



File Code: 2810

Date: July 7, 2009

Dear Interested Party:

The Tonopah Ranger District has received a Plan of Operations from Round Mountain Gold Corporation (RMGC) to conduct exploratory drilling in the Toquima Range on National Forest System lands in Sections 2, 3, 4, and 9 of T7N, R43E, and in Section 33, T8N, R43E, Nye County, Nevada. The proposed Plan of Operations (POO #04-09-003) is the "Barrel Springs Exploration Project".

Proposed Action: RMGC proposes drilling up to 19 drill holes in the Barrel Springs project area. Access to the project area will be by the Big Smoky Valley highway (State. Rt. 376) to south of Manhattan and then eastward into the project area on existing roads. In addition, approximately 3,875-feet of new road construction, and approximately 4,870-feet of overland travel will be used to access all drill sites. Drilling will be conducted using either a tracked reverse circulation drill rig, or articulated drill rig, supported with a water and pipe truck and 4-whl drive pickup trucks for drilling personnel. New roads and all sumps will be constructed with one D6 bulldozer and one backhoe. Total surface disturbance including drill pads, sumps, and new roads will be approximately 3.5 acres. Reclamation work would consist of plugging all holes to State of Nevada standards and completing seasonal maintenance/reclamation of other newly disturbed areas as necessary. Final reclamation would consist of plugging all drill holes to State of Nevada standards, filling-in and recontouring all drill pads, mud pits, and new road construction, then raking and seeding with an approved native weed-free seed mixture.

Preliminary Issues and Concerns: No issues or concerns have been identified upon initial review of the project. An archaeological survey and a survey for any Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive plant and animal species (Biological Assessment and Evaluation) will be required.

Preliminary Alternatives: No alternatives to the proposed action, other than the No Action alternative, have been identified at this time.

Most of the area of the proposed project has been classified with a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum of Semi Primitive Motorized and a Visual Quality Objective of Partial Retention. The remainder of the project area has a Recreation Opportunity Spectrum of Semi Primitive Non-Motorized, and a Visual Quality Objective of Retention. No roadless issues are involved.

A general location map is included for your information. Site-specific maps may be considered confidential, as outlined in 36 CFR 228.6. Comments submitted, as well as the names and addresses of those who comment, are considered part of the public record and will be released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Your comments are welcome and encouraged. Please be sure to comment by **August 8, 2009**. Direct comments to: **District Ranger, Tonopah Ranger District, P.O. Box 3940, Tonopah, NV 89049**. You may contact Jim Rigby at the Tonopah Ranger District at 775-482-7887 for any additional information.

Sincerely,

STEVE WILLIAMS
District Ranger

Enclosure: Location Map



ROUND MOUNTAIN GOLD CORP.; Barrel Springs Exploration Project

