RESOLUTION
OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

21st NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – Third Year, 2009

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES; APPROVING THE WITHDRAWAL OF 4.0 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OF NAVAJO NATION TRUST LAND FOR THE ECHO CLIFF VETERANS ORGANIZATION TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE BODAWAY/GAP VETERANS PARK AT CEDAR RIDGE

BE IT ENACTED:

1. The Navajo Nation hereby finds the following with respect to this resolution:

   a) The Bodaway/Gap Chapter by Chapter Resolution No. BA-09-104-05, as found within Exhibit "No. 1" at Tab "A", has approved four (4) acres, more or less, of land at Cedar Ridge for the Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization; and

   b) The proposed land withdrawal consists of 4.0 acres, more or less, of Navajo Nation Trust lands located in unplatted portion of Land Management District No. 3, Navajo County, Arizona as described within Exhibit “No. 1” at Tab “B”; and

   c) The Project Review Section within the Navajo Land Department has obtained the consents of the affected land users, grazing permittees, as found within Exhibit “No. 1” at Tab “C”; and

   d) All environmental and archaeological surveys and studies have been previously completed and received appropriate clearances as found within Exhibit “No. 1”.

2. The Navajo Nation hereby approves of the land withdrawal of 4.0 acres, more or less, of Navajo Nation Trust land for the Bodaway/Gap Chapter Echo Cliffs Veterans Tract at Cedar Ridge, Coconino County, Arizona, as described within Exhibit “No. 1".
3. The Navajo Nation hereby authorizes the President of the Navajo Nation to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent and purpose of this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Resources Committee of the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 6 in favor and 0 opposed, this 31st day of August, 2009.

George Arthur, Chairperson
Resources Committee

Motion: Harry Williams, Sr.
Second: Harry H. Clark
SUPPORTING AND APPROVING THE LAND WITHDRAWAL OF FOUR (4) ACRES, AT CEDAR RIDGE, ARIZONA, FOR THE BODAWAY/GAP VETERANS ORGANIZATION.

WHEREAS:

1. The Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization is recognized as a local governmental entity of the Navajo Nation, vested with certain authorities and responsibilities to act on behalf of the Navajo veterans in the community; and

2. The Bodaway/Gap Chapter Resolution number BA-02-043-01, recognized and supports the establishment of the Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization; and

3. The Bodaway/Gap Chapter supports and approves the land withdrawal of four (4) acres at Cedar Ridge, Arizona, along U.S. Highway 89 – North, west of Milepost 505.1. The land withdrawal is for the Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Bodaway/Gap Chapter hereby recognized and supports the establishment of the Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization; and

2. The Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization hereby supports and approves the land withdrawal of four (4) acres at Cedar Ridge, Arizona, for the Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization. The 4-acre land withdrawal is located long U.S. Highway 89-North, west of Milepost 505.1.
WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY CONSIDERED BY THE BODAWAY/GAP CHAPTER, AT A DULY CALLED MEETING AT THE GAP, (NAVAJO NATION), ARIZONA; AT WHICH A QUORUM WAS PRESENT AND THAT SAME WAS PASSED BY A VOTE OF 26 IN FAVOR; 00 OPPOSED; AND 00 ABSTAINED, ON THIS 28TH DAY OF September, 2005.

MOTION BY: Perry Slim
SECOND BY: Jeremiah Yazzie

BILLY ARIZONA, JR.
President

MARIE LANE WILLIAMS
Vice-President

GEVERN J. BEGAY
Secretary/Treasurer

BRIAN KENSLEY
Grazing Member

EVELYN ACOTHLEY
Council Delegate

DUANE S. TSINIGINE
Council Delegate
RESULTS OF SURVEY

Job No.: 7002
Surveyed: January 25, 2007
File: 7002 Cedar Ridge.dwg
Drawn by: H. Goldtooth
Checked by: H. Goldtooth
Revised: February 18, 2009
Scale: 1" = 100'
Sheet: 1 of 1

Halbert O. Goldtooth, AZ R.L.S. 42048
NAME: ECHO CLIFF VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK  
NORTHERN ARIZONA, COCONINO COUNTY


SIZE: 4 acres  
N68°27′42″ E  279.55′ (North side)  
S21°32′18″ E  623.28′ (East side)  
S68°27′42″ W  277.55′ (Southside)  
NS21°32′18″ W  623.28′ (West side)

DESCRIPTION: The outside perimeter will be fenced in with chain link fence at 4′ in height. For entrances and exits, there will be 2 locations will cattle guards. There will be a building for Veterans meetings and conferences within the sight. It (building) will have a conference room, office, male 6 female restrooms, kitchen, and storage rooms. Outside the building will be a covered patio, open courtyard, with 3 flag poles, and a memorial wall for our deceased Veterans. A side walk, and a parking lot will be made to the south of the court yard. Trees will be planted, charcoal booths and pink tables will be made.

