

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
73544 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NUMBER: CO-110-2004-139-EA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC 67750:

PROJECT NAME: Locin Buried Pipeline-SWR2-1-1-3

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado;
T. 1S., R. 102W.,
sec. 7, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
T. 1S., R. 103W.,
sec. 1, lot 15, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
T. 1S., R. 103W.,
sec 12, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

APPLICANT: Locin Oil Corporation

ISSUES AND CONCERNS (optional):

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Background/Introduction: The location of the proposed action is SW of Rangely, Colorado in Rio Blanco County.

Proposed Action: Locin Oil Corporation proposes to lay a 3 inch, 280 psi test plastic, natural gas pipeline to connect Fed. Well # 2-1-1-3, a shut-in well, to an existing pipeline. The tie-in will be near Well SRW #10-7 on a branch pipeline from the Dragon Trail line. It will follow an existing two-track road. The 15,800 foot line will be buried at least 48 inches deep and will carry approximately 100,000 ft³ of low pressure gas per day. The route passes through the southwest drainage of Shavetail Wash.

Locin asks that this be an amendment to their Right-of-Way COC #49142 and be for a 30 year term. The existing tie-in pipeline is an on-lease line. The proposed width is 30 feet and the project would total 10.88 acres. This will be authorized under Section 28 or the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.

No Action Alternative: The right-of-way would not be approved and construction would not take place.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT CARRIED FORWARD: none

NEED FOR THE ACTION: The applicant requested authorization for a right-of-way for a pipeline to connect a well to a distribution point.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Pages 2-49 thru 2-52

Decision Language: “To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values.”

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LAND HEALTH: In January 1997, Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the Standards for Public Land Health. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, plant and animal communities, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health and relate to all uses of the public lands. Because a standard exists for these five categories, a finding must be made for each of them in an environmental analysis. These findings are located in specific elements listed below:

CRITICAL ELEMENTS

AIR QUALITY

Affected Environment: There are no special designation air sheds or non-attainment areas nearby that would be affected by the proposed action

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The proposed action would result in short term, local impacts to air quality during and after construction, due to dust being blown into the air. However, airborne particulate matter should not exceed Colorado air quality standards on an hourly or daily basis. Following successful seeding of the sites, airborne particulate matter should return to near pre-construction levels

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: Impacts from the no-action alternative are not anticipated.

Mitigation: None

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Affected Environment: The proposed pipeline route has been inventoried at the Class III (100% pedestrian) level (Baker 1990a, 1990b, Compliance Dates 6/20/1990, 7/21/1990) and construction of the road reroute was monitored (Baker 1990c, Compliance dated 10/30/1990) with no register eligible sites in the area of construction though there were sites that were avoided during construction.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Provided the proposed pipeline and all associated construction and maintenance activity stays within 20 feet of the access road center line there will be no new impacts to cultural resources from pipeline construction.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to cultural resources from the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: 1. All construction and maintenance activity associated with the pipeline must remain within 20 feet of the centerline of the existing access road.

2. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.

INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: The predominate vegetation types are alkaline slopes and juniper woodlands. The hillside bunchgrass community is located on relatively deep soils whereas the juniper woodland is located on shallow rocky soils. Both of these sites respond well to reclamation efforts. There are several noxious weeds of concern in this area including, cheatgrass, halogaton and the knapweeds. Both cheatgrass and halogaton are common in the area. Several of the knapweed species are adapted to this area and could be introduced by construction equipment or support vehicles.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: With the recommended seed mix this area is expected to be adequately be stabilized within three years. The proposed seed mixes contain non-native species which have been shown to be superior to native species on these sites. These non-native species have not been shown to move offsite or to interbreed with adjacent native species. With proper seeding the opportunity for noxious weed spread to the adjacent plant communities would be decreased. With control of any noxious weed species that do occur as a result of this action there would be no adverse impacts to the adjacent plant communities.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impacts.

