

DOE-ID NEPA CX DETERMINATION
Idaho National Laboratory

SECTION A. Project Title: BLM Access Roads Repairs R1

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The access areas near Mays Ranch, and those immediately surrounding them, are most often used by BLM grazing permittees to access established grazing allotments on the INL. These access areas have been degraded by frequent off-road vehicle use and need to be repaired to maintain acceptable access. Repairs will include stabilizing the areas with soil/fill material where off-road vehicle use has occurred, adding gravel to portions of the road that have been rutted, and establish/stabilize clear access points in the problem areas to prevent future ground disturbing off-road vehicle use. Signs and fencing may be added as necessary. See Figure 1 and 2 for project locations.

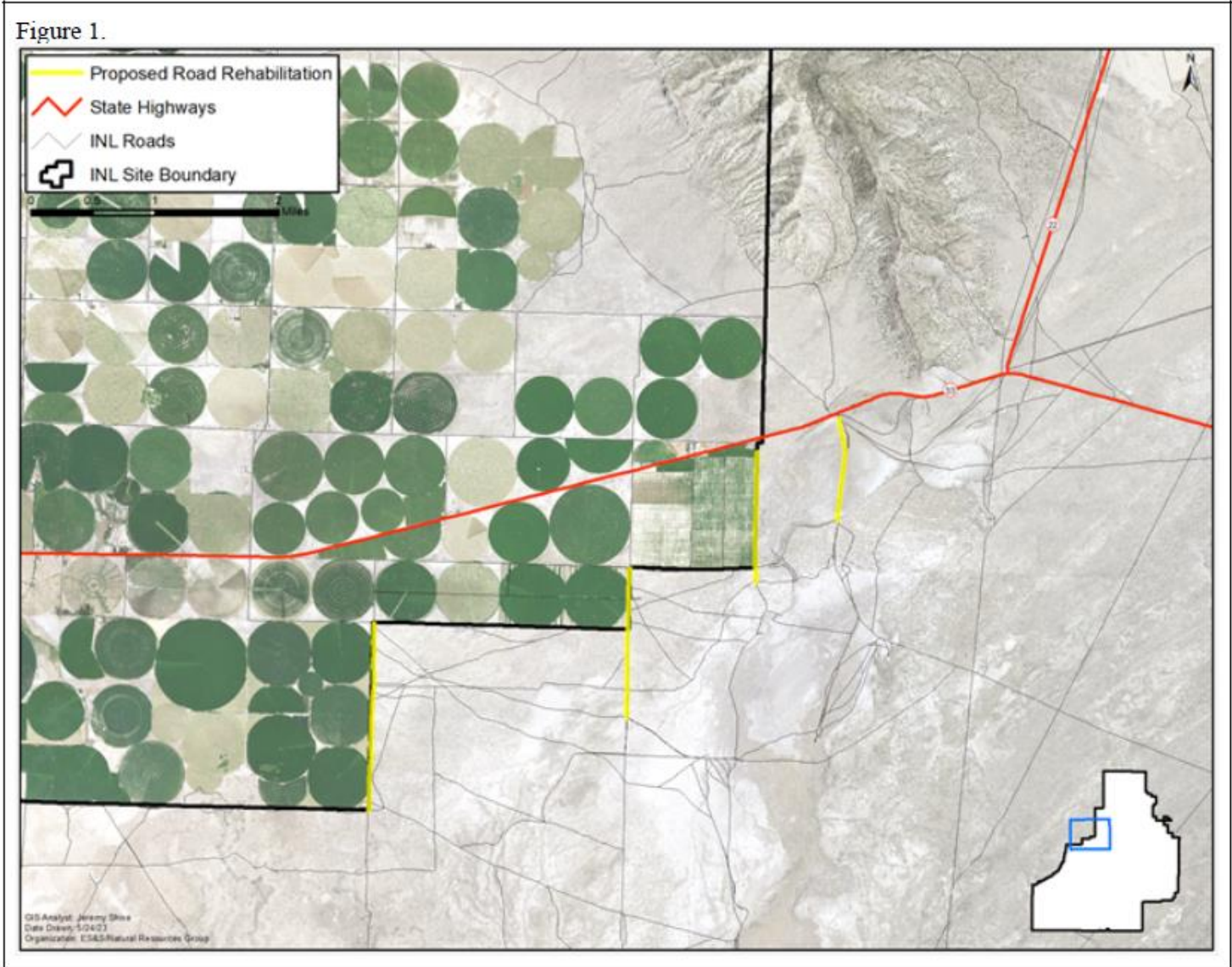
