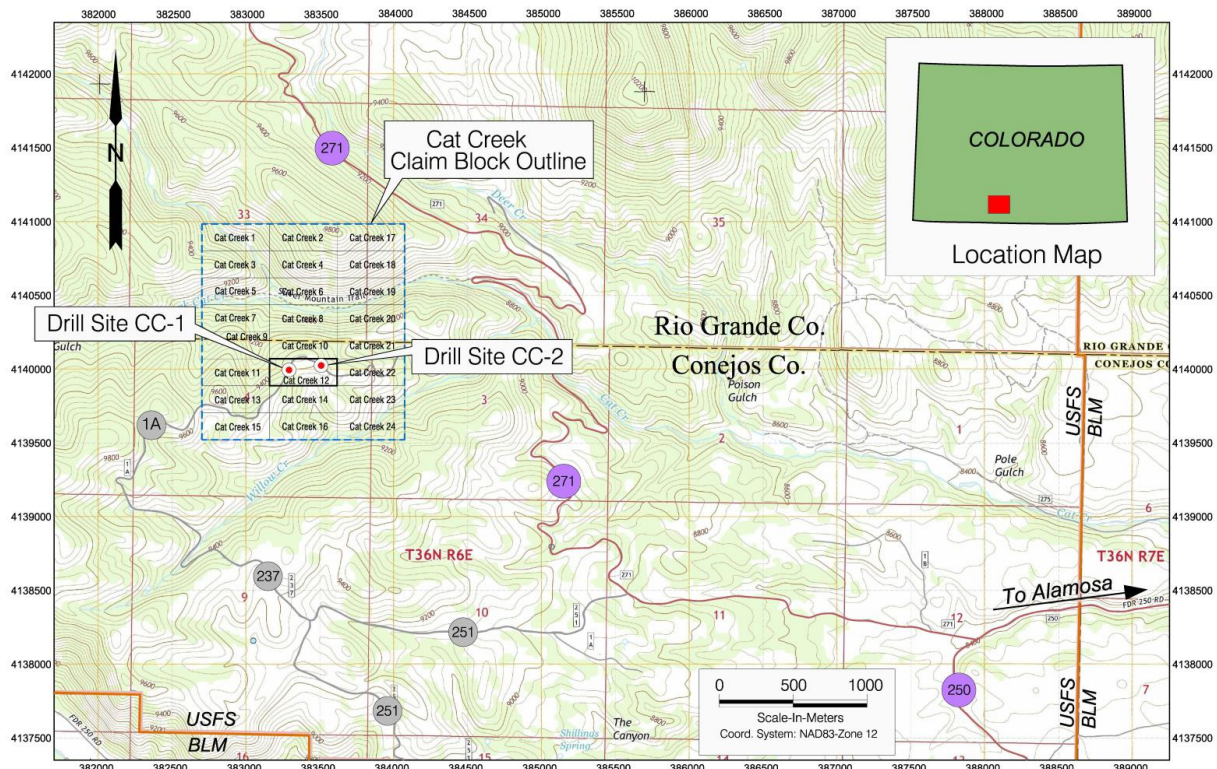






Project Name

RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST



More maps to come

## PROPOSAL EVALUATION

### LEGAL AND REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

Given the nature of the proposal, the Responsible Official is requesting documentation to demonstrate compliance with the following legal and regulatory considerations in addition to NEPA and the current Land Management Plan:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>ESA</b>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wilderness (MA 1)</b>  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NHPA</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Colorado Roadless (MA 3)</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Tribal Consultation</b>        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Eligible &amp; Suitable Wild &amp; Scenic River Corridor (MA 4.34)</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>CAA</b>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Recommended Wilderness (MA 1.1a)</b>                                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>CWA</b>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Research Natural Areas (MA 4.2)</b>                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pertinent Executive Orders</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Scenic Byways and Railroads (MA 4.21)</b>                              |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>National Scenic Byways &amp; Railroads (MA 4.21)</b>                   |