Mitigation: From the White River ROD/RMP of 1997, Appendix B, Conditions of Approval #'s 179 – 185, 187 & 188, are as follows:

Application of herbicides must be under field supervision of an EPA-certified pesticide applicator. Herbicides must be registered by the EPA and application proposals must be approved by the BLM.

All disturbed sites shall be promptly reclaimed to the satisfaction of the Area Manger.

Reclamation should be implemented concurrent with construction and site operations to the fullest extent possible. Final reclamation actions shall be initiated within six months of the termination of operations unless otherwise approved in writing by the Authorized Officer.

The goal for rehabilitation of any disturbed area shall be the permanent restoration of original site conditions and productive capability.

Disturbed areas shall be restored as nearly as possible to its original contour.

Fill material shall be pushed into cut areas and up over backslopes. Leave no depressions that will trap water or form ponds.

Distribute topsoil evenly over the location and prepare a seedbed by disking or ripping. Drill seed on contour at a depth no greater than 1/2 inch. In areas that cannot be drilled, broadcast at double the seeding rate and harrow seed into the soil.

Additional seed applications may be required to accommodate specific site conditions or if initial seed germination has failed.

Seed species used in reseeding disturbed areas will be based on the seed mixes identified in table B1 below.

Table B-1 Standard Seed Mixes

Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs PLS/ Acre	Range sites
1	Siberian wheatgrass (P27) Russian wildrye (Bozoisky) Crested wheatgrass (Hycrest) Alternates: Fourwing saltbush, Nuttall saltbush, Winterfat, Annual Sunflower, Western wheatgrass	3 2 3	Alkaline Uplands, Badlands, Clayey 7"-9", Clayey Salt Desert, Cold Desert Breaks, Cold Desert Overflow, Gravelly 7"-9", Limey Cold Desert, Loamy 7"-9", Loamy Cold Desert, Loamy Salt Desert, Saline Lowland, Salt Desert Breaks, Salt Flats, Salt Meadow Sands 7"-9", Sandy 7"-9", Sandy Cold Desert, Sandy Salt Desert, Shale 7"-9", Shale/Sands Complex, Shallow Loamy, Shallow Sandy, Shallow Slopes, Silty Salt Desert, Silty Swale, Steep Slopes

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment: Non-game populations associated with these ranges are widespread and common throughout sagebrush and pinyon-juniper habitats in this Resource Area (e.g., green-tailed and spotted towhee, vesper and lark sparrows). There are no specialized or narrowly endemic species known to occupy the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Although this action would represent an incremental and longer term reduction in the extent of sagebrush and pinyon-juniper habitat available for migratory bird breeding functions, implementation of this project would have no measurable influence on the abundance or distribution of breeding migratory birds even at the smallest landscape scale.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: Incremental reductions of sagebrush and pinyon-juniper rangelands would not occur at this time or place.

Mitigation: None.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE ANIMAL SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment: There are no threatened, endangered or sensitive animal species occurring within the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None.

Mitigation: None.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species: There are no threatened, endangered or sensitive animal species occurring within the project area. Thus, this standard is not applicable.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment: The area of this pipeline is dominated by sagebrush and some small patches of pinyon-juniper woodlands. The area near the existing pad is surrounded by rock outcroppings. A pedestrian survey revealed that there is not suitable habitat to support any federally listed or BLM sensitive species of plants along the proposed pipeline.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None

Mitigation: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species: There is no reasonable likelihood that the proposed action or no action alternative would have an influence on the condition or function of Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive plant species. Thus, there would be no effect on achieving the land health standard.

WASTES, HAZARDOUS OR SOLID

Affected Environment: There are no known hazardous or other solid wastes on the subject lands. No hazardous materials are known to have been used, stored or disposed of at this site.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: No listed or extremely hazardous materials in excess of threshold quantities are proposed for use in this project. While commercial preparations of fuels and lubricants proposed for use may contain some hazardous constituents,

they would be stored, used and transported in a manner consistent with applicable laws, and the generation of hazardous wastes would not be anticipated.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: No hazardous or other solid wastes would be generated under the no-action alternative.