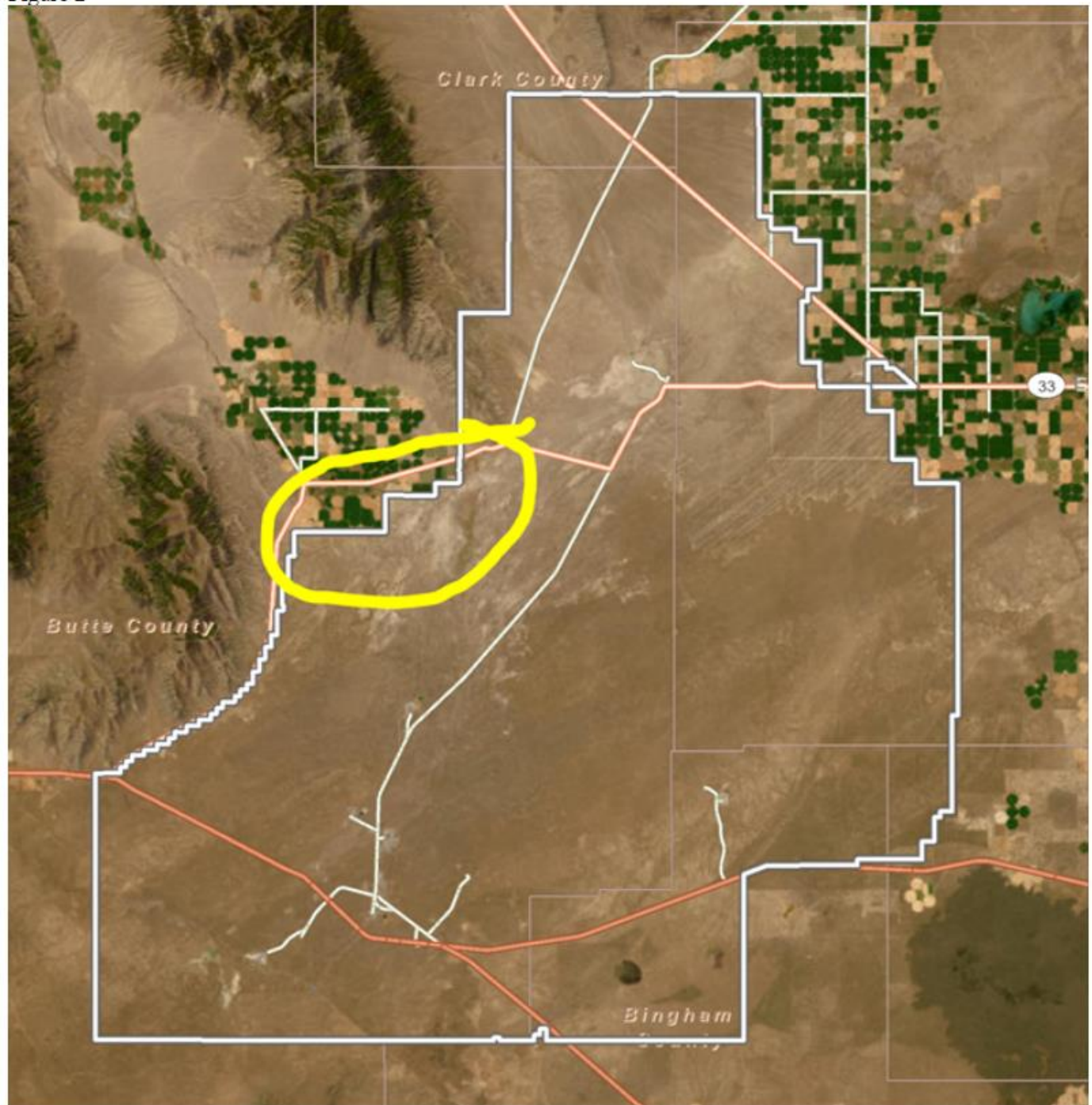


Figure 2



ORIGINAL ECP SCOPE

The access areas of Lava Ridge Roads and Kyle Canyon/Juniper Ridge Road, and areas immediately surrounding them, are most often used by BLM grazing permittees to access established grazing allotments on the INL. These access areas have been degraded by frequent off-road vehicle use and need to be repaired to maintain acceptable access. Repairs will include stabilizing the areas with soil/fill material where off-road vehicle use has occurred, adding gravel to portions of the road that have been rutted, and establish/stabilize clear access points in the problem areas to prevent future ground

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disturbing off-road vehicle use. Signs and fencing may be added as necessary. See Figure 1 and 2 for project locations.
Figure 1. Project location in reference to the INL.