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS REVIEW & LMP CONSISTENCY****RESOURCE COMPLIANCE**

Every project must be consistent with applicable plan components. The 2012 Planning Rule requires that project/activity consistency with the Land Management Plan be described (36 CFR § 219.15). The approval document must describe how the project/activity is consistent with the plan components. Consistency is to be determined for the following components:

**Table 1: List applicable Land Management Plan components. These include Goal, Desired Conditions, Objectives, and standards.**

Applicable LMP Component	How is the project consistent with the identified LMP components?
MA 5, integrated desired conditions.	The project occurs in MA 5, integrated design features on page 83 of the LMP provide to exploration and development of minerals and energy resources.  Since the activities proposed are temporary and short term, they are consistent with the desired recreation opportunity spectrum class and scenic integrity objectives. Page 83, LMP.
S-SCNY-1	The proposal impacts will be short term in nature, anticipated to last up to two weeks. The standard provides direction for short term impacts that may not be consistent with the stated scenic integrity objectives.
S-SCC-2	The included project design feature will reduce anticipated impacts during bighorn sheep reproduction period (generally April 15 to July 1). (Forestwide). See Project Design Feature Above.
S-CR-1	The project design features would reduce potential impacts to cultural resources in the area, including culturally modified trees, and CCC created furrows.
S-SOIL-1	Design features included above would further reduce potential impacts to soils and water resources by reducing the amount of overall disturbance from the project.

**Table 2: Guidelines.**

LMP Guidelines applicable to the project.	Explain how the project is consistent with the intent of the applicable guideline.
G-MIN-1	The project includes a plan of operations that defines the proposed activities and the scale of the proposal. Project design features included above will limit any potential impacts to water quality or fish habitat.
G-REC-2	The guideline prohibits motorized travel outside of the designated travel ways. During implementation provide access around the project to facilitate travel in the area. Seasonal limitations and the limited duration of the project will reduce impacts.



Table 4: Land Suitability determination.

LMP Suitability determinations	Is the project consistent?	Explain how the project/activity is consistent, or if the LMP is silent regarding the activity.
SUIT-MA5-4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	The temporary exploration project is consistent as there is no permanent proposal for surface occupancy.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Table 5: Documentation of Specialist Review. For those resources not applicable to the project, enter a date considered.

Resource	LMP Review Complete
Botany	Consistent 10/30/2023 Rachel Hosna
Cultural/Heritage	Consistent 11/28/2023 Marcy Reiser
Engineering	N/A Click here to enter a date. Choose an item.
Fisheries	N/A Click here to enter a date. Choose an item.
Fuels	N/A Click here to enter a date. Choose an item.
Hydro	Consistent 1/22/2024 Amber Lidell
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	Consistent 10/30/2023 Rachel Hosna
Lands & Land Special Uses Consistency	N/A Click here to enter a date. Choose an item.
Recreation Special Uses Consistency	Consistent 10/31/2023 Marie Berglund
Minerals	Consistent 1/23/2024 Daryl Kohut
Range	Consistent 1/23/2024 Luciano Sandoval
Recreation	Consistent 1/23/2024 Antonio Lucero
Scenic Resources	N/A Click here to enter a date. Specialist's Name
Soils	Consistent 1/23/2024 Daryl Kohut
Silviculture	N/A Click here to enter a date. Choose an item.
Wildlife	Consistent 10/27/2023 Doug Clark

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

### THREATENED, ENDANGERED, PROPOSED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES &/OR CRITICAL HABITAT

A Wildlife Biologist reviewed the proposal and reached the following determinations identified in Table 6 for threatened, endangered and/or proposed species:

IPac Project code 2024-0002446 pulled 10.06.2023 and on 01/23/2024: Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days.