Mitigation: The operator shall be required to collect and properly dispose of any solid wastes generated by this project.

WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment: The proposed action is in Shavetail Wash, which is tributary to the White River. The state has classified this reach of stream in segment 22. A review of the Colorado's 1989 Nonpoint Source Assessment Report (plus updates), the 305(b) report, the 303(d) list and the Unified Watershed Assessment was done to see if any water quality concerns have been identified. This pipeline is in a Category 1, Priority 2, watershed (The Lower White) identified in the Unified Watershed Assessment report. The state has reasons to believe this watershed has water quality problems (sediment and salinity loads) that may impair the watershed. Information needs to be gathered before total maximum daily loads (TMDL) will be determined. The classification on this stream segment is Aquatic Life Warm 1, Recreation 1a, Water Supply and Agriculture. The state has further defined water quality parameters with table values. These standards reflect the ambient water quality and define maximum allowable concentrations for the various water quality parameters. The anti-degradation rule applies to this segment meaning no further water quality degradation is allowable that would interfere with or become harmful to the designated uses.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Impacts to water quality from development of this pipeline would be similar to other surface disturbing activities. Some of the impacts would be exposure of soil surface to wind and water erosion, reduced water quality due to erosion of sediment and salt, off pipeline rights of ways, and piping or rill erosion where pipeline disturbance are exposed to climatic elements. These impacts would be short term until re-vegetation has occurred.

Also, oil and gas operations are considered to be a light industrial activity by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. If an action disturbs more than 5 acres they are classified as industrial dischargers. This requires operators/owners to obtain permits authorizing the discharge of stormwater from these sites. This pipeline will disturb more than 5 acres and is in an area with very erosive soils. The operator will need to have a permit from the state. This requires a stormwater management plan be developed showing how best management practices (BMPs) will be used to control runoff and sediment transport.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: Impacts from the no-action alternative are not anticipated.

Mitigation: The operator must obtain a storm water discharge permit from the state and submit a copy of the storm water management plan to BLM

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality: Water quality of Shavetail Wash is well within the standards set by the state and would continue to meet these standards as a result of the proposed action.

WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN ZONES (includes a finding on Standard 2)

Affected Environment: There are no wetlands or riparian zones present in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None.

Mitigation: None.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for riparian systems: There are no wetlands or riparian zones present in the project areas. Thus, there would be no effect on achieving the land health standard.

CRITICAL ELEMENTS NOT PRESENT OR NOT AFFECTED:

No ACECs, flood plains, prime and unique farmlands, wilderness, or Wild and Scenic Rivers exist within the area affected by the proposed action. There are also no Native American religious or environmental justice concerns associated with the proposed action.

NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS

The following elements **must** be addressed due to the involvement of Standards for Public Land Health:

SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment: The soils have been mapped in an order III soil survey by NRCS and are available from the office for review. Refer to the table below for the type of soils intersected by the pipeline.

Soil Number	Soil Name	Slope	Range site	Salinity	Run Off	Erosion Potential	Bedrock
47	Kobar silty clay loam	0-3%	Deep Clay Loam	<2	Medium	Slight	>60
61	Patent loam	3-8%	Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Moderate	>60

Soil Number	Soil Name	Slope	Range site	Salinity	Run Off	Erosion Potential	Bedrock
64	Piceance fine sandy loam	5-15%	Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Moderate to high	20-40
74	Rentsac-Moyerson-Rock Outcrop complex	5-65%	PJ Woodlands/Clayey Slopes	<2	Medium	Moderate to very high	10-20
75	Rentsac-Piceance complex	2-30%	PJ woodland/Rolling Loam	<2	Medium	Moderate to high	10-20
94	Turley fine sandy loam	3-8%	Alkaline Slopes	2-4	Medium	Slight to moderate	>60

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Impacts to soils would be increased erosion and sedimentation, from overland flows due to, removal of vegetation, soil compaction and exposure of underlying soil layers. These impacts would be short term during the construction phase and for a period after construction providing successful reclamation occurred.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: Impacts are not anticipated from the no-action alternative.