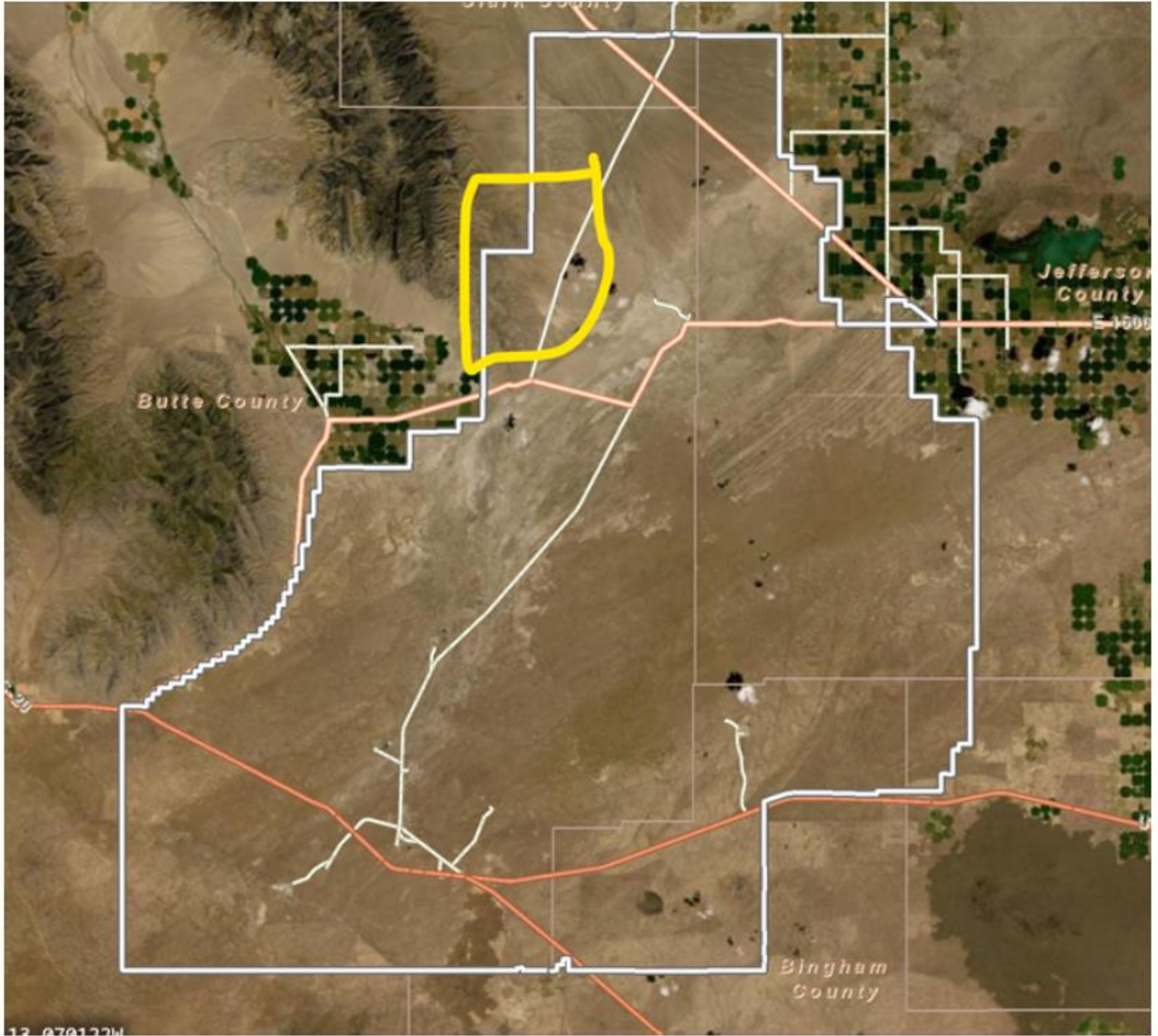