UTILIZATION – when completed, this park will be open to the public outside the building. Within the building, it will be used only for Veterans events. As the community knows, we don’t have any place within our Chapter boundary where people go for picnics, birthday parties, family gatherings, special community events, etc. This would be the ideal place. Even tourist can stop by, have lunch, enjoy the view, or even spend the night. Families will provide their own trash containers. No weapons, drugs, or alcohol will be allowed on the premises.

MAINTENANCE – The Echo Cliff Veterans Organization will have complete control over the park. Families or organizations that want to utilize the park will notify the Veterans Organization in advance and be approved or denied for usage in one of their meetings. Whoever uses the park will clean up after themselves before the day ends. The Echo Cliff Veterans Organization will make sure that the park will be kept nice and clean.
NAME: Cedar Ridge Veterans Park

LOCATION: Cedar Ridge, Arizona
West of Milepost 505.1, along U.S. Highway 89-North
10 ft. south of B.I.A. Route 6110 turn.

SIZE: Four (4) acres (417.5 + 417.5 + 417.5 + 417.5 = 1,670')
On exterior fence

DESCRIPTION: The outside perimeter will be fenced in with chain link fences. It will be 4 ft. high by 350 ft. from corner (from the east) there will be a gate, or cattle guard for entrance/exit. A plaque with information about the surrounding area and about our local veterans and our community. Trees will be planted at different locations inside, there will be flag poles erected (how many is in discussion), two outhouses, and also a memorial monument for deceased veterans. Towards the back, which is the west end, will be used for a parking lot. Just open ground. Picnic tables, and stone-structured charcoal booths will be made.

UTILIZATION: Upon completion, the park will be open to the public. As the community knows, we don't have any place within our chapter boundaries, where people go for picnics, family gatherings, special community events, etc. This would be the ideal place. Even tourists can stop by to have lunch, enjoy the view, or even spend the night. Families will provide their own trash containers. There will be no weapons, drugs and/or alcoholic beverages allowed on the premises.

MAINTENANCE: The community veterans organization will have complete control over the park. Families or organizations that want to utilize the park will notify the veterans organization. Whoever uses this facility will clean up after themselves at day's end. The veterans organization will make sure that the park will be kept nice and clean.

Leonard Sloan
Leonard Sloan, Secretary/Treasurer
Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization
NAME: ECHO CLIFF VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
NORTHERN ARIZONA, COCONINO COUNTY


SIZE: 4 acres
N68°27'42" E 279.55' (North side)
S21°32'18" E 623.28' (East side)
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MAINTENANCE – The Echo Cliff Veterans Organization will have complete control over the park. Families or organizations that want to utilize the park will notify the Veterans Organization in advance and be approved or denied for usage in one of their meetings. Whoever uses the park will clean up after themselves before the day ends. The Echo Cliff Veterans Organization will make sure that the park will be kept nice and clean.
It is the Department's opinion the project described below, with applicable conditions, is in compliance with Tribal and Federal laws protecting biological resources including the Navajo Endangered Species and Environmental Policy Codes, U.S. Endangered Species, Migratory Bird Treaty, Eagle Protection and National Environmental Policy Acts. This form does not preclude or replace consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if a Federally-listed species is affected.