Mitigation: See Water Quality Section.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: The current upland soils meet the land health standards and would continue to do so following reclamation from the proposed action.

VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The predominate vegetation types are alkaline slopes and juniper woodlands. Predominate species of the alkaline slope range site are, salina wildrye, Indian ricegrass, western wheatgrass, shadscale, sagebrush, and a variety of forbs. The juniper woodland site is composed of Utah juniper and very sparse understory of grasses and forbs.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The alkaline slopes sites should be adequately stabilized by the seed mix within three years. It will probably take 20-30 years for native species to displace the seeded species. On the juniper woodland sites replacement of like woodland would take approximately 100 to 150 years.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impacts.

Mitigation: Same as reclamation/noxious weeds.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): The current plant communities meet the public health

standard for plant communities. Following reclamation these communities would again meet this standard.

WILDLIFE, AQUATIC (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: There is no aquatic wildlife in the project area.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: None.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: None.

Mitigation: None.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Terrestrial): There is no aquatic wildlife present in the project areas. Thus, there would be no effect on achieving the land health standard.

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The area of this pipeline is dominated by sagebrush and some small patches of pinyon-juniper woodlands. The area near the existing pad is surrounded by rimrock that possesses moderate to high potential for cliff-nesting raptors, specifically golden eagles. No evidence of recent use by raptors was observed during a field visit to the project area. The route crosses several ephemeral draws and the project area falls within normal winter range for mule deer.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: The construction of this project will result in a slight long-term increase of road traffic associated with commercial oil/gas related activities. The development of commercial oil/gas facilities results in incremental reductions of winter range habitat for big game. Additionally, it will potentially result in increased activity in an area holding moderate potential for nesting by raptors, as well as an increase in the disturbance from additional road traffic.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: Failure to construct this pipeline would reduce short-term construction activity levels in this area as well as longer term activity associated with increased road traffic related to commercial oil/gas development. No net loss of big game winter habitat would occur at this time or place.

Mitigation: Where possible, the existing two-track road should be used as the working surface for construction activities associated with this project.

Interim reclamation of the disturbed area should include the seeding of sagebrush on parts of the right-of-way. Fill material from pipeline construction shall not be deposited into ephemeral draws.

If completion of construction activities of this project doesn't occur between August 15 and February 1, a current raptor survey must be conducted along the length of the pipeline. It is the responsibility of Locin Oil Corp. to contact the BLM or a third party contractor to have this survey completed. If a third party contractor conducts the survey, results must be provided to the BLM for review.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic): This project would not jeopardize the viability of any animal population. It would have no significant consequence on terrestrial habitat condition, utility, or function, nor have any discernible affect on animal abundance or distribution at any landscape scale. This public land health standard will thus be met.

OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS: For the following elements, only those brought forward for analysis will be addressed further.

Non-Critical Element	NA or Not Present	Applicable or Present, No Impact	Applicable & Present and Brought Forward for Analysis
Access and Transportation		X	
Cadastral Survey	X		
Fire Management	X		
Forest Management			X
Geology and Minerals	X		
Hydrology/Water Rights	X		
Law Enforcement		X	
Paleontology			X
Rangeland Management			X
Realty Authorizations		X	
Recreation		X	
Socio-Economics		X	
Visual Resources		X	
Wild Horses	X		

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: Portions of the pipeline right-of-way go through sparse stands of Utah juniper. These woodlands are of minimal local value, providing firewood and fence posts.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: Junipers would be removed by construction activities. Replacement of this stand would take 100-150 years. Using the woodland material to prevent driving of the right-of-way would increase the opportunity for juniper seedling establishment.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impacts.

