

## URANIUM LEASING PROGRAM LESSEE ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

In accordance with ARTICLE IV. GENERAL PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENT and other provisions of the Lease, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) will use this Uranium Leasing Program (ULP) Lessee Environmental Checklist to review information provided by the lessee (or their subcontractor) and determine if all environmental planning requirements and potential environmental impacts (physical, cultural, social, and economic) of proposed actions have been considered. This completed checklist will provide LM the information it needs to determine site-specific environmental requirements, including the requisite level of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, specific resource management plans, regulatory permits, and regulatory consultations.

Instructions, including responsibilities for completing this form, are provided separately in the *ULP Lessee Environmental Checklist Instructions* (LM-SOP-4-20-6.0-0.0).

SECTION I. PROJECT SUMMARY (TO BE COMPLETED BY LM)	
Application Number:	018
Project Title:	GEMI_JD-5_Reclamation_ M-1977-248
Project Location:	38.22995, -108.74226
Lease Tract(s):	C-JD-5
Lease Tract County:	Montrose
U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Field Office(s):	Uncompahgre Field Office
Date Submitted:	05/01/2024
Date Approved:	Enter text
SECTION II. LESSEE CONTACT INFORMATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LESSEE)	
Company:	Gold Eagle Mining, Inc.
Address:	P.O. Box 3007, Montrose, CO 81402
Primary Point of Contact:	Don Coram, Lessee
Alternate Point of Contact:	Robert A. Larson CPG-PLS
Phone Number:	Coram: 970-596-2425 Larson: 970-318-1430
Email Address:	Coram: dlcoram@msn.com Larson: bob@mmsouray.com

SECTION III. SUMMARY OF PROJECT (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LESSEE)	
1.	<b>Plan Type:</b> Please check one of the boxes below that correlates to the proposed activities described within the planning document. If more than one type of activity is proposed, please check all those that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration <input type="checkbox"/> Mining <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reclamation <input type="checkbox"/> Other
2.	<b>Proposed Action Description:</b> In the box below, or as an attachment, please describe the proposed action, to include the entire set of related activities or stages of the project. Include information on construction, operation, and maintenance, as applicable. Include any utility, infrastructure, or emergency service requirements. Refer to the Exploration, Mining, or Reclamation Plans as appropriate.

The proposed action description should answer five questions:

1. *Who* is performing the work? As the Lessee, it is assumed you would take full responsibility for performing the work; however, please list any information regarding subcontractors and/or other personnel that would also be involved in the project.
2. *What* is the nature of the specific project? Details describing the proposed action should be provided at a level that would allow assessment of impacts, e.g., include quantities where appropriate.
3. *How* would the proposed action be executed? Summarize the activities to be conducted to complete the project. The description must include relevant physical actions and design features that would allow impacts to be assessed.
4. *What* mitigation measures, including Best Management Practices (BMPs), are planned to reduce adverse impacts associated with the work? Indicate which BMPs would be incorporated as design features within the proposed design (e.g., to enable construction that requires access through a designated wetland, only tracked vehicles would be used to traverse the wetland).
5. *When* would the proposed action be implemented and completed? As appropriate, describe the schedule of activities by phase (e.g., phases of mine development and operations). For larger projects, when schedules and phases are described, it is also necessary to describe numbers of workers that would be required during each phase. If multiple work shifts are required, a description of worker hours also should be described (e.g., to complete the required reclamation before nesting/breeding season, it would be necessary to use two, 10-hour shifts for a period of 4 weeks beginning in early March).
6. *Where* is the proposed action going to occur (e.g., lease tract[s]) as well as areas within the lease tract[s])? What other locations or areas would be needed to supply resources or would be otherwise impacted by project-related activities (e.g., processing mill, borrow areas, transportation routes)? Figures at a relevant scale should be used to identify potentially disturbed or affected areas.

*Description of the proposed action below:*

The reclamation work to be completed on site is proposed to be done during the 2024 construction season. Gold Eagle Mining will hire a qualified construction contractor(s) to perform the work under the direction of an experienced uranium mine reclamation specialist. Beginning and ending dates are dependent on the NEPA process. Once the NEPA is completed the reclamation can be planned around any wildlife timeline restrictions and will start as soon as possible. The reclamation work remaining to be completed under Gold Eagle Mining on the JD-5 Lease Tract is summarized below:

- Ore Bins
  - One ore bin contains an estimated 364 cubic yards of mineralized material. If it is of economic value, it will be placed into supersacks and stored at a secure location until it can be taken as mill feed. When the grade is determined the production royalty will be deducted from the advance royalty paid. If it is not of economic value, it will be taken across the road to the Paradox D, Patented Lode Mining Claim owned by Gold Eagle Mining, Inc., buried and adequately covered. All applicable local and state right of way permits will be acquired. The Montrose County Engineer will be consulted as to whether a right-of-way use permit is required to move the mineralized material. The results of the consultation will be shared with the DOE.
  - Wood and debris including any concrete present and buried railroad tracks from the ore bins will be removed from the site. Concrete if present will be broken up. Approximately 80 yards of material will be taken to the Paradox D to be buried and adequately covered.
  - I-Beams will be removed taken to Recla Metals for recycling.
  - Areas will be cut-fill regraded to 3:1 or gentler slopes matching the surrounding topography and onsite material.
  - Areas will be covered with two feet of clean fill material sourced within the existing disturbance footprint or hauled in from JD-7.
  - These areas will then be covered with 3-6 inches of cover soil sourced from the stockpile on private surface northwest of JD-7. Up to 460 CY of cover soil will be taken from the stockpile.
  - Equipment to be utilized includes a tracked excavator, a tracked dozer, and an over the road truck for transportation. A tracked excavator will be utilized to remove the concrete with a pneumatic breaker attachment to be utilized if required to break the concrete.
  - A final gamma survey of the surface will be performed after the placement and grading of coversoil.
  - For a breakdown of the disturbance areas for JD-5 please see Table 1.
- Wood Cribbing and Ore Pad from the Joe Dandy Decline Area
  - Concrete ore pads, wood cribbing, and steel beams will be broken up and hauled to the Paradox D to be buried and adequately covered.
  - The steel water tank will be removed.
  - The area immediately behind the wood cribbing will be sloped off to match the surrounding hillside and seeded.
- Surface Facilities
  - Technical Revision 02 dated 12/9/2013 describes removing the remaining buildings.
  - A head frame, hoist house, and compressor house remain on site. The structures may be considered Culturally Significant Historical Structures, pending the cultural resources survey and report, BLM, and SHPO consultations (See attached letter to BLM). It is the intent to file another Technical Revision with DRMS to clarify that each of these are Historical Structures and will remain on site, well secured within fencing and locked gates and doors. The DOE will be provided with a copy of the Proposed Technical Revision when it is submitted to DRMS.
  - The ventilation fan and wood cribbing will be hauled to the Paradox D to be buried and adequately covered.
  - The San Miguel Power Association has been consulted and they own all of the power poles on the JD-5 lease tract.