PROJECT NAME & NO.: Biological Reconnaissance: Veteran's Memorial Park Project (4.0 acres) Cedar Ridge, AZ
DESCRIPTION: Construction of Park, Pavilion, Memorial feature, Picnic area, Parking lot
LOCATION: Cedar Ridge T35N R08 NAD27 UTM 4027290N 0452915E
REPRESENTATIVE: ETD Inc. - Erwin Tso
ACTION AGENCY: Echo Cliffs Veteran's Organization
SIGNIFICANT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOUND: NA
POTENTIAL IMPACTS
TRIBAL ENDANGERED SPECIES (G2 & G3) TAKEN: NA
FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AffECTED: NA
OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Wupatki Pocket Mouse, Beath Milk-vetch
AVOIDANCE / MITIGATION MEASURES: All project equipment and personnel shall remain in project area - the use of best available construction practices is required to limit impacts to land, water (surface and ground), and biological resources - avoid rodent burrows during construction when possible.
CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE*
FORM PREPARED BY / DATE: Ron W. Malecki / 22 August 2007
COPIES TO: (add categories as necessary)
- Navajo Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NM Field Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, AZ Field Office
- BIA Navajo Region, Environmental Services
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, UT Field Office
- (Other)
I understand and accept the conditions of compliance, and acknowledge that lack of signature may be grounds for the Department not recommending the above described project for approval to the Tribal Decision-maker.

Representative's signature

Date
CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 4950
WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

PROJECT TITLE: ETD-07-034: A Cultural Resources Inventory of a Proposed Veteran's Memorial Park in Bodaway/Gap Chapter, Coconino County, Arizona

LEAD AGENCY: BIA/NR

SPONSOR: Leonard Sloan, Echo Cliffs Veteran's Organization P.O. Box 1435 Gap, Arizona 86020

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed undertaking will involve the construction of a memorial park and associated facilities within the 4.0 acre lease area. Ground disturbance will be extensive and intensive.

LAND STATUS: Navajo Tribal Trust
CHAPTER: Bodaway/Gap
LOCATION: T.35N., R.8E.; Unplatted; Cedar Ridge Quadrangle, Coconino County, Arizona; G&SRPM&B

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST: Mathilda Burke
NAVAJO ANTIQUITIES PERMIT NO.: B07451

DATE INSPECTED: 8/14/07
DATE OF REPORT: 8/24/07
TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED: 6.4

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION: Class III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced 7.5 m apart.

LIST OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOUND:
LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES: None
LIST OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES: (1) Site AZ-K-36-49
LIST OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: None

EFFECT/CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE: No historic properties affected.

In the event of a discovery [*discovery* means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources including but not limited to archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices], all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease, and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified at (928) 871-7148.

FORM PREPARED BY: Ettie Anderson
FINALIZED: September 13, 2007

Notification to Proceed Recommended:

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Navajo Region Approval: Yes | No |  

Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Officer: Alan S. Downer

Acting Regional Director: [Signature] 10/3/07
Environmental Assessment
Veterans' Memorial Park Project,
Cedar Hill Ranch, Arizona

Prepared for:
The Echo Cliffs Veterans' Organization
P.O. Box 4135
Cedar, Arizona 86020

October 2007
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REFERENCES CITED

APPENDIX A: Biological Resources Compliance Form
APPENDIX B: Cultural Resources Compliance Form
1 Purpose and Need For Action

1.1 Introduction

The Echo Cliffs Veterans' Organization proposes to construct a veteran's memorial park on a 4.0-acre site in Cedar Ridge, Arizona, part of the Bodaway-Gap Chapter of the Navajo Nation. The Park is envisioned to serve as a gathering place for local veterans and their families in a commemorative setting. The Park is also intended to provide a rest stop for travelers along US Highway 89.

1.2 Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose and need for the proposed action is to honor area veterans with the development of a public park for the local community.

1.3 Location

The proposed project site is located in the Bodaway-Gap Chapter of the Navajo Nation, within Land Management District No. 3. The project site also lies in T 35 N, R 8 E (projected) of the Gila and Salt River Meridian, in Coconino County, Arizona, and can be located on the Cedar Ridge, Arizona, 7.5-minute U.S.G.S. Quadrangle. It can be accessed by traveling north of Flagstaff, Arizona on U.S. Highway 89 for approximately 90 miles to Cedar Ridge, Arizona. The site is located on the west side of the highway just past mile post 505.

1.4 Regulations That Apply

This environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to meet the environmental review requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which incorporates other environmental review requirements under the Navajo Cultural Resource Protection Act (NCRPA), the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Navajo Endangered Species List (NESL), the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA). Since this project is subject to the approval by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), it follows BIA's internal guidelines set forth under IAM Part 59, Chapter 3.
Figure 1. General Location Map. Proposed Veterans' Memorial Park, Cedar Ridge, Arizona. (American Map Corp.)
2 Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

2.1 No Action

The NEPA requires that a "no action" alternative be considered as part of this environmental analysis. Under the no action alternative, the proposed Veteran’s Center would not be constructed and no impacts to the surrounding natural and human environment would occur. However, the Echo Cliffs Veterans’ Organization would not honor area veterans with the development of a commemorative public park.