Table 6: TEPC Effect Determinations for ESA

Species/Habitat	Status	Proposed or Designated Critical Habitat Present?	Determination*	Brief Rationale (or refer to other project documentation)
<b>Canada lynx</b> <i>Lynx canadensis</i>	Threatened	No	NE	Lynx screen 1. Outside of LAU. Ponderosa Pine Habitat.
<b>Gray wolf</b> <i>Canis lupis</i>	Endangered	No	NE	No predatory management
<b>Gray wolf</b> <i>Canis lupis</i>	Experimental Population, Non- Essential	No	NE	No predatory management
<b>New Mexico meadow jumping mouse.</b> <i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i>	Endangered	No	NE	No habitat
<b>Mexican spotted owl</b> <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Threatened	No	NE	No habitat
<b>Southwestern willow flycatcher</b> <i>Empidonax trailii extimus</i>	Endangered	No	NE	No habitat
<b>Yellow-billed cuckoo</b> <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Threatened	No	NE	No habitat
<b>Monarch Butterfly</b> <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Candidate	No	n/a	The RGNF is not currently considering conferencing for Candidate species.
<b>Silverspot Butterfly</b> <i>Speyeria nokomis nokomis</i>	Proposed Threatened	No	NE	No habitat. Ponderosa Pine Habitat.
<b>Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly</b> <i>Boloria acrocroma</i>	Endangered	No	NE	No habitat
<b>FISH</b>				
<b>Humpback Chub</b> <i>Gila cypha</i>	Endangered	No	NE	Not present on RGNF
<b>Bonytail Chub</b> <i>Gila elegans</i>	Endangered	No	NE	Not present on RGNF
<b>Greenback Cutthroat Trout</b> <i>Oncorhynchus clarkii stomias</i>	Threatened	No	NE	Not present on RGNF
<b>Rio Grande cutthroat trout</b> <i>Oncorhynchus clarkii virginalis</i>	Candidate	No	NE	RGNF does not conference on candidate species



Species/Habitat	Status	Proposed or Designated Critical Habitat Present?	Determination*	Brief Rationale (or refer to other project documentation)
<b>Colorado Pikeminnow</b> <i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>	Endangered	No	NE	Not present on RGNF
<b>Razorback Sucker</b> <i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	Endangered	No	NE	Not present on RGNF

\*NE – No Effect; NLAA – May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect; LAA – May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect; No Jeopardy - Not Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence or Adversely Modify Critical Habitat

## SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN

Wildlife, Fisheries and Botany personnel reviewed the proposal and determined LMP consistency for Species of Conservation Concern identified in the LMP (see Table 7 – animals, Table 8, Plants, and Table 9, fish).

Table 7: Species of Conservation Concern (Insects, amphibians, birds & mammals) consideration for extraordinary circumstance

Species	Presence	Forest Plan Compliance	COMMENTS
<b>Western bumblebee</b> <i>Bombus occidentalis</i>	Present	Compliant	
<b>White-veined arctic butterfly</b> <i>Oenis bore</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>Boreal toad</b> <i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>Boreal owl</b> <i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Unknown	Compliant	
<b>Brewer's sparrow</b> <i>Spizella breweri</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>Flammulated owl</b> <i>Otus flammeolus</i>	Unknown	Compliant	
<b>Northern goshawk</b> <i>Accipiter gentiles</i>	Unknown	Compliant	
<b>Olive-sided flycatcher</b> <i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Present	Compliant	
<b>Peregrine falcon</b> <i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>Southern White-tailed ptarmigan</b> <i>Lagopus leucurus altipetens</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>American marten</b> <i>Martes americana</i>	Present	Compliant	
<b>Fringed myotis</b> <i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	Present	Compliant	



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<b>Gunnison's prairie dog</b> <i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>Northern pocket gopher</b> <i>Thomomys talpoides agrestis</i>	Unknown	Compliant	
<b>Plains pocket mouse</b> <i>Perognathus flavescens</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>River otter</b> <i>Lontra canadensis</i>	Not Present	Compliant	
<b>Rocky mountain bighorn sheep</b> <i>Ovis canadensis canadensis</i>	Present	Compliant	See Project Design Features above. Timing of operations, noise and scale of activity. Winter and Lambing range.
<b>Townsend's big-eared bat</b> <i>Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii</i>	Unknown	Compliant	

Table 8: Species of Conservation Concern (plants).