- Access Roads
  - Immediate access roads will be retained for future access without scarification or reseeded.
- Revegetation
  - The proposed total disturbance area is approximately 0.64 acres.
  - Reclamation disturbances will have cover soil material spread on them to a thickness of 3-6” based upon available resources on site.
  - Any existing topsoil piles will be used for the cover soil. Cover soil that can be salvaged during reclamation will be saved and used.
  - All disturbed areas will be scarified and seeded with the DOE and BLM approved seed mix. No cover crop will be used.
    - Scarification will be performed with a motor grader or agricultural equipment, such as a chisel plow, depending on the condition of the access roads.
    - Seeding will be performed by a rangeland drill.

**Table 1: Breakdown of Disturbance Areas**

Feature	Approximate Disturbance Area (Acres)	
	Without Technical Revision	With Technical Revision
Ore Bins	0.38	0.38
Additional Disturbed Area	0.04	0.04
Joe Dandy Decline Area	0.05	0.05
Headframe, Compressor House, and Hoist House	0.08	0
Ventilation Fan and Wood Cribbing	0.03	0.03
JD-7 Cover Soil Borrow Area	0.06	0.06
Total	0.64	0.56

**References:**

Technical Revision 02 dated 12/9/2013

BLM Letter

JD-5 Mine Permit M-1977-248

US DOE Lease JD-5 Reclamation Map

Table 1 “Measures Identified to Minimize Potential Impacts from Reclamation at ULP Lease Tract JD-5” (In Progress)

Table 2 “Mitigative Action Plan to Minimize Potential Impacts from Reclamation at ULP Lease Tract JD-5” (In Progress)

*Environmental Site Review Gold Eagle Mining Sites* (wildlife survey by Real West Natural Resource Consulting) – May 2024

*A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Gold Eagle Uranium Lease Areas in Montrose and San Miguel Counties, Colorado* (Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.) – August 2024

3. **Access to or Use of Property:** Identify any access requirements or written agreements or use permissions that are in place or would need to be obtained for the proposed action.

*Description of access requirements, agreements, or permissions:*

Access to JD-5 is by Montrose County Road DD19 Rd from Hwy 90 in Paradox Valley. Access to both the JD-5 Shaft Area and the Joe Dandy Decline are shown on the plat in the attached Appendix.

**SECTION IV. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SENSITIVE RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS**

**(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LESSEE)**

*Please provide detailed information to facilitate LM’s evaluation of all potential impacts from the proposed work. If the proposed action could result in an effect on the environmental and human health resources listed below, the "Yes" box should be checked, and an explanation provided (qualified or quantified when possible) in the Comments section. An item checked "Yes" does not necessarily*

mean that an adverse impact would occur; however, it does indicate that more details are warranted for LM to make an informed decision. After LM evaluates potential impacts, additional information may be requested to avoid, minimize, or otherwise mitigate impacts and comply with the ULP Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) and associated Mitigation Action Plan (MAP). Relevant sections of the ULP PEIS will be referenced in the resource sections, as applicable. If the "No" box is checked, additional explanation is generally not necessary but may be helpful.

Please use the Supporting Documentation portion of each resource to identify any supporting documentation that is enclosed as part of this checklist, or that will be submitted to DOE upon completion. Supporting documentation may include, but is not limited to emails, permits, reports, plans, etc.

**Relevant site-specific mitigations should be provided by the Lessee to LM as an attachment to this checklist for LM review. These mitigations are included in the MAP that was prepared in support of the ULP PEIS.**

## Existing Resources and Potential Impacts

### 1. Air emissions or air quality

- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would any part of the proposed action result in air emissions, including regulated hazardous or criteria pollutants, from mobile or stationary sources? These include gases, vapors, or particulates put into the air from vehicles, equipment, generators, tanks, pipelines, underground sources, and other potential sources?
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action generate fugitive dust?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require any air permits or notifications to local, state, or federal regulatory agencies?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Is the project currently located within a designated nonattainment area? (Refer to Section 3.1.3 of Volume I of the 2014 PEIS). Nonattainment areas are listed at: <https://www.epa.gov/green-book>

If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding the type and source of air emissions, conformance with air permits or permitting requirements, and proposed mitigative actions or best management practices. As applicable, list and provide documentation of permits/notifications or identify if any are in process.

#### Comments:

Emissions from combustion engines and dust will be generated using heavy equipment during the reclamation process. Fugitive dust is exempt from requiring a permit or air pollutant emissions notice. As stated in Regulation Number 1, 5 CCR 1001-3 II.A.6 and III.D.2 and Regulation Number 3, 5 CCR 1001-5 Part B II.D.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

#### Compliance Measures

- Apply water using a water truck on unpaved haul roads, disturbed surfaces, and temporary stockpiles. The water will be from a municipal source, such as Naturita.
- Assure all heavy equipment meets emission standards as required.
- Avoid construction traffic and reduce speeds on unpaved surfaces.