2.2 Proposed Action

The *Echo Cliffs Veteran’s Organization* proposes to construct a veteran’s memorial park on a four-acre site in Cedar Ridge, Arizona. The construction activities will entail constructing a small building with a memorial feature and flag pole, a picnic area, and a gravel parking lot. Electrical and water utilities will be extended to the project site to serve the small building. However, separate EAs will be conducted for these activities.

2.3 Alternative Actions

No alternative site locations or actions have been proposed by the Echo Cliffs Veterans’ Organization that would provide a memorial park to honor local veterans. Therefore, no alternative actions are considered in this environmental assessment.
3 Description of the Affected Environment

3.1 Land Resources

3.1.1 Topography

The topography of the proposed project site is flat with a very gentle slope down to the east towards U.S. Highway 89. The site is situated at approximately 5,960 feet elevation. No rock outcrops occur on the project site (Figures 2, 3 & 4).

Figure 2. Site Topography Map. Veteran's Memorial Park Site (Cedar Ridge, Arizona 7.5' USGS Quadrangle).
Soils on the project site are classified as the Winona-Boysag-Rock Outcrop Association (Hendricks 1986). This association consists of shallow, well-drained soils and rock outcrop
on broad limestone and sandstone plateaus and plains. The soils formed in residuum on limestone and calcareous sandstone (Hendricks 1986).

Winona soils make up about 60 percent of the association, Boysag soils 15 percent, limestone and sandstone rock outcrop 15 percent and included associated soils 10 percent. These included soils consist mostly of small areas of Tortugas, Welring, Moenkopie, Poley and Tusayan on uplands, and Tours and Lynx along drainageways (Hendricks 1986).

This association has good potential to produce livestock forage but many areas have reduced gross yields due to juniper and pinyon encroachment. The potential use for rangeland wildlife habitat is fair. The best habitat is in the higher wooded areas (Hendricks 1986).

Factors limiting the potential of these areas for building sites, sanitary facilities and recreational areas are shallow depth to bedrock, rock fragments on the surface and excessive slope on the steeper areas (Hendricks 1986).

3.1.3 Geologic Setting and Mineral Resources

The proposed project site is located within the west-central region of the great Colorado Plateau in the Painted Desert region. The Colorado Plateau is a great block of the earth's crust that has remained coherent and recognizable through 600 million years and more, while blocks around it have tilted and squeezed and broken (Chronic 1983). The project site lies in the south-central region of the Plateau between the Kaibab Plateau and the Painted Desert. The proposed site lies along Echo Cliffs monocline that borders these regions. It extends north-to-south about one mile east of the project site. Geologic rock units exposed in the project area are of Triassic and Permian age. The Echo Cliffs are comprised of exposed Triassic age Glen Canyon Group (includes Navajo Sandstone, Kayenta Formation, Moenave Formation and Wingate Sandstone). Cedar Ridge is comprised of Permian aged Kaibab Limestone. On the project site, the dark-red Moenkopi Formation is exposed as small rock fragments on the surface.

No mineral resources are identified by the Bodaway-Gap Chapter as occurring on Chapter lands (Rogers 2004).

3.2 Water Resources

3.2.1 Surface Water

The nearest perennial surface water is the Colorado River which extends approximately 18 miles west of the site. The project area is drained by the Hamblin Wash which originates approximately 2,000 feet southeast of the project site and extends southerly along U.S. Highway 89 for approximately 28 miles before merging with the Moenkopi Wash near the U.S. Highway 89/U.S. Interstate 160 intersection. The Tanner Wash originates approximately 3,000 feet north of the project site and extends north along U.S. Highway 89 for approximately 24 miles before flowing into the Colorado River near Bitter Springs, Arizona. These washes are ephemeral streams that only after sufficient precipitation. A small unnamed drainage extends west-to-east approximately 700 feet south of the project site boundary before crossing U.S. Highway 89 via culvert and flowing into the Hamblin Wash. On the project site, a few small drainage channels extend west-to-east across the site towards U.S. Highway 89 before crossing the highway via a culvert and flowing toward the Hamblin Wash. A few man-made water impoundment ponds constructed using sand berms occur in the project area used for livestock watering purposes. One such pond is located near the southwestern corner of the site. No wetland areas occur on or near the project site boundaries.
3.2.2 Ground water

According to the well database at the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources, Water Management Branch, there are no wells found within two miles of the proposed project site.

