



**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST**

Mid-Pacific Region  
Lahontan Basin Area Office

**Project Name:** Boy Scouts, California Emigrant Trail Sign Project

**CEC Number:** LO-2011-1025

**Cost Authority:** A20-1912-4999-100-00-0-0

**Date:** 08/03/2011

**Exclusion Category:** *516 DM 14.5 D.10* – Issuance of permits, licenses, easements, and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Reclamation lands where the action does not allow for or lead to a major public or private action.

**Nature of Action:** Boy Scout Troop 1776 is proposing to place trail-signs and pick up trash along a 2.5 mile stretch of the California Emigrant Trail northeast of Soda Lake. The purpose of the signs is to better mark the trail, so people traveling along the trail do not veer off and negatively impact the fragile desert. The signs will be constructed out of steel, approximately three feet tall, and the base will be cemented in the ground to reduce the potential of vandals destroying the signs or selling the signs for scrap metal. The sign design and project have been reviewed by Trails West Incorporated, and the association fully supports the project.

For the first two years the Boy Scouts will be responsible for the maintenance of the signs. In 2014 Magma Energy Corporation will assume maintenance responsibility.

As a second component of the project, Troop 1776 will pick up trash along the emigrant trail in the area where the signs will be placed. Reclamation will have an archeologist on site the first day to help the scouts identify the difference between modern trash and historically important artifacts that are strewn along the landscape.

**Location:** Approximately one mile northeast of Soda Lake along the California Emigrant Trail for approximately 2.5 miles in Sections 22, 28, and 32 Township 20 North, Range 28 East, M.D.M.. A map is attached showing the location.

10.	This action would violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
11.	This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (E.O. 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
12.	This action would limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (E.O. 13007 and 43 CFR 46.215 (k)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
13.	This action would affect Indian Trust Assets. (To be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (S.O. 3175; Policy Memorandum dated 12/15/93).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
14.	This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, E.O. 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___

NEPA Action Recommended: Categorical Exclusion  EA \_\_\_ EIS \_\_\_

**Environmental commitments, explanation, and/or remarks:**

See the attached correspondence from the Mid-Pacific Region Cultural Resources Division regarding concurrence with Item 8 (cultural resources), and from Patricia Rivera regarding Item 13 (Indian Trust Assets).

Prepared by: Peter Neugebauer

August 4, 2011  
Date

Recommended: Andrea J. Minor  
Andrea Minor  
Natural Resource Specialist

8/5/11  
Date

Concurrence: Robert Edwards  
Robert Edwards  
Resource Division Manager

8/8/2011  
Date

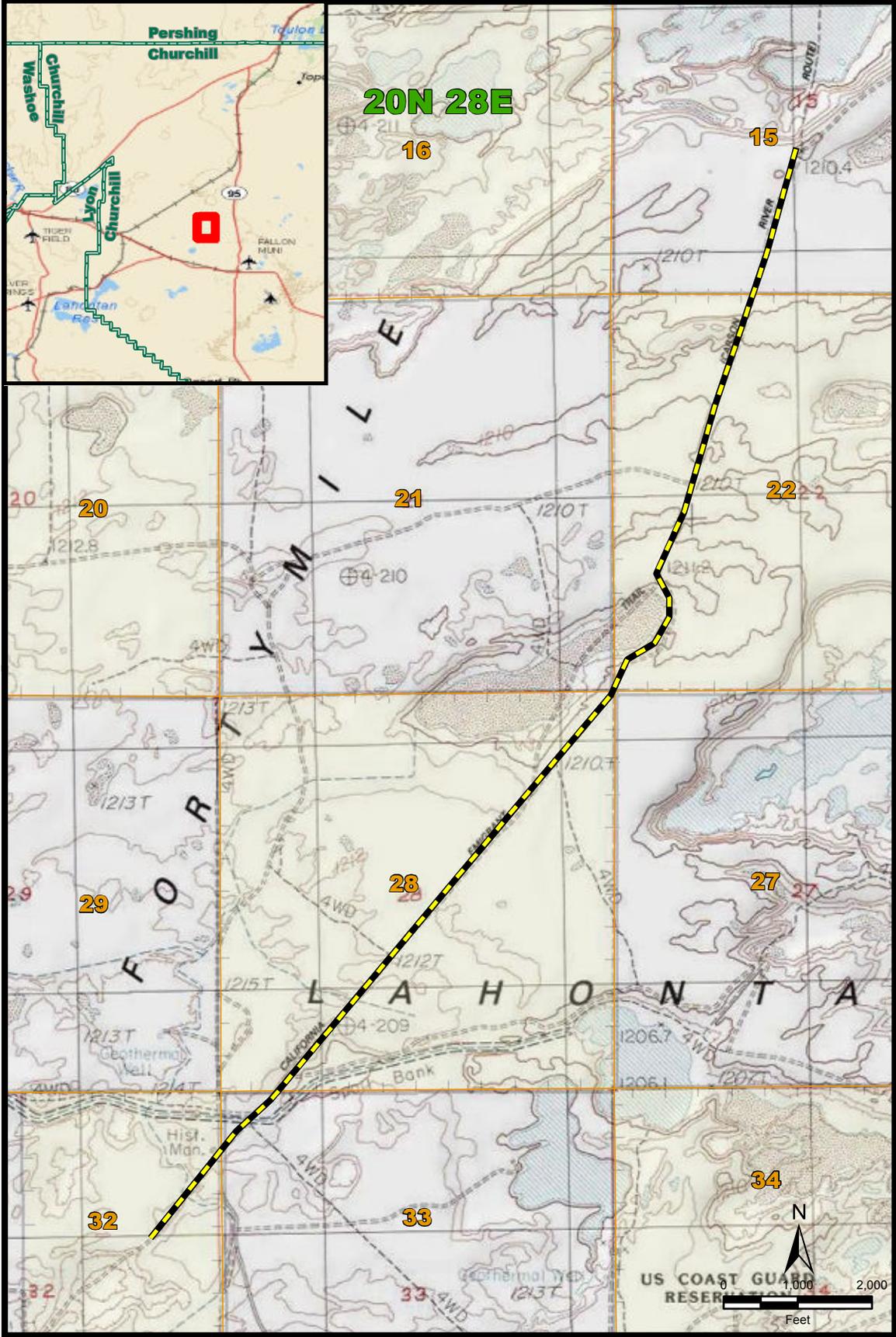
Approved: Terri Edwards  
Terri Edwards  
Deputy Area Manager