#### BMP

- Limit idle time of vehicles and motorized equipment.
- Fuel all diesel engines used with ultra-low sulfur diesel (sulfur content of  $\leq 15$  parts per million [ppm]) except for older diesel equipment meeting emissions requirements that need higher sulfur content for proper functioning.

#### Supporting Information:

Enter text

### 2. Noise

- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Does the proposed action have the potential to generate noise impacts to adjacent communities, residences, project site workers, and or sensitive receptors (e.g., schools, hospitals, churches)?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Is the proposed action located in an area that has a local noise ordinance?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Does the proposed action have the potential to generate noise impacts to sensitive ecological resources such as wildlife refuges, areas containing noise-sensitive species, or bird rookeries?

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding (1) the source of the noise, (2) the receptors that may be impacted and estimated distance from the project activities including transportation routes, (3) the level of noise generated in A-weighted decibels (dBA) to each receptor, and (4) the anticipated duration of the noise (estimated duration per day, estimated days, and whether the duration would be continuous).*

**Comments:**

Noise will include typical construction sources including diesel powered heavy equipment used for excavation, haulage, and demolition. There are no noise ordinances as the closest occupied structure is approximately 5 miles away. Workers will wear ear protection during construction operations.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

**Compliance Measures**

- Maintain off site noise level below Colorado maximum permissible limit of 55 dBA during the day (7 a.m.-7 p.m.) and of 50 dBA at night (7 p.m.-7 a.m.), and below EPA guideline level of 55 dBA  $L_{dn}$  at receptor location as measured 25 ft from the exterior property line.

**BMP**

- Maintain equipment in good working order in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.
- Limit noisy activities to the least noise-sensitive times of the day (daytime between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.) and weekdays and limit idle time for vehicles and motorized equipment.
- Employ noise-reduction devices (e.g., mufflers) as appropriate.
- Limit operational noise to 49 dBA or less within 2 mi (3 km) from an occupied/active Gunnison sage-grouse lek.

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**3. Human Health Risk**

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in the potential for radiation exposure to workers or the public?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action potentially expose workers or the public to hazardous materials (chemicals or other materials that have the potential to cause harm to humans)?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in the potential for physical injury to workers or the public?

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding (1) specific activities anticipated to result in health and safety concerns, and (2) any best management practices that could be applied to reduce or minimize public or worker health and safety risks.*

**Comments:**

The DOE sites are historic uranium mine sites which may contain materials with elevated radiometric levels above background. However, the site materials are anticipated to be low level materials and have not been concentrated or upgraded. Worker site exposure is not anticipated to approach or exceed the allowable annual industrial exposure levels. During reclamation of ore pad areas with waste rock care will be taken to maintain distance, minimize time of exposure, and use shielding provided by the floorboards of earth-moving equipment to minimize exposure to radioactive materials to site workers.

While there is always the potential for physical injury on a construction site, best safety practices will be adhered to during all work activities. Employees will wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including hard hats, safety glasses, hearing protection, high visibility clothing, proper footwear, Tyvek suits, gloves, respirators, and other equipment as required for the work.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts will be adhered to during site activities:

**Mitigation Measures**

- Assure an adequate thickness for the surface soil material covering waste-rock piles before seeding. The thickness should be adequate to prevent the underlying waste rocks from exposure to the ground surface over time. Through modeling and/or monitoring, evaluate measured uranium and decay product concentrations in waste rocks to determine whether the thickness is sufficient to mitigate potential radiation exposures.

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**4. Hazardous materials and waste generation or management**

- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would waste rock or ore be generated, moved, managed, processed, or reclaimed as a result of the proposed action? *If “yes”, describe how these activities would be performed in compliance with applicable federal, state, or local regulations.*
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action generate, store, treat, transport, or dispose of any federal or state regulated hazardous waste, radioactive waste, or mixed waste (waste that is both hazardous and radioactive)? *If “yes”, describe how waste would be stored, managed, transported, and disposed in compliance with federal, state, or local environmental regulations. Include list of potential waste streams, anticipated volumes, methods of transportation, and expected disposal facilities to be utilized.*
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require the onsite use or storage of radioactive material or regulated hazardous chemicals, hazardous or toxic substances, or extremely hazardous substances? *If “yes”, provide details on the chemical or product and quantities to be used and/or stored.*
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require the use of aboveground storage tanks or underground storage tanks? *If “yes”, provide information regarding the type of tank, product to be stored, and storage capacity.*
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require the use or onsite storage of pesticides, including herbicides? *If “yes”, provide information regarding the type of pesticides/herbicides to be used and how the products would be stored and applied in compliance with applicable federal, state, or local regulations.*
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action have the potential to result in an unplanned or unpermitted release of radioactive materials; hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants; or petroleum or natural gas products to air, land, or water? *If “yes”, identify the source of potential releases and any controls that would be in place to protect the environment from potential releases.*
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action generate solid wastes? *If “yes”, please quantify the amount anticipated and the method of disposal.*
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action have the potential to divert solid wastes, including construction and demolition debris, from landfills through recycling, or reuse? *If “yes”, describe waste streams that could be recycled or reused including type of material and estimated volumes.*
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action result in the need for a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan in accordance with 40 CFR Part 112? *If “yes”, please describe what activities would occur under the proposed action that would necessitate preparation of an SPCC Plan.*

*If you checked “Yes” for any of the above questions, please describe in detail the specified additional information in the comments section below.*

**Comments:**

All performed earthwork on site reclamation as described in the scope above will be done in compliance with all state, local, and federal regulations and in accordance with best construction and reclamation practices. The contractor will be required to have a written Health and Safety Plan (HSP). All materials transported to adjoining Paradox D Patented Lode Mining claim, owned by Gold Eagle Mining, Inc. will be buried and/or secured in a proper and safe manner.