3.2.3 Floodplains

In the project area, several dry washes flow down from Cedar Ridge, past the project site and to the Hamblin Wash and Tanner Wash. The project site is likely not located in a 100-year floodplain since these dry washes lack the watershed size necessary to flood the project site. In addition, the project site and surrounding area is flat, lacking a containment area through which a floodplain would flow.

3.3 Air Resources

3.3.1 Quality/Visibility

The proposed undertaking is located within the jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation in Arizona. According to the Navajo Air Quality Program, this area is designated as a Class II area, which is "unclassified" for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), but is assumed to be in attainment for the NAAQS. The proposed project activities will not adversely impact the existing air quality.

Visibility is generally good to excellent for areas within the Navajo Nation. Non-point sources of pollution in this region stem from automobile and wood, coal burning household stoves and wind generated dust. Point source pollutants in this region include coal burning generating stations that surround the Navajo Nation. The nearest coal burning power plant is the Navajo Generating Station located approximately 40 miles north of the site. The project activities are not subject to any air quality regulations.

3.3.2 Climate/Meteorology

The project site is situated at nearly 5,960 feet elevation and experiences cold winters and low precipitation scattered more or less throughout the year. High temperatures are common throughout the summer months. The average annual precipitation in the region ranges between 5 to 10 inches. About 60 to 65 percent of the annual precipitation occurs in the winter. The mean January air temperature is 30 to 35 degrees Fahrenheit. The mean July air temperature is 75 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit (Hendricks 1985).

3.4 Biotic Resources

3.4.1 Description of Biological Communities

The site lies entirely within the Plains and Great Basin Grasslands biotic community, a subsection of Biotic Communities of the Southwest. These two continental fasciations of the North American prairie both reach their southern terminus in the American Southwest. There grasslands are now much altered but were formerly open, grass dominated landscapes in which the grasses formed a continuous or nearly uninterrupted cover (Brown 1986).

Grasslands exhibiting characteristics of a Great Basin (intermountain grassland) reach this area from the northwest and intergrade with plains grassland over a large transition area which includes southern Utah, northern Arizona, southwestern and south-central Colorado, and northwestern and north-central New Mexico (Brown 1986).
Those grasslands possessing characteristics and components of Great Basin affinity tend to be drier (180-300 mm mean annual precipitation) and colder (mean annual growing season 125-200 days) than in locations more representative of Plains grassland. These transitional grassland areas also receive a larger percentage of their precipitation during winter and spring months; May through August rainfall averages less than 127 mm. At lower elevations the contact is most frequent with Great Basin Desert scrub biotic community (Brown 1986).

3.4.2 Wildlife

No wildlife was observed during a recent site visit, likely due to the site’s proximity to U.S. Highway 89 and the scattered homesites in the area. No wetland/riparian wildlife species occur on or near the proposed project site.

3.4.3 Vegetation

The site vegetation has been previously disturbed by area livestock grazing. The site vegetation and surrounding area is dominated by juniper, snakeweed, rabbitbrush, prickly pear cactus, Russian thistle, and various bunch grasses (Figure 5). No wetland/riparian vegetative species occur on or near the proposed project site.

![Figure 5. View of the typical vegetation found on the project site.](image)

3.4.4 Threatened and Endangered Species

To satisfy the requirements of the Endangered Species Act and the Navajo Endangered Species List, ETD, Inc. conducted a biological reconnaissance of the proposed project site and determined that the site does not provide suitable habitat or significant foraging habitat for species of concern identified by the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department as occurring on the Cedar Ridge, Arizona, 7.5-minute Quadrangle. The Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department concurred with ETD, Inc.’s determination and issued a Biological Resources
Compliance Form for the proposed project with no conditions of compliance. See Appendix A for Biological Resources Compliance Form.

### 3.4.5 Agriculture

Approximately 28 small family farms and no community/cooperative farming activities occur in the Bodaway-Gap Chapter (Rodgers 2004). No farms are found on or near the project site. The area is occasionally grazed by livestock, mainly horses, cattle, and sheep; none of which was observed on the project site. No prime or unique farmlands are found on or near the project site.