8/8/2011  
Date



### Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion

1.	This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. (40 CFR 1502.3).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
2.	This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E) and 43 CFR 46.215 (c)].	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
3.	This action will have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
4.	This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
5.	The action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risk (43 CFR 46.215 (d)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
6.	This action would establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
7.	This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
8.	This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, RM LND 02-01 D(1)(a)) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___
9.	This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain ___ Yes ___



**RECLAMATION**  
*Managing Water in the West*

**Boy Scouts of America**  
 Emigrant Trail Sign Project Area  
 T20N R28E

Lahontan Basin Area Office  
 705 N. Plaza Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Printed: August 3, 2011 (LO-2011-1025)

**From:** Perry, Laureen (Laurie) M  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 04, 2011 4:18 PM  
**To:** Minor, Andrea J  
**Cc:** Dunay, Amy L  
**Subject:** RE: Boy Scout Trail project  
**Attachments:** 11-LBAO-189 Emigrant Trail SHPO Concurrence 7-5-2011.pdf; 11-LBAO-189 Signs on Emigrant Trail to SHPO.pdf

Andrea,

The proposed Boy Scout trail project to install signs and to pick up trash along the Emigrant Trail on Reclamation land has no adverse effect to the trail which is a historic property. Attached are the consultation letters regarding this finding, with Nevada State Historic Preservation Office concurrence received on July 5, 2011. National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultations are complete for this project. I concur with Item #8 on the CEC that there will be no significant impacts to historic properties.

Laureen

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**From:** Minor, Andrea J  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 04, 2011 11:01 AM  
**To:** Perry, Laureen (Laurie) M  
**Subject:** Boy Scout Trail project

Good morning, Laurie,

I was told to send the CEC directly to you for this project, as SHPO consultation is already complete. If you would please send me a concurrence on the CEC and any documentation, that would be great.

Thanks for your work on this project. Andrea

Andrea J. Minor  
Natural Resource Specialist  
775-884-8366



SCANNED

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

State Historic Preservation Office

100 N. Stewart Street

Carson City, Nevada 89701

(775) 684-3448 • Fax (775) 684-3442

www.nvshpo.org

MICHAEL E. FISCHER  
Department Director

RONALD M. JAMES  
State Historic Preservation Officer

July 5, 2011

Anastasia T. Leigh  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office  
Acting Regional Environmental Officer  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OFFICIAL FILE COPY RECEIVED		
JUL 08 2011		
CODE	ACTION	SURNAME & DATE
150	✓	James 7/8/2011

RE: *Eagle Scout Project on the Carson River Segment of the Emigrant Trail, Churchill County, Nevada.*  
MP-153 ENV-3.00 (11-LBAO-189)/ Undertaking #2011-1644.

Dear Ms. Leigh:

The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the subject undertaking in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. The SHPO concurs with the Bureau of Reclamation's (BREC) determination that the following property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the Secretary's criteria A and D:

26CH1456/26CH1772 (Emigrant Trail).

The SHPO concurs with the BREC's determination that the proposed undertaking will not pose an adverse effect to the noted historic property with the avoidance and monitoring measures stated in the above mentioned documents.

If any buried and previously unidentified resources are located during the project activities, the SHPO recommends that all work in the vicinity of the find cease and this office be contacted for additional consultation per 36 CFR 800.13.b.3..

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact Jessica Axsom by phone at (775) 684-3445 or by e-mail at [jaxsom@nevadaculture.org](mailto:jaxsom@nevadaculture.org).

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lynn Palmer, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Classification	ENV 3-00
Project	291
Control No.	11054845
Folder ID	1140913
Date Input & Initials	7-12-2011 [initials]

**From:** Rivera, Patricia L  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 04, 2011 12:54 PM  
**To:** Minor, Andrea J  
**Subject:** RE: ITA request for Boy Scout sign project

Andrea,

I reviewed the proposed action to approve Boy Scout Troop 1776's proposal to place trail-signs and pick up trash along a 2.5 mile stretch of the California Emigrant Trail northeast of Soda Lake. The purpose of the signs is to better mark the trail, so people traveling along the trail do not veer off and negatively impact the fragile desert. The signs will be constructed out of steel, approximately three feet tall, and the base will be cemented in the ground to reduce the potential of vandals destroying the signs or selling the signs for scrap metal.

As a second component of the project, Troop 1776 will pick up trash along the emigrant trail in the area where the signs will be placed. Reclamation will have an archeologist on site the first day to help the scouts identify the difference between modern trash and historically important artifacts that are strewn along the landscape.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is Fallon Colony approximately 7 miles SE of the project location.

Patricia