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**5. Water Resources**

In which watershed(s) are the work areas located (check all that apply)?

☒ Upper Dolores    ☐ San Miguel    ☐ Lower Dolores

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Are any surface waters present on or adjacent to the proposed work areas? Surface waters include wetlands; ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial streams; drainage ditches; reservoirs, ponds, or lakes; and seeps or springs).  
*If "yes," describe the type of surface water(s), approximate size, and proximity to the work areas.*

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action result in a discharge of any type of sediment, wastewater, stormwater, pollutant, or contaminant to a sewer system, stormwater system, surface water, or groundwater? Would the size of the planned land disturbance require a stormwater permit? *If "yes," describe the type, estimated quantity, source, and location of discharge and/or land disturbance. Identify any required federal or state permits or notifications to local, state, or federal regulatory agencies. Identify any existing permits or stormwater plans, if applicable.*

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action involve dredging/excavating, filling, or crossing a known or potential Water of the U.S., including wetlands and special aquatic sites? *If "yes," describe the Water of the U.S. or potential Water of the U.S., its proximity to the work areas, and the dredging/excavating or filling activities. Identify any Clean Water Act requirements, including Section 404 permits and Section 401 Water Quality Certifications that may be required. Also include any wetland or ordinary high-water mark delineations or wetland assessments that have been prepared in the past.*

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action affect or take place in a floodplain? *If "yes," describe the floodplain, including its classification if applicable, and indicate whether it is regulated. Include any floodplain assessments that have been prepared in the past. Describe the actions to be taken within the floodplain.*

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action use or treat surface water or groundwater? *If "yes", identify water sources (e.g. mine seeps from shallow aquifers, municipal water supply, Dolores River Basin, Upper Colorado River Basin). Include any water rights that you currently hold or must acquire that would be applicable to the proposed work.*

**Comments:**

All water used will be tracked (dates and volumes) and reported to DOE within two weeks of completing proposed action. Water for fugitive dust control will be sourced from Naturita municipal water. No stormwater permit will be needed as the disturbance area is less than one acre.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

**Compliance Measures**

- Maintain, repair, or replace barriers and sedimentation devices as necessary to ensure no offsite discharge of sediment shall occur.

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

## 6. Natural Resources

- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** With the exception of uranium or vanadium, would the proposed action result in the depletion of other non-renewable natural resources?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would any part of the proposed action involve displacing, removing, controlling, or relocating wildlife (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, and other invertebrates)?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Could the proposed action result in the deterioration, alteration, or destruction of existing habitat for wildlife as described above?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action introduce a barrier to migratory pathways or otherwise impede wildlife movement?
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Does the proposed action include controlling invasive or non-native species (e.g. noxious weeds)? If relevant to the proposed action, please refer to the appropriate mitigations provided in the MAP.
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Have any surveys for plants, wildlife, or habitat been conducted? Are such surveys in progress?

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding, as applicable, the type of natural resources, how planned activities would affect the natural resources, planned mitigative measures including best management practices, and maps showing the location of planned disturbance related to natural resources. As applicable, include reports related to natural resources, including surveys that have been performed.*

### Comments:

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

#### Compliance Measures

- Monitor the area regularly and eradicate invasive species immediately.
- Use DOE-developed seed mixture and weed-free mulch.

#### BMP

- Clean vehicles to avoid introducing weeds.

### Supporting Information:

*Environmental Site Review Gold Eagle Mining Sites (wildlife survey by Real West Natural Resource Consulting) – May 2024*

## 7. Federal or State Listed Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Species

- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Are any species present, or could any species be affected by the work, that are:
- a) Listed or proposed to be listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)?
  - b) Listed as threatened or endangered by the State of Colorado?
  - c) Listed as sensitive (e.g., special status or species of concern) by a federal, state, or tribal government {e.g. U.S. Bureau of Land Management [BLM], U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] Birds of Conservation Concern, Colorado Parks and Wildlife)?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Is designated critical habitat, as defined by the ESA, present on or adjacent to the work areas?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action be conducted in a manner that was not analyzed within the ULP Biological Assessment and associated Biological Opinion?
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in any water depletions to the Upper Colorado River Basin?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action occur on or adjacent to any Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) as defined by the BLM (refer to the ULP PEIS for identification of relevant ACECs near ULP lease tracts)?



☐ Yes ☒ No Have any surveys for listed species been conducted or are in progress?

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding the species and/or habitat present and provide any additional information regarding how planned activities might impact the species. If the proposed action was not evaluated in the ULP PEIS Biological Assessment, please identify that below. If applicable, provide anticipated water volumes to be used (in acre-ft/yr) and the basin from which water would be used. If surveys have been conducted, attach a copy of the report(s).*

***Please note: LM is responsible for determining if the proposed action would require additional consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 of the ESA and would take the lead in all related communication and correspondence.***

**Comments:**

A site survey is being scheduled for the presence of threatened and endangered species on the site. A site-specific environmental site report will be provided upon completion.

The USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation online tool states -

Federally listed species Gray Wolf, Gunnison Sage-grouse, Mexican Spotted Owl, Monarch butterfly, and the Silverspot butterfly are potentially in range of the work area.

USFWS's April 3, 2017, Biological Opinion (BO) stated that Gunnison Sage-grouse could be adversely affected by ULP activities. Gunnison Sage-grouse critical habitat could also be affected, but not by the scope of activities described. The 2017 BO indicated that human activity in sagebrush habitats during sage-grouse breeding season (March 1–July 15) could adversely affect the birds by disrupting mating rituals or attracting ravens, which are nest predators, to an area. However, the site is not within known habitat for the bird.