Mitigation: Junipers would be bladed to the side of the right-of-way and then dragged back to prevent vehicle traffic of the pipeline.

PALEONTOLOGY

Affected Environment: The proposed pipeline route is located in an area mapped as the Mesa Verde Formation (Tweto 1979), which the BLM has classified as a Category I fossil formation meaning is known to produce fossil of scientific importance.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: If at any time it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying bedrock formation to bury the proposed pipeline there is the potential to impact fossils of scientific importance.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no new impacts to fossil resources under the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation: All exposed outcrops of rock along the route shall be inspected for fossil resources with a report of the results of the inventory and any recommended mitigation measures shall be submitted to the BLM prior to the initiation of construction. 2. If, at any time it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying bedrock formation to properly bury the pipeline then a paleontological monitor shall be present during such excavation.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Affected Environment: The proposed project is within the Johnson/Trujillo grazing allotment. This allotment is grazed by approximately 2,000 sheep during the period December 1, to April 20 each year.

Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action: There is the opportunity for sheep to fall into an open trench if the trench is left open and sheep are in the area. Minimizing the extent of open trench would improve this problem.

Environmental Consequences of the No Action Alternative: There would be no impacts.

Mitigation: Minimize open trench if livestock are present in the area.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY: This action is consistent with the scope of impacts addressed in the White River ROD/RMP. The cumulative impacts of oil and gas activities are addressed in the White River ROD/RMP for each resource value that would be affected by the proposed action.

REFERENCES CITED

Baker, Steven G.

1990a A cultural Resource Inventory of the Shavetail Access Road Upgrading in Association With Chandler and Associates Southwest Rangely 2-1 Location, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Centuries Research, Inc., Montrose, Colorado.

1990b A Cultural Resource Inventory of A Rerouted Portion of the Shavetail Access Road Upgrading in Associate With Chandler and Associates SW Rangely 2-1 Location Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Centuries Research, Inc., Montrose, Colorado.

1990c Letter Report to Michael Selle, Archaeologist, WRRRA re: Monitor of access road upgrade for the Chandler and Associates SW Rangely 2-1 location. Centuries Research, Inc., Montrose, Colorado.

Tweto, Ogden

1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. Unites States Geologic Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED:

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility
Caroline Hollowed	P&EC	Air Quality
Tamara Meagley	NRS	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Tamara Meagley	NRS	Threatened and Endangered Plant Species
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources Paleontological Resources
Robert Fowler	Forester	Invasive, Non-Native Species
Glenn Klingler	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds
Glenn Klingler	Wildlife Biologist	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Animal Species, Wildlife
Marty O'Mara	Hazmat Collateral	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid
Caroline Hollowed	P&EC	Water Quality, Surface and Ground Hydrology and Water Rights
Glenn Klingler	Wildlife Biologist	Wetlands and Riparian Zones
Chris Ham	ORP	Wilderness
Caroline Hollowed	P&EC	Soils
Robert Fowler	Forester	Vegetation
Glenn Klingler	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife Terrestrial and Aquatic
Chris Ham	ORP	Access and Transportation
Ken Holsinger	NRS	Fire Management
Robert Fowler	Forester	Forest Management
Paul Daggett	Mining Engineer	Geology and Minerals
Robert Fowler	Forester	Rangeland Management
Linda L Jones	Realty Specialist	Realty Authorizations
Chris Ham	ORP	Recreation
Max McCoy	NRS	Visual Resources
Valerie Dobrich	NRS	Wild Horses

Finding of No Significant Impact/Decision Record (FONSI/DR)

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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)/RATIONALE: The environmental assessment and analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed action have been reviewed. The approved mitigation measures (listed below) result in a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary to further analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

DECISION/RATIONALE: It is my decision to approve development of the Locin Buried Pipeline-SWR2-1-1-3 as described in the proposed action with mitigation measures listed below.