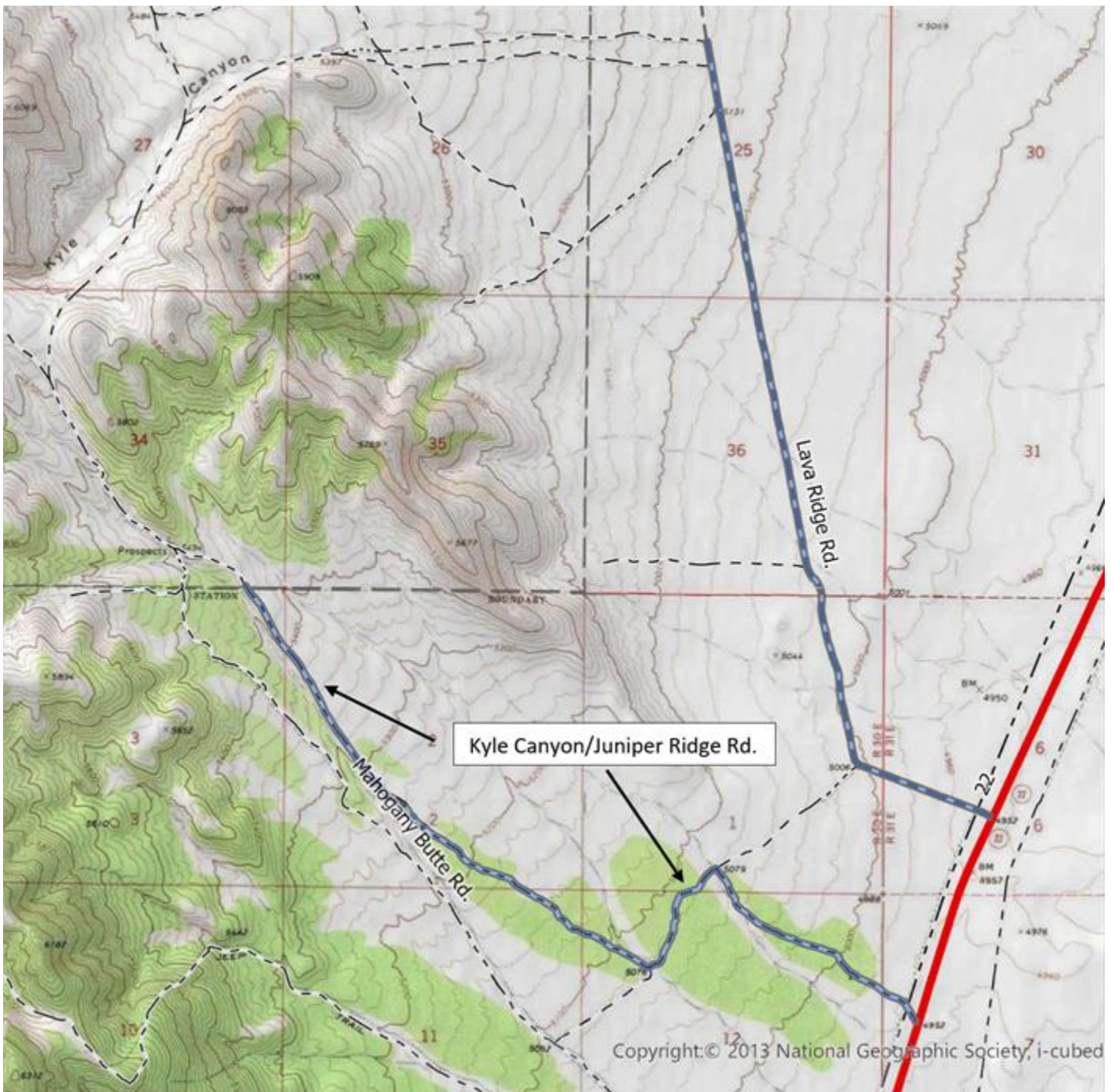