As best management practice, activities would be avoided in sagebrush habitats during the breeding season. Activities in other habitats (e.g., pinyon juniper woodland) would not be expected to result in significant impacts. Activities with a high potential to disrupt birds (e.g., prolonged use of heavy equipment) in sagebrush habitat during breeding season would require USFWS consultation prior to conducting the activities.

The proposed work could potentially affect milkweed plants, which provide important habitat for monarch butterflies, a federal candidate species. As a best management practice, trimming, crushing, or spraying of milkweed would not be performed during this work. Destruction of other flowering plants would be avoided to protect the Silverspot butterfly. However, activities would not adversely affect the species.

Colorado state listed species and BLM listed sensitive species may also be present at the proposed project locations.

Suitable habitat for other listed species is not present on or in the immediate vicinity of any of the lease features as found in the wildlife report by the consulting agency; therefore, the proposed reclamation will have no effect on the species.

The water for fugitive dust suppression will be sourced from a municipal source, such as Naturita.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

**BMP**

- Avoid unnecessary disturbance or feeding of wildlife. The collection, harassment, or disturbance of wildlife and their habits should be reduced through employee and contractor education about applicable state and Federal laws.
- Relocate wildlife found in harm's way away from the area of the activity when safe to do so.

**Compliance**

- If any Federally listed threatened and endangered species are found during any phase of the project, consult with the USFWS as required by Section 7 of the ESA and determine an appropriate course of action to avoid or mitigate impacts.

**Mitigation**

- Conduct pre-disturbance surveys for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species within all areas that would be disturbed by mining activities. These surveys would be used to determine the presence of sensitive species on the lease tracts and develop the appropriate measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on these species. If sensitive species are located in the area

that might be developed, coordination with the USFWS and CPW would be necessary to determine the appropriate species-specific measures.

- Schedule activities to avoid critical winter ranges for big game (mule deer and elk) when they are heavily used (December 1 through April 15), or utilize compensatory mitigation (e.g., habitat enhancement or replacement) to offset long-term displacement of big game from critical winter ranges. Compensatory mitigation projects may be developed in coordination with CPW.

**Supporting Information:**

*Environmental Site Review Gold Eagle Mining Sites* (wildlife survey by Real West Natural Resource Consulting) – May 2024

**8. Migratory birds breeding or nesting and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act**

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action potentially impact any species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act?

Potential sources of adverse impacts (check all that apply):

- ☒ Sustained or elevated noise or human activity
- ☐ Unmanned aircraft systems
- ☒ Ground disturbance or off-road driving in areas that may contain nests of ground-dwelling species
- ☒ Altering buildings or structures that may contain nests of swallows or similar species
- ☐ Disturbing, trimming, or grubbing vegetation that may contain bird nests
- ☐ Other (please specify)

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action potentially impact any species protected by a conservation agreement?

*If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions or checked any of the above boxes, please provide information as to how migratory birds or bald/golden eagles may be affected by the work, any mitigative measures to be taken to reduce or eliminate impacts (e.g., scheduling work outside of breeding or nesting seasons), any permits to be sought (e.g., for unavoidable take).*

**Comments:**

The project will include heavy earthwork construction and demolition of structures.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

**Compliance**

- Conduct pre-construction raptor nest surveys to ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; follow the recommended buffer zones and seasonal restrictions for Colorado’s raptors. (Recommended Buffer Zones and Seasonal Restrictions for Colorado Raptors 2020)
- Avoid vegetation clearing, grading, and other construction activities during the bird breeding season.
- Use herbicides that have a low toxicity to wildlife and untargeted native plant species, as determined in consultation with the USFWS. Do not use herbicides near or in U.S. waters, including ponds, lakes, streams (intermittent or perennial), and wetlands, unless the herbicide is labeled for such uses. If herbicides are used in or near U.S. waters, the applicator shall ensure that the applications meet the requirements of the EPA’s “Pesticide General Permit for Discharges from the Application of Pesticides.” Determine setback distances in coordination with Federal and state resource management agencies. Before beginning any herbicide treatments, ensure that a qualified biologist has conducted surveys of bird nests and of sensitive species to identify the special measures or BMPs that are necessary to avoid and minimize impacts on migratory birds and sensitive species. The herbicides to be used would be approved by BLM through submission of “Pesticide Use Proposal” forms. The state-, county-, and BLM-listed plant species scheduled for eradication that are found in the project area would be eradicated and reported to BLM through submission of “Pesticide Application Records.”

**Mitigation**

- Schedule activities to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on wildlife. For example, avoid crucial winter ranges, especially during the periods when they are used. If there are plans to conduct activities during bird breeding seasons, a nesting bird survey should be conducted first. If active nests are detected, the nest area should be flagged, and no activity should take place near the nest (at a distance determined in coordination with the USFWS) until nesting is completed (i.e., until nestlings have fledged, or the nest has failed) or until appropriate agencies agree that construction can proceed with the incorporation of agreed-upon monitoring measures. Coordinate the timing of activities with BLM, USFWS, and CPW. Prior to authorization of

ground disturbing activities, a habitat suitability analysis would be done and for habitats found suitable, a protocol survey would be done. If nesting birds are found, seasonal and year-round buffers would be established with USFWS coordination.

The USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation online tool states –

Habitat for Bald and Golden eagles is present within or near the work areas. Also, habitat for the migratory Pinyon Jay is present at the project location. A site visit will be completed to determine whether or not these species are currently in the area (Environmental Site Review Table 6-1).

Other birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act could be present. Mechanically cutting vegetation or using equipment that disturbs the soil surface could disturb migratory birds, nests, or eggs. If active nests are discovered in the project area, work would pause and the ULP Program Manager, or their delegate, will contact USFWS for appropriate mitigation measures before work may continue.

