

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
 NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION NEVADA FIELD OFFICE
 NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION CHECKLIST**

NV-2017-022

FOLLOW ATTACHED PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETING CHECKLIST				Date April 4, 2017			
A. Project/Activity Title (Attach a brief description of proposed project) RSL Helicopter Wildland Fire Bucket Training				Anticipated Start Date April 4, 2017			
Project Location NNSS, Area 22		Proposed By (if other than NNSA/NFO)					
NNSA/NFO Line Management Organization		NNSA/NFO Project/Program Manager Les Winfield					
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS: If any phase of the project/activity involves any of the following considerations, check yes and explain in project description. See NFO-16A for consideration guidelines and examples.							
CONSIDERATION	YES	NO	UNK	CONSIDERATION	YES	NO	UNK
WASTE				AIR EMISSIONS			
1. Non-Rad Solid Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Chemical Release	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Hazardous Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Dust/Particulate Matter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Low-Level Rad Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Mixed Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Diesel Generators	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. TRU/Mixed TRU Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Open Burning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Wastewater (domestic/industrial)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS				SITE LOCATION/OTHER			
1. Petroleum/Fuel Storage/Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Environmental Restoration Site (CAU)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Underground Storage Tanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Excavation/Land Surface Disturbance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Aboveground Storage Tanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Off Road Travel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. PCBs/Asbestos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Biological/Tortoise Resource Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Pesticides/Herbicides	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Cultural/Historic Resource Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Radioactive Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Change in Existing Drainage Pattern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Biological Materials/Simulants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Impact to Environmental Monitoring System	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Beryllium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Unexploded Ordnance Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Chemical Storage/Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Noise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Use of Explosives/Firearms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Radiation Controlled Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				11. Drinking Water System Involvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DO NOT TYPE OR WRITE BELOW THIS LINE. FOR NEPA COMPLIANCE OFFICER USE ONLY.							
B. Is the project/activity included in the final NNS SWEIS and the ROD or other NEPA document? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (complete Sections C, D, and F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (complete Sections D, E, and F)							
C. This project/activity is included in the NNS SWEIS/ROD (or other NEPA document) under the following section and page number:							
D. Does the proposed project/activity require any local, state, or federal permits or notifications? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No							
E. If, based on the project description and the preliminary environmental considerations noted above, the proposed action fits within a class of action listed in Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021, write in the space below the paragraph number and short title from the appropriate table of contents of Subpart D, Appendix B, C, or D, for a CX, EA, or EIS. If the proposed action does not fit within any class of action, write "Not Listed" below. 10 CFR 1021: B1.2 Training exercises and simulations							
F. NEPA COMPLIANCE OFFICER DETERMINATION OR RECOMMENDATION: I have determined that the proposed action as described in Item A has been adequately analyzed and meets the requirements for categorical exclusion under the citation in Item E. No further analysis or documentation is required pursuant to NEPA. Any changes or additions to this proposed action will require additional NEPA review.							
					4/4/2017 Date		
_____ NNSA/NFO NEPA Compliance Officer							

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Project Description:

The Remote Sensing Laboratory (RSL) in North Las Vegas, Nevada needs a place to conduct helicopter training for fighting wildfires. Training would be conducted in Area 22 at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). RSL pilots would train for fighting wildfires by practicing loading and releasing 100 – 300 gallon buckets of water suspended from helicopters. Helicopters would take off and land from Desert Rock Airport (DRA) in Area 22. The helicopters would fly up to an altitude of approximately 1,000 feet, but the water would most likely be dropped at a lower altitude, e.g. approximately 500 feet. The water reservoir would be maintained at Desert Rock Airport by NNSS Fire and Rescue.

Approximately one dozen releases would take place within Area 22 in unpopulated, open desert areas, on flat areas as well as hillsides. No infrastructure or workers would be affected. Activities would take place over several days. This training would be a recurring activity.

Area 22 is located in desert tortoise habitat. It was determined by the Ecological & Environmental Monitoring Department that the training activities would not affect biological resources, including the desert tortoise.

Environmental Considerations:

Hazardous Materials:

Petroleum/Fuel Storage/Use:

Helicopters would be fueled by jet fuel (Jet A fuel). They would be fueled at DRA. Fire extinguishers and spill kits would be available, as required.

Site Location/Other:

Noise:

Helicopter operations would generate noise. Personnel directly involved would wear appropriate hearing protection.

Drinking Water System Involvement:

Water to be used for the training exercises would be obtained from the drinking water system via the fire hydrant at Desert Rock Airport.