Figure 2. Locations of Lava Ridge and Kyle Canyon/Juniper Ridge Roads



SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions

Fugitive dust may be generated during ground disturbance activities

Discharging to Surface-, Storm-, or Ground Water

Projects that are located within the boundaries of the storm water corridor are considered to have reasonable potential to discharge to “Waters of the U.S.”. Portions of this project may be located within the storm water corridor. If more than one acre within the storm water corridor will be disturbed, then an Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) storm water construction general permit (CGP) would be required.

A CGP requires best management practices (BMPs) to reduce the sediment and other pollutants discharged in storm

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water. It also requires periodic inspection of construction projects by persons knowledgeable about erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources

There is the potential for this work to impact vegetation and for project personnel to interact with various wildlife species. A Biological Resource Review will be arranged within two weeks prior to the initiation of any activities that might disturb soil or vegetation and again following completion of project activities. A nesting bird survey is included with the Biological Resource Review for actions occurring between April 1 - October 1 per compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Bat surveys are also included with the Biological Resource Review in accordance with the INL Bat Protection Plan.

Project activities such as vehicle traffic and grading have the potential to disturb cultural and biological resources.

Cultural: A Section 106 review has been initiated under project number BEA-23-15 but has not been finalized. However, following the cultural resource specific conditions provided under Hold Points, it is anticipated the undertaking will result in no historic properties affected. Project activities involve ground disturbance within or adjacent to potential historic properties. On-site monitoring during those activities by an INL CRMO archaeologist or other individual designated by the INL CRMO is required. Please refer to Hold Points for more details.

Generating and Managing Waste

NA

Releasing Contaminants

Although it is unlikely, there is the potential for spilling during re-fueling activities or spills from vehicle failure.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources

NA

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SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification: Identify the applicable categorical exclusion from 10 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 1021, Appendix B, give the appropriate justification, and the approval date.

For Categorical Exclusions (CXs), the proposed action must not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environmental, safety, and health, or similar requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not "connected" to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

References:

B1.3 "Routine maintenance"

Justification:

Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-way, infrastructures (including, but not limited to, pathways, roads, and railroads), vehicles and equipment, and localized vegetation and pest control, during which operations may be suspended and resumed, provided that the activities would be conducted in a manner in accordance with applicable requirements. Custodial services are activities to preserve facility appearance, working conditions, and sanitation (such as cleaning, window washing, lawn mowing, trash collection, painting, and snow removal). Routine maintenance activities, corrective (that is, repair), preventive, and predictive, are required to maintain and preserve buildings, structures, infrastructures, and equipment in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designated purpose. Such maintenance may occur as a result of severe weather (such as hurricanes, floods, and tornados), wildfires, and other such events. Routine maintenance may result in replacement to the extent that replacement is in-kind and is not a substantial upgrade or improvement. In-kind replacement includes installation of new components to replace outmoded components, provided that the replacement does not result in a significant change in the expected useful life, design capacity, or function of the facility. Routine maintenance does not include replacement of a major component that significantly extends the originally intended useful life of a facility (for example, it does not include the replacement of a reactor vessel near the end of its useful life). Routine maintenance activities include, but are not limited to: (a) Repair or replacement of facility equipment, such as lathes, mills, pumps, and presses; (b) Door and window repair or replacement; (c) Wall, ceiling, or floor repair or replacement; (d) Reroofing; (e) Plumbing, electrical utility, lighting, and telephone service repair or replacement; (f) Routine replacement of high-efficiency particulate air filters; (g) Inspection and/or treatment of currently installed utility poles; (h) Repair of road embankments; (i) Repair or replacement of fire protection sprinkler systems; (j) Road and parking area resurfacing, including construction of temporary access to facilitate resurfacing, and scraping and grading of unpaved surfaces; (k) Erosion control and soil stabilization measures (such as reseeding, gabions, grading, and revegetation); (l) Surveillance and maintenance of surplus facilities in accordance with DOE Order 435.1, "Radioactive Waste Management," or its successor; (m) Repair and maintenance of transmission facilities, such as replacement of conductors of the same nominal voltage, poles, circuit breakers, transformers, capacitors, crossarms, insulators, and downed powerlines, in accordance, where appropriate, with 40 CFR part 761 (Polychlorinated Biphenyls Manufacturing, Processing, Distribution in Commerce, and Use Prohibitions) or its successor; (n) Routine testing and calibration of facility components, subsystems, or portable equipment (such as control valves, in-core monitoring devices, transformers, capacitors, monitoring wells, lysimeters, weather stations, and flumes); (o) Routine decontamination of the surfaces of equipment, rooms, hot cells, or other interior surfaces of buildings (by such activities as wiping with rags, using strippable latex, and minor vacuuming), and removal of contaminated intact equipment and other material (not including spent nuclear fuel or special nuclear material in nuclear reactors); and (p) Removal of debris.'

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) Yes No

Approved by Jason L. Anderson, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 8/7/2023