**Supporting Information:**

*Environmental Site Review Gold Eagle Mining Sites* (wildlife survey by Real West Natural Resource Consulting) – May 2024

**9. Historical, archeological or cultural resources**

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action require any ground disturbing activity?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in any physical modification of existing facilities?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action result in any adverse effects on historical property, cultural resources, archeological sites, or properties of religious or cultural significance?

*If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions or checked any of the above boxes, please provide information regarding the resources present, potential for impacts, and any mitigative actions that could be applied to reduce adverse effects.*

***Please note: Per the ULP PEIS Programmatic Agreement (PA), LM, in coordination with BLM, is responsible for determining if the proposed action is a surface disturbing activity that would require a Class III cultural resources inventory. LM and BLM will handle all Section 106 consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and will lead all correspondence with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).***

**Comments:**

The project will reclaim disturbed mine sites through excavation and removal of existing structures. The land is pre-disturbed land, disturbed since the 1960's when the mine was developed. No disturbance to undisturbed land is anticipated.

The headframe and associated structures are of historical importance and are to remain on site as previously described.

A Class III cultural resources survey was conducted prior to reclamation activities. The survey resulted in the recording of Joe Dandy Mine, which has been recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The recording archaeologists recommended that in order for the site to remain eligible, features 1 (the head frame) and 2 (the hoist house) should be avoided during reclamation activities.

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

**Compliance**

- Assure that all activities comply with Section 106 of the NHPA.
- Assure that all individuals performing cultural resources management tasks and services meet the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation.
- Identify through searches of records, field surveys, and consultation with tribes, as necessary, all cultural resources in the area of potential effects and evaluate them for eligibility for inclusion on the NRHP.

**Mitigation**

- Prior to any surface-disturbing activity, the lessee shall perform cultural and historic surveys of the proposed area of disturbance and provide results of such surveys to LM and BLM. If cultural or historic resources are found to exist, the lessee shall consult with LM, BLM, and the State Historic Preservation Officer to determine the appropriate measures to take. If required, the lessee shall prepare a mitigation plan to address the protection of the cultural or historic resources.
- Immediately notify the BLM authorized officer of any paleontological resources discovered as a result of mining activities so that appropriate measures to mitigate adverse effects to significant paleontological resources can be determined and implemented. Operations may continue if activities can avoid further impacts on the fossil discovery or can be continued elsewhere.

**Supporting Information:**

*A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Gold Eagle Uranium Lease Areas in Montrose and San Miguel Counties, Colorado*  
(Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.) – August 2024

**10. Tribal Resources**

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Does the proposed action have the potential to disrupt access to or the use of resources that are important to Tribal/Native Americans?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Does the proposed action take place in or near an area where important Tribal/Native American resources are known to exist?

*If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions or checked any of the above boxes, please provide information regarding the resources present, potential for impacts, and specifics regarding the Native American tribes that could potentially be impacted. Native American tribes may have historical affiliation with areas surrounding the lease tracts and therefore, interest in how the proposed action could affect tribal resources.*

***Please note: Per the ULP PEIS PA, LM, will consult with applicable Tribes to determine if (1) there are properties of religious and cultural significance that were not previously identified or considered in surveys or related NHPA Section 106 reviews, as appropriate and (2) if present, determine if these properties would be potentially impacted by the proposed undertaking. LM will be responsible for all communication and coordination with the Colorado SHPO and relevant Tribes.***

**Comments:**

N/A

**Supporting Information:**

During previous LM Section 106 consultations with Tribes with historic affiliation and interest in the area have not expressed that important tribal resources exist in the area.

**11. Geology and Soils**

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action result in any displacement, compaction, or over-covering of soil?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in permanent change in topography or ground surface relief features?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action increase water or wind erosion of soil during construction or operation?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action require any ground disturbing activity?

*If “yes”, please describe how much total acreage would be disturbed from all components of the proposed action (e.g., 1 acre or more, 5 acres or more, etc.).*

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Are erosion control measures planned?

- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in the installation or deployment of equipment outdoors, including in the area of disturbance?
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Would the proposed action result in any physical modification of existing facilities or construction of new facilities or infrastructure?
- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Have any drilling, mining, or reclamation related permits been obtained or are otherwise required as a result of the proposed action?

*If “yes”, provide DOE with copies of permits*

- ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** Have any land disturbance, grading, or other construction permits been obtained or are otherwise required as a result of the proposed action?

*If “yes”, provide DOE with copies of permits.*

*If you checked “Yes” for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding, associated activities and mitigative controls, and provide documentation of reports (e.g. geotechnical reports), plans (e.g. erosion and sediment control plans), permits, if applicable.*

**Comments:**

The land is pre-disturbed ground, disturbed since the 1960’s when the mine was developed. This project is to reclaim disturbances due to past mining practices. The project will include regrading of approximately 0.3 acres of disturbed ground left due to past mining practices, resulting in improvement in permanent topography. This will be completed through the use of earth moving equipment. Erosion control measures include regrading and revegetation of the disturbed areas. The sites will be revegetated upon completion of reclamation work to achieve stable reclamation surfaces.

Heavy equipment will be utilized for the grading and the demolition of structures.

The reclamation activities proposed on this site are permitted with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS).

Per the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), the following measures to minimize environmental impacts would be adhered to during site activities:

**Compliance Measures**

- Retain sediment-laden waters from disturbed areas with the lease tract through the use of barriers and sedimentation devices (e.g., berms, straw bales, sandbags, jute netting, or silt fences) as necessary.
- Maintain, repair, or replace barriers and sedimentation devices as necessary to ensure optimum control.
- As sedimentation ponds are cleaned, test sediments and precipitates for proper disposal.
- Identify surface water runoff patterns at the mine site and develop mitigation that prevents soil deposition and erosion throughout and downhill from the site; potential adverse impacts could be minimized by incorporating erosion-control techniques such as water bars, weed-free hay bales and silt fences, vegetation, erosion-control fabric, temporary detention basins, and land contours in the construction design.
- If weeds develop on reclaimed surface, assure that herbicides used meet the specifications and standards of BLM and county weed control staff.
- Use DOE-developed seed mixture.
- Monitor seeded areas for some period following seeding to ensure vegetation is reestablished.

