

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

NV-2017-032

Project Description:

The purpose of this project is to create or widen existing turnaround areas that are located mainly in remote areas of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Access to and quick egress from areas are needed by firemen when fighting wildfires. Also, roads leading to remotely located diesel-fired backup generators for communications towers are often used by heavy equipment during repair and maintenance activities. Heavy equipment and fire trucks need additional turn-around space. Examples include DOE Point (Area 12), Echo Peak (Area 19) and Shoshone Peak (Area 29)—all of these sites house communications equipment having backup diesel-fired generators. These roads would also be used as needed by the firefighters.

Turnaround areas would be created at previously disturbed road junctions, if possible, in order to minimize disruption to undisturbed areas. Other types of previously disturbed areas, such as pushouts (where excess material was previously pushed out of the way), would also be used if possible. The turnaround areas would be approximately 45 feet in diameter.

Sites in addition to DOE Point (Area 12), Echo Peak (Area 19), and Shoshone Peak (Area 29) may be identified in the future. Biological and cultural resource clearances would be obtained, and documentation would be added to this NEPA Checklist before ground-disturbing activities occur.

Environmental Considerations:

Hazardous Materials:

H-1: Petroleum/Fuel Storage/Use – Diesel and/or gasoline would be used to fuel heavy equipment used to create turnaround areas. No fuel would be stored on site. Any spills would be cleaned up.

Air Emissions:

A-2: Dust/Particulate Matter – Dust would be generated during clearing and grading activities. Water sprays would be used as necessary to control the dust.

Site Location/Other:

S-2: Excavation/Land Surface Disturbance – Surface disturbances would occur during creation of the turnaround areas and would consist of clearing and grading activities. Disturbances to previously undisturbed land would be avoided as much as possible.

S-4: Biological/Tortoise Resource Area – As indicated on the attached Form 0901 for Echo Peak and Shoshone Peak, biological surveys will need to be conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur.

Any additional turnaround locations will require clearance from an approved biologist before ground-disturbing activities begin. Documentation of the biological clearance will be added to this Checklist.

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

S-5: Cultural/Historic Resource Area -- Cultural resources surveys for Echo Peak and Shoshone Peak did not identify any historic or prehistoric properties within the project area. Therefore, no cultural resources would be affected by project activities at the Echo Peak and Shoshone Peak turnaround locations.

For any additional turnaround locations, a Form 0901A will be submitted and any necessary surveys would be conducted prior to ground-disturbing activities. If cultural resources are identified within the project area, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office would be required. Work would not start until cleared and approved by cultural resource personnel and, if applicable, the consultation process is complete.

If cultural resources or human remains are encountered during project activities, work in the immediate vicinity would be halted, the immediate vicinity of the resources would be secured, and the DOE/NNSS site contact would be notified.

S-9: Noise – Elevated noise levels would result from operation of heavy equipment during clearing and grading activities. Hearing protection would be provided as needed.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE
WORKSHEET

Name: Kevin Olsen Phone No.: 5-65551
Organization: Roads & Grounds, Waste and Water GR20 Date: 11/18/15
Project or Activity Name: Echo Point and Shoshone Turnarounds
NEPA checklist: IN Progress REOP: Primary NSTEC-279 Secondary N/A
Exec Plans (FEP/SEP/PEP): N/A Work Package: _____
Funding Source (Account/Charge Number): V17MVEGT

Proposed Start Date: 2/15/17 Proposed Completion Date: 2/30/17
Point of Contact: Kevin Olsen 5-6551
Name Phone

- Project Description** Attachment must describe all activities anticipated during construction, operation, remediation and cleanup, e.g. vegetation removal, soil movement and compaction, ground vibration, off-road driving, road construction, including turn-outs, borrow pits, sumps, any facilities that are to be built, any structures or buildings that are to be removed or demolished, chemical, biological or radionuclide releases planned, radiation generating equipment used, etc.
- Maps, Drawings and Photographs** Attach documents showing location and layout of project or activity
- Boundary Coordinates** Preferably UTM's in NAD83 for project or activity boundaries
- Field Boundary Markings** - Describe how project boundaries are marked in the field. If project/activity is in desert tortoise habitat, the maximum extent of area that will be disturbed must be flagged.
Grade at Echo and Shoshone Peak to make 45 foot turnaround. See attached picture

TO BE COMPLETED BY BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT

- Project **WILL NOT** impact biological resources.
- Project **WILL** impact biological resources. To comply with laws protecting biological resources the following actions are required:
Biologist will mark areas not impacted
A biological survey is required before work begins at both sites.

Signed: Derek B. Hall
Biological Resource Subject Matter Expert
Derek B. Hall

5-0364

Printed Name: Kevin Olsen Phone: 5-6551

SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH ALL ATTACHMENTS TO:
Ecological and Environmental Monitoring @ MS NNSS-273, fax 295-3069, or e-mail ostlerwk@nv.doe.gov
Please contact Kent Ostler (295-0393) or Derek Hall (295-0364) with questions.
(Reference CD-P420.001)