Species	Presence	Forest Plan Compliance	COMMENTS
<b>Black Canyon gilia</b> <i>Aliciella penstemonoides</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Stonecrop gilia</b> <i>Aliciella sedifolia</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Brandegeee milkvetch</b> <i>Astragalus brandegeei</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Ripley's milkvetch</b> <i>Astragalus ripleyi</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Northern moonwort</b> <b>Botrychium pinnatum</b>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Least moonwort</b> <b>Botrychium simplex</b>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Downy Indian-paintbrush</b> <i>Castilleja puberula</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Dwarf alpine hawksbeard</b> <i>Crepis nana</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>James' cryptantha</b> <i>Cryptantha cinerea var. pustulosa</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Weber's catseye</b> <b>Cryptantha weberi</b>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Slender rock-brake</b> <i>Cryptogramma stelleri</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Mountain bladder fern</b> <i>Cystopteris montana</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Colorado larkspur</b> <i>Delphinium alpestre</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.



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<b>San Juan draba</b> <i>Draba graminea</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Gray's draba</b> <i>Draba grayana</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Smith's draba</b> <i>Draba smithii</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Colorado Divide whitlow-grass</b> <i>Draba streptobrachia</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Philadelphia fleabane</b> <i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Many-flowered gilia</b> <i>Ipomopsis multiflora</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Spiny-spored quillwort</b> <i>Isoetes tenella</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Colorado woodrush</b> <i>Luzula subcapitata</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Colorado tansy aster</b> <i>Machaeranthera coloradoensis</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>House's sandwort</b> <i>Minuartia macrantha</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Parry's crazy-weed</b> <i>Oxytropis parryi</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>West silver bladderpod</b> <i>Physaria scrotiformis</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Southern Rocky Mountain cinquefoil</b> <i>Potentilla ambigens</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Arizona willow</b> <i>Salix arizonica</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Tundra saxifrage</b> <i>Saxifraga caespitosa</i> ssp. <i>monticola</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>King's campion</b> <i>Silene kingii</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Fine bog-moss</b> <i>Sphagnum angustifolium</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.
<b>Rothrock townsend-daisy</b> <i>Townsendia rothrockii</i>	Not Present	Compliant	Species not known to occur within the project area.

Table 9: Species of Conservation Concern (fish).

<b>Rio Grande chub</b> <i>Gila pandora</i>	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
<b>Rio Grande cutthroat trout</b> <i>Oncorhynchus clarkii virginalis</i>	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	





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Rio Grande sucker <i>Catostomus plebeius</i>	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
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## NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA) – SECTION 106 REVIEW

The pertinent specialist has reviewed the proposal and made the following determination regarding Section 106 compliance:

No historic properties affected - 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1). Section 106 Review has been completed for the project area and no National Register eligible cultural sites were found.

*All persons in the area who are associated with this project shall be informed that any person who, without a permit, injures, destroys, excavates, appropriates or removes any historic or prehistoric ruin, artifact, object of antiquity, Native American remains, Native American cultural item, or archaeological resources on public lands is subject to arrest and penalty of law (16 USC 433, 16 USC 470, 18 USC 641, 18 USC 1170, and 18 USC 1361). Strict adherence to the confidentiality of information concerning the nature and location of archeological resources would be required of the proponent and all subcontractors (Archaeological Resource Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 470hh).*

*If subsurface cultural values are uncovered during operations, all work in the vicinity of the resource will cease and the Authorized Officer with the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) notified immediately. The operator shall take any additional measures requested by the RGNF to protect discoveries until they can be adequately evaluated by the permitted archaeologist. Within 48 hours of the discovery, the SHPO and consulting parties will be notified of the discovery and consultation will begin to determine an appropriate mitigation measure. RGNF in cooperation with the operator will ensure that the discovery is protected from further disturbance until mitigation is completed. Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the authorized officer (36 CFR 800.110 & 112, 43 CFR 10.4).*