**Mitigation**

- Recontour soil borrow areas and cut and fill slopes, berms, water-bars, and other disturbed areas to approximate naturally occurring slopes.
- Mine waste-rock will be graded to create a gently sloping (more stable) surface.
- Place topsoil over the top of disturbed areas and seed (e.g., by broadcast or drill seeder).
- Reestablish the original grade and drainage pattern of all disturbed areas before final reclamation to the extent practicable.
- Use existing roads and disturbed areas (and transport ROWs) to the extent possible (before constructing new roads or disturbing new areas).
- Obtain borrow materials from authorized or permitted sites.

**BMP**

- Use wattles or other appropriate materials to reduce potential for sediment transport off the site.

- Identify local factors that cause slope instability (e.g., slope angles, precipitation) and avoid areas with unstable slopes.
- Conduct routine inspections to assess effectiveness and maintenance requirements for erosion and sediment control systems.
- Inspect and clean tires of all vehicles to ensure they are free of dirt before they enter paved public roadways to the extent practical.
- Seed soil stockpiles to minimize erosion and growth of weeds..
- Perform scarification methods with a motor grader or agricultural equipment, such as a chisel plow, as necessary, to abandoned roads and areas no longer needed to alleviate soil compaction.
- Minimize the duration of ground-disturbing activities, especially during periods of heavy rainfall.
- Employ measures to limit exposure to wind and water during the activity.
- Limit access to disturbed areas and staging areas to authorized vehicles traveling only on designated (dust-stabilized) roads.
- Test for agronomic nutrient profile to determine whether amendments are needed to establish vegetation before final reclamation.

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**12. Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice, and Children's Health**

- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action have any adverse effects on the local community, employment, population, or fiscal activities?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action have disproportionate effects to low-income or minority populations in accordance with Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action result in disproportionate environmental health risks and safety risks to children in accordance with Executive Order 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health and Safety Risks*?

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding, the specified additional information.*

**Comments:**

Enter text

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**13. Transportation**

- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require transportation of U.S. Department of Transportation hazardous materials (e.g., explosives, gases, flammable materials, poisonous materials, radioactive materials, corrosive materials, other) along a roadway, over rail, etc.?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require substantial use of existing roads, change in traffic patterns, or require the construction of new roads or access?
- ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would any temporary or permanent haul roads or access roads be constructed?

*If "yes", please provide a map showing the location of the road, the types of vehicles that would use the road, and the anticipated frequency of use.*

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action require any haul permits or other transportation-related permits (e.g. county-issued Special Use Permit)?

*If so, provide DOE with copies of permits.*

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding (1) the roadway(s) that would be impacted, (2) identification of materials that would be transported (3) construction parameters of any new roadways including length/width, (4) any required permits.*

**Comments:**

Enter text

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**14. Land Use, Recreation, and Visual Resources**

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action be located near any residences or Specially Designated Areas and Lands With Wilderness Characteristics on Public Lands as described in the Volume I of the ULP PEIS (see Sections 3.7 and 3.12)?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action impact existing or result in new utility lines or rights-of-way?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action result in any change in land use designation?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action be located near any Special Visual Resource Area as defined in Volume I of the ULP PEIS (see Section 3.12)?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** Would the proposed action introduce changes to the viewshed or the lightscape of the night sky?

*If you checked "Yes" for any of these questions, provide details in the comments section below regarding the specified additional information.*

**Comments:**

The proposed action will reclaim disturbances due to past mining practices.

**Supporting Information:**

Enter text

**SECTION V. SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS  
(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LESSEE)**

Using the table below, please provide a summary of all anticipated regulatory requirements identified in this checklist (including permits, surveys, management plans, consultation/coordination requirements, etc.).

**Anticipated Environmental Requirements (Focused on Section IV)**

Checklist Section	Regulatory Requirement	Applicable Regulatory Agency	Time Frame
Example – Section IV (5) – Water Resources	Example – Wetland Assessment Required	Example – United States Army Corps of Engineers	Minimum Timeframe for completion (e.g., 90 days)
Enter text	Enter text	Enter text	Enter text
Enter text	Enter text	Enter text	Enter text
Enter text	Enter text	Enter text	Enter text

Enter text	Enter text	Enter text	Enter text
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## SECTION VI. LESSEE CERTIFICATION

By signing below, the Lessee certifies that the information provided in this checklist is accurate and complete as of the date shown below and understands that false statements or misrepresentations may result in civil and/or criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C 1001.

**Lessee:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and date

## SECTION VII. LEGACY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT (LMS)/LM APPROVAL.

This form is not complete until all necessary signatures are applied. Signatures may be electronic or handwritten.

**LMS ULP Lead:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and date

**LM ULP Manager:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and date

**LMS Environmental Compliance:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and date

**LMS NEPA Coordinator:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and date

## SECTION VIII. LM NEPA DETERMINATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY LM)

I hereby certify that I have reviewed the information provided in this checklist, have determined that all questions have been appropriately answered, and judge the responses to be consistent with the efforts proposed. Based on the information in the checklist, I conclude the following (check the appropriate box):

- ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** The proposed action falls under one or more of the categorical exclusions (CXs) listed in Appendix A or B of Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures (10 CFR 1021) and would not (1) violate applicable Environmental Safety & Health requirements (2) require siting of waste transportation, storage, and disposal or recovery facilities, (3) disturb hazardous substances (excluding naturally occurring petroleum and natural gas), thus producing uncontrolled or unpermitted releases, and (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

Additionally, the proposed action (1) would not present any extraordinary circumstances, such that the action might have a significant impact upon the human environment, (2) is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts, and (3) is not related to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts.

- ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** The proposed action is related to a Mining Plan and subsequently, an Environmental Assessment (EA) (at a minimum) must be prepared in accordance with the 2014 Final ULP PEIS and associated Record of Decision.

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** The proposed action does not qualify for CX as identified in Subpart D of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures; therefore, the proposed action may require further documentation in the form of an EA or EIS

**LM NEPA Compliance Officer:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature and date



## **Appendix JD-5 Environmental Checklist**



**JD-5 Headframe and Adjoining Buildings  
(To Remain as Culturally Significant Historical Structure)**





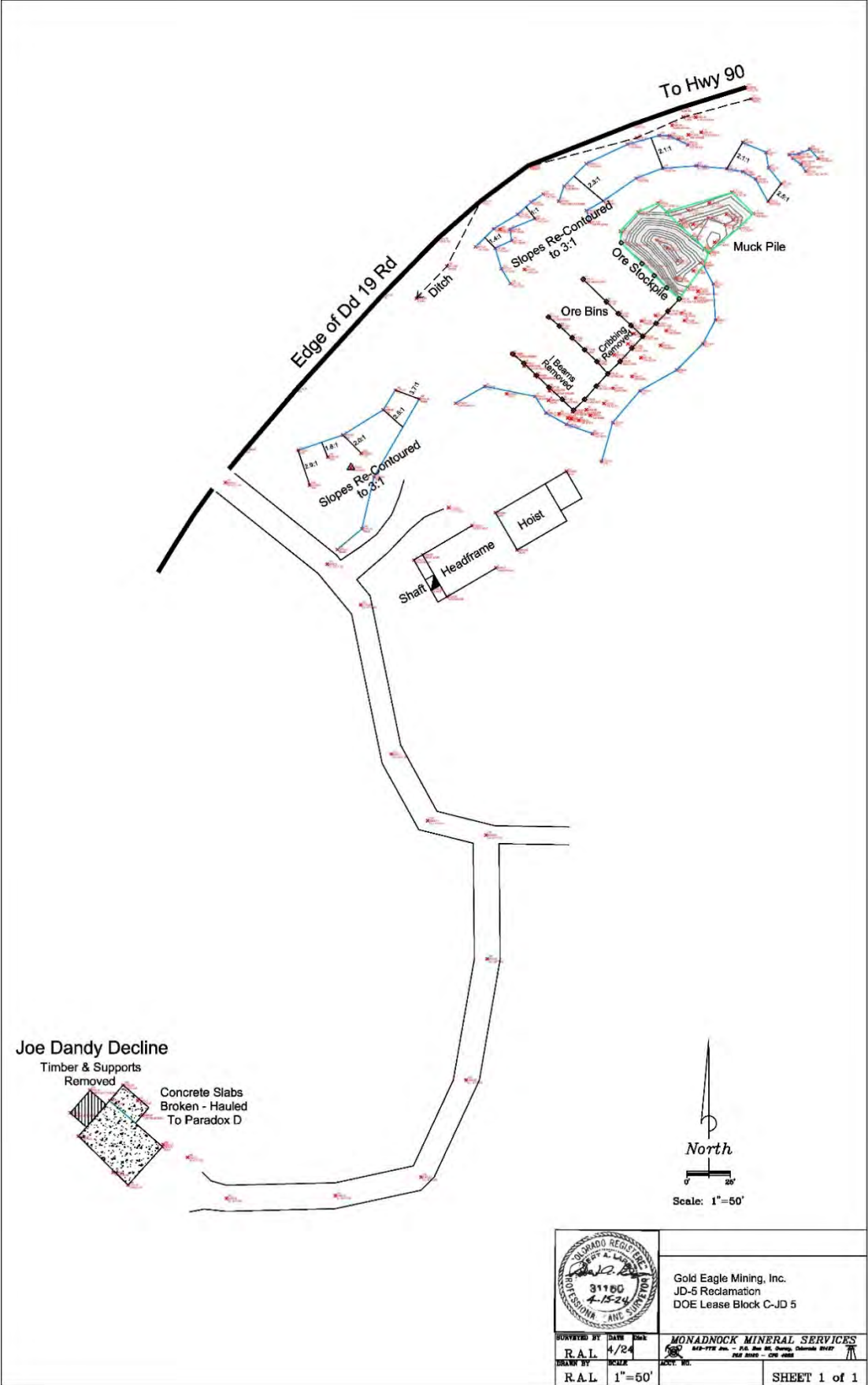
**JD-5 Ore Bin Area**





**Joe Dandy Slab & Structure**

JD-5 Updated Reclamation Plan





# Gold Eagle Mining, Inc.

845E Main Street<sup>N</sup> Montrose, CO

970-249-0401' Fax 970-29-3292

November 29, 2023

Vince Beresford

Bureau of Land Management Uncompahgre

Field Office

2465 South Townsend Avenue

Montrose, CO 81401

Subject: Concerning Structure for Cultural

Resources Mr. Beresford:

I am contacting you regarding listing structures on Cultural Resources designation for structures on the JD -5 mine at 30319 DD 19 Road, Naturita, CO. Attached is a Technical Revision, dated July 31, 2013. On page 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, it refers to a "BLM recommendation that the BLM has recommended in 1994 that some mining features are of historical significance. Accordingly, the steel headframe and man-skip should be retained on site at Final Reclamation as a matter of historical significance."

This may very well be the largest headframe and hoist assembly in the continental United States. Acknowledging that it currently is 3 years below the 50-year qualification, but does fit under the uniqueness waiver, I would contend that the hoist house and hoist assembly should be considered. This property is part of the Uranium Leasing Program and the lease itself is beyond the 50-year window.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Don Coram", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Don Coram

Gold Eagle Mining, Inc.

Sent by US Mail and electronically.