MITIGATION MEASURES: 1. All construction and maintenance activity associated with the pipeline must remain within 20 feet of the centerline of the existing access road.

2. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
- a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you

must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer

4. Application of herbicides must be under field supervision of an EPA-certified pesticide applicator. Herbicides must be registered by the EPA and application proposals must be approved by the BLM.

5. All disturbed sites shall be promptly reclaimed to the satisfaction of the Area Manager.

6. Reclamation should be implemented concurrent with construction and site operations to the fullest extent possible. Final reclamation actions shall be initiated within six months of the termination of operations unless otherwise approved in writing by the Authorized Officer.

7. The goal for rehabilitation of any disturbed area shall be the permanent restoration of original site conditions and productive capability.

8. Disturbed areas shall be restored as nearly as possible to its original contour.

9. Fill material shall be pushed into cut areas and up over backslopes. Leave no depressions that will trap water or form ponds.

10. Distribute topsoil evenly over the location and prepare a seedbed by disking or ripping. Drill seed on contour at a depth no greater than 1/2 inch. In areas that cannot be drilled, broadcast at double the seeding rate and harrow seed into the soil.

11. Additional seed applications may be required to accommodate specific site conditions or if initial seed germination has failed.

12. Seed species used in reseeding disturbed areas will be based on the seed mixes identified in table B1 below.

Table B-1 Standard Seed Mixes

Seed Mix #	Species (Variety)	Lbs PLS/ Acre	Range sites
1	Siberian wheatgrass (P27) Russian wildrye (Bozoisky) Crested wheatgrass (Hycrest) Alternates: Fourwing saltbush, Nutall saltbush, Winterfat, Annual Sunflower, Western wheatgrass	3 2 3	Alkaline Uplands, Badlands, Clayey 7"-9", Clayey Salt Desert, Cold Desert Breaks, Cold Desert Overflow, Gravelly 7"-9", Limey Cold Desert, Loamy 7"-9", Loamy Cold Desert, Loamy Salt Desert, Saline Lowland, Salt Desert Breaks, Salt Flats, Salt Meadow Sands 7"-9", Sandy 7"-9", Sandy Cold Desert, Sandy Salt Desert, Shale 7"-9", Shale/Sands Complex, Shallow Loamy, Shallow Sandy, Shallow Slopes, Silty Salt Desert, Silty Swale, Steep Slopes

13. The operator must obtain a storm water discharge permit from the state and submit a copy of the storm water management plan to BLM

14. Where possible, the existing two-track road should be used as the working surface for construction activities associated with this project.
15. Interim reclamation of the disturbed area should include the seeding of sagebrush on parts of the right-of-way. Fill material from pipeline construction shall not be deposited into ephemeral draws.
16. If completion of construction activities of this project doesn't occur between August 15 and February 1, a current raptor survey must be conducted along the length of the pipeline. It is the responsibility of Locin Oil Corp. to contact the BLM or a third party contractor to have this survey completed. If a third party contractor conducts the survey, results must be provided to the BLM for review.
17. Junipers would be bladed to the side of the right-of-way and then dragged back to prevent vehicle traffic on the pipeline.
18. All exposed outcrops of rock along the route shall be inspected for fossil resources with a report of the results of the inventory and any recommended mitigation measures shall be submitted to the BLM prior to the initiation of construction. 2. If, at any time it becomes necessary to excavate into the underlying bedrock formation to properly bury the pipeline then a paleontological monitor shall be present during such excavation.
19. Minimize open trench if livestock are present in the area

COMPLIANCE/MONITORING:

NAME OF PREPARER: *Jane Jones*

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: *Caroline P. Hallowed 8/11/04*

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: *Wynn Phell*
Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: *8/11/04*

ATTACHMENTS: Map of the location of proposed action.

Location of Proposed Action CO-110-2004-139-EA

