



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Humboldt-Toiyabe
National Forest

Ruby Mountains/Jarbidge
Ranger Districts
P. O. Box 246
Wells, NV 89835

RECEIVED

NOV 16 2010

File Code: 1950

Date: November 8, 2010

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

Dear Reader:

The Jarbidge Ranger District is proposing the Elko Grade Drainage Improvement Project. This project is located on Road #752 (Charleston-Jarbidge Road) north of Charleston in Elko County, Nevada.

Project work will begin slightly north of Bear Creek Meadows and will continue for approximately two miles to the northeast to a point in the vicinity where the road descends through the 6,900-foot elevation contour (see attached map). Road improvement will require the following work activities:

1. Removal of hazard trees and non-hazard trees plus other vegetation in the road right-of-way. Small diameter materials will be disposed in a suitable manner and may be chipped and utilized as mulch for erosion prevention, scattered on site, or piled and burned. Large diameter wood may be sold as personal use firewood-or disposed of in other suitable manners yet to be determined.
2. Removal of the outside berm by shifting its location into the inside ditch.
3. Stabilization of the cut-slope by layback or other suitable methods.
4. Reorientation and shaping the road template into an out-sloped configuration.
5. Construction of rolling dips or installation of culverts at suitable intervals to provide for diversion of runoff should excess accumulation occur do to rutting and/or snowpack.
6. Disposal of excess soil and rock materials at existing materials borrow sites.

Construction is expected to begin around March 1, 2011 and should be completed before July 4, 2011. During periods of construction, the road would be closed to all motorized traffic. A detour or bypass is not feasible so travel will not be possible between Jarbidge and Charleston when the closure is in effect.

The Forest Service will be conducting an analysis of this prior to making a decision on whether or not to approve the project. As part of this analysis we are inviting public comment on the project at this time. Soliciting public comments is required for all Forest Service proposed actions, including those that may be categorically excluded from further analysis and documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement Environmental Assessment. Internal scoping indicates that this project meets the requirements under Category 4 – Repair and maintenance of roads, trails and landlines (36 CFR 220.6(d) (4.))

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation encourages agencies to coordinate the review of impacts to heritage resources that is required under the National Historic Preservation Act with reviews required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Regulations (36 CFR, part 800)



concerning protection and preservation of historic and pre-historic properties give the public, local governments, and other entities opportunities to participate in the review and evaluation of effects to cultural sites.

This review and evaluation is referred to as the Section 106 process because it refers to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In addition to seeking comments about historic and pre-historic sites, certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking may participate as consulting parties in the Section 106 process. The Forest Service shall consider all written requests to participate as a consulting party.

Your written comments, concerns, and suggestions should be sent to Doug Clarke, Project Coordinator, at 2035 Last Chance Road, Elko, Nevada 89801. Comments can also be sent via facsimile to the following number: 775-778-6167. Electronic comments can be sent to:

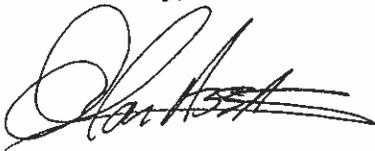
comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe-rubymtns-jarbidge@fs.fed.us.

Please note "Elko Grade" in subject line of your e-mail message. If requested, a copy of all comments provided in response to this letter will be made available to the public. This will include names, addresses and any other information provided with the comments.

In order to be most effective, the Forest Service requests your comments on this project by **December 15, 2010**. We are also asking that you inform us of whether or not you wish to remain on the mailing list for this project. If we do not hear from you regarding your interest we may remove your name from the project mailing list.