*Inadvertent Discoveries: Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony on federal land. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), the holder must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery that could adversely affect the discovery. The holder shall make a reasonable effort to protect the human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony for a period of thirty days after written notice is provided to the authorized officer, or until the authorized officer has issued a written notice to proceed, whichever occurs first.*

## COMMENTS AND SUPPORTING PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

Several cultural resources have been found in the vicinity of the proposed project; however, these historic features are located outside of the *Area of Potential Effects (APE)*. The historic cultural resources include water control features (landscape furrowing); one to three possible culturally modified trees (likely historic) and several small, discreet prospecting pits. Although these historic features are located outside of the proposed project area, supporting documentation includes feature locational data, descriptions and a map to ensure avoidance during all project activities.

## TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Based on the nature of the proposal, the line officer/responsible official made the following determination regarding Tribal Consultation:

Consultation with American Indian Tribes is not needed.



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**COMMENTS AND SUPPORTING PROJECT DOCUMENTATION**

List Tribes, dates of consultation and outcome – or refer to other project file documentation (listed in the table below). If no further supporting documentation is necessary delete this section.

**CONGRESSIONALLY DESIGNATED AREAS, COLORADO ROADLESS, RECOMMENDED WILDERNESS, OR RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS**

Resource specialists have reviewed the proposal and made the following determinations based on the presence/proximity or lack of special management areas: None present

**CLEAN AIR ACT (CAA)**

The pertinent specialist has reviewed the proposal and made the following determinations regarding the CAA:

The project is consistent with the CAA.

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**CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA)**

The pertinent specialist has reviewed the proposal and made the following determinations regarding the CWA:

THE PROJECT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE CWA.

The Plan of Operations for this project is consistent with the CWA.



## DECISION MEMO

### Cat Creek Drilling Exploration Project

#### U.S. Forest Service

Conejos Peak Ranger District, Rio Grande National Forest

Conejos County, Colorado

My decision incorporates all analysis and documentation in this document and documents included in the project record.

#### FINAL ACTION TO BE COMPLETED

The Responsible Official would authorize access and the use of equipment to conduct exploratory drilling at two sites on the Conejos Peak Ranger District. Both sites would use core drilling techniques in the footprint of the existing roadbed along National Forest System Road (NFSR) 237. No road construction is anticipated. Minor road maintenance would occur upon completion of the project to fill the exploration holes.

No bodies of water occur in the project area. Drill collars would be positioned within the footprint of the existing road surface. Staging area for associated vehicles would be off the roadbed on native soils, minimizing impacts to native grassland vegetation. Each staging area would be approximately 30 by 60 feet (1800 square feet), or 0.1 of acre of impact. Anticipated vehicles include the track mounted drill rig, a 2,000-to-3,500-gallon water truck, a parts trailer, and 2-3 transport vehicles.

Other on-site equipment includes a water tank or bladder, a mud pump and a mixing tank for grout and cement for hole reclamation, and waste receptacles. The project involves the use of a solids reduction unit to settle particulates out the water.

Implementation would occur during the summer of 2024, after July 1. On site activity would take 1 to 2 weeks, with operations potentially occurring for 24 hours periods. Each site would have one initial core hole drilled. Based on the initial results up to three additional holes could be drilled. Average core hole depth is anticipated to be 400 feet, but the depth may vary up to 1,500 feet. Core holes could be up to 4 inches in diameter.

The following project design features will be implemented:

- To reduce impacts to soils, use a water recycling method that limits the overall amount of soil disturbance.
- To maintain visitor access, provide through access or space for vehicles to drive around the operation.
- To protect historic resources in the project area
  - avoid driving through or parking in the CCC furrows at the project site; and
  - avoid impacting culturally modified trees (CMTs) in and adjacent to the project area.
- To prevent the spread of noxious weeds and nonnative invasive species, wash all equipment before entering NFS lands, use only weed-free mulch, and minimize soil disturbance.
- To prevent displacement of bighorn sheep during their reproductive period, project can commence after July 1. This includes moving equipment and materials to site.