For more information on this project, please contact Mike Balen, Engineer, at (775) 778-6140. We thank you for your interest in the management of your national forests and look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

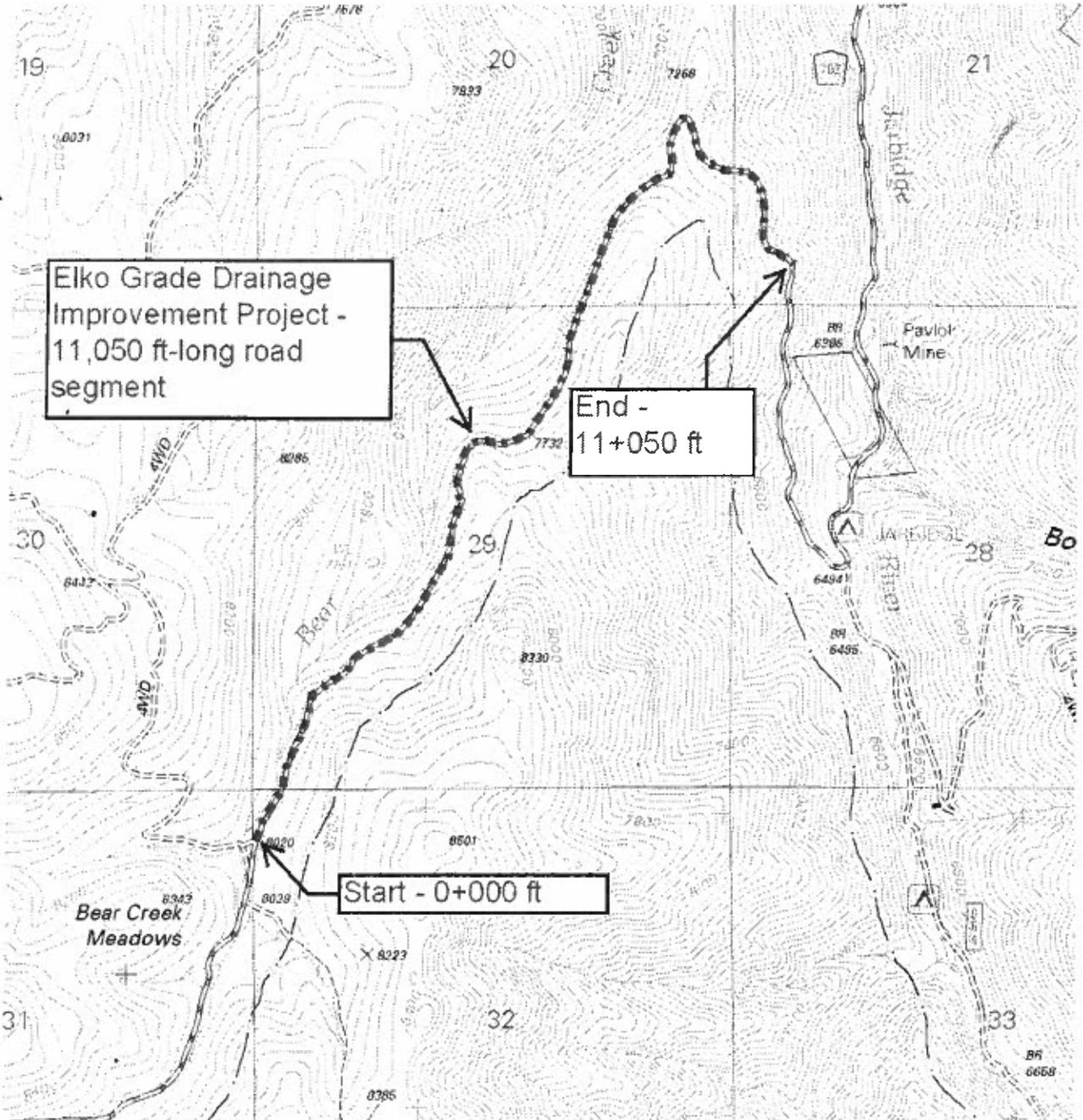


GAR ABBAS
District Ranger

cc: Gar Abbas
Michael D Balen
Kevin Wilmot

Enclosure

Project Map – Elko Grade Drainage Improvement Project



Township 46N, Range 58E; Sections 20, 21, 29 and 32

Jarbidge north Quadrangle

This GIS product was compiled from various sources and may be corrected, updated, modified, or replaced at any time. For more information contact: Elko Zone Office, Elko, Nevada (775) 738-5171.