#### DECISION & RATIONALE

I have decided to authorize the activities described in the section above and including any modifications that may have been identified during environmental analysis and review of regulatory compliance. My decision includes identified design features included to further reduce impacts.



### APPLICABLE CATEGORY/IES

This proposal is categorically excluded from documentation in an EA or EIS because it fits the following **36 CFR 220.6(e)(8)**. Short-term (1 year or less) mineral energy, or geophysical investigations and their incidental support activities that may require cross-country travel by vehicles and equipment, construction of less than 1 miles of low standard roads or use and minor repair of existing roads.. My decision to use the category defined is consistent with the finding of no extraordinary circumstances as documented below.

### EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

I find that there are no extraordinary circumstances that warrant additional analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS. I considered all resources conditions identified in agency procedures that should be considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstances exist (FSH 1900.15§31.2). The [Environmental Analysis Review](#) section of this document and any supporting documents in the project record, define my rationale to support my finding that no extraordinary circumstances exist. My findings are summarized in Table 1, below.

The mere presence of one or more of these resource conditions does not preclude use of a CE. It is the existence of a cause-effect relationship between a proposed action and the potential effect on these resource conditions and if such a relationship exists, the degree of the potential effect of a proposed action on these resource conditions that determine whether extraordinary circumstances exist. (36 CFR 220.6(b))



Table 1: Resource Conditions Considered for Extraordinary Circumstance Determinations

Resources Conditions Considered for Extraordinary Circumstances	Determination Briefly explain. <sup>1</sup>
Federally listed <a href="#">threatened or endangered species</a> , or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species.  NOTE: the Rio Grande does not have Forest Service sensitive species.	<b>BOTANY:</b> N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b> <b>FISHERIES:</b> N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b> <b>WILDLIFE:</b> NO, there is no uncertainty <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>
Floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds	N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>
Congressionally designated areas, such as <a href="#">wilderness</a> , wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas	N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>
<a href="#">Colorado roadless areas</a> <sup>1</sup>	Choose an item. <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>
<a href="#">Research natural areas</a>	N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>
American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites	N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>
Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas	N/A, not present <b>Rationale for Yes:</b>

<sup>1</sup> Colorado Roadless Rule. 2012

## LMP CONSISTENCY AND FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS

The [Environmental Analysis Review](#) section above and any other supporting documents found in the project record, describe findings required by other laws such as, but not limited to findings of consistency with the Forest land management plan as required by the National Forest Management Act or a public interest determination (36 CFR 254.2(c)).

The entire [CE Review Form](#) and the project record provide rationale to support my finding that the project is consistent with the Rio Grande National Forest [Land Management Plan](#) and other applicable laws and regulations. This demonstrates compliance with the regulatory framework for the activities authorized by this decision.

## AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS & PERSONS CONTACTED

Input from the following agencies, organizations, and/or persons was sought regarding this proposal.

Forest Service resource specialists, and Solitario Resources Group. The project proposal was also posted to the Rio Grande National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions on November 1, 2023.



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Outreach was conducted commensurate with project level complexity.

### IMPLEMENTATION DATE

I intend to implement this decision during the summer of 2024.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Decisions that are categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are not subject to an administrative review process (Agriculture Act of 2014 [Pub. L. No. 113-79], Subtitle A, Sec. 8006).

### CONTACT

For additional information concerning this decision, contact:

Judi Perez, Forest Planner, 1055 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Del Norte, Colorado, 81134, (719) 872-4008, or the Responsible Official Andrea Jones, at the Conejos Peak Ranger District, 15571 County Road T5, La Jara, Colorado 81140, (719) 480-9892.

2/2/2024

ANDREA M. JONES

District Ranger, Conejos Peak Ranger District

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