### 3.5 Cultural Resources

A cultural resources inventory of the project site was conducted by Mathilda Burke, Project Archaeologist of ETD, Inc. The inventory consisted of a records search at the Navajo Historic Preservation Department (NHPD) and a field survey. The records search revealed that four projects have previously been conducted within a 500 foot radius of the project site, with one site being recorded (AZ-K-36-36). The site consisted of an Anasazi artifact scatter. The field survey was conducted using concentric pedestrian transects spaced approximately 7.5 meters apart.

#### 3.5.1 Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP), Historic, and Religious Properties

An ethnographic interview was conducted by Mathilda Burke with Mr. Leonard Sloan concerning burials, sacred places, and plant/herb gathering areas to determine if there were any potential traditional cultural properties (TCP) in or near the proposed project area. Mr. Sloan stated that no TCPs occurred in the project area.

#### 3.5.2 Archaeological Resources

No isolated occurrences (IOs), In-Use-Areas (IUAs) or Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) were encountered during the cultural resources survey. However, one historical site (AZ-K-36-49) was encountered which consists of an earth dam constructed with large sandstone rocks slabs and wood. Site AZ-K-36-49 may meet the 50-year guideline for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) but does not meet criteria for protection under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA), or Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). A determination of "no historic properties affected" was recommended for the proposed undertaking. The Navajo Historic Preservation Department (NHPD) subsequently issued a cultural resources compliance form with no conditions of compliance for the proposed project.

### 3.6 Socioeconomic Conditions

#### 3.6.1 Employment and Income

In general, unemployment rates on the Navajo reservation are quite high. According to the U.S. Census 2000, the median household income in the Bodaway-Gap Chapter was $19,063 and the per capita income was $6,740. The Chapter residents were mainly employed in the educational, health, and social services; construction; manufacturing; and retail trade industries.

#### 3.6.2 Demographic and Trends

According to the U.S. Census 2000, the total population of the Bodaway-Gap Chapter was 1,837 persons. Of the total population, 1,912 persons were American Indian. The median age of the Chapter residents was 23.2 years old. There were 467 households in the
Chapter with an average household size of 3.93 persons. 43.7 percent of the population was 18 years old or younger.

3.6.3 Lifestyles, Cultural Values, Attitudes, Expectations

Generally speaking, the communities of the Navajo Nation comprise a variety of people and lifestyles. Some residents work in Gap, Arizona, for area schools or Navajo Nation programs. There are many residents who raise cattle and sheep and practice the traditional Navajo lifestyle. Some families live a combination of these lifestyles. By and large, their individual lifestyles reflect their attitudes, values and expectations.

3.6.4 Community Infrastructure

Roads and Accessibility. The Cedar Ridge community is served by U.S. Highway 89 which extends north from Flagstaff, Arizona, through Cedar Ridge, and on to Page, Arizona, before entering the State of Utah. Many dirt roads extending off this highway provide access to most areas of the community. The proposed site is accessed along U.S. Highway 89 which provides good site accessibility.

Power. Electrical utilities in the region are owned and operated by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA). A power utility line currently extends along the western boundary of the site. This line will likely be used to provide electrical power utilities to the site. A separate EA will be prepared to extend electric power utilities to the project site from nearby NTUA infrastructure.

Water. NTUA maintains and operates the current water delivery system in the region. NTUA water utility infrastructure does not currently extend to the project site. However, water utility lines do exist in the project area which provides water utilities to surrounding homesites in the area. A separate EA will be prepared to extend water utilities to the project site from nearby NTUA infrastructure.

Wastewater. NTUA maintains and operates the current wastewater system in the region. NTUA wastewater utility infrastructure does not extend to the project site area. A septic tank system will likely be utilized by the project sponsor to provide wastewater utilities to the project site.

Solid Waste. Solid waste is handled through a transfer station system established through a coordinated effort among the Navajo Nation government, Indian Health Service and Coconino County Government. The project sponsor will haul solid waste generated at the proposed veteran’s park to the local transfer station at Gap, Arizona, located about six miles south of the project site along U.S. Highway 89.

3.6.5 Environmental Justice

Environmental justice has been defined as the pursuit of equal justice and equal protection under the law for all environmental statutes and regulations without discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and/or socioeconomic status. To the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law Federal agencies are required to make environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States. Environmental Justice is generally not an issue for veteran’s memorial park projects.
3.7 **Indian Trust Resources**

The Bodaway-Gap Chapter considers the groundwater a local natural resource since there are several springs with established wells and tanks located within the Chapter (Rodgers 2004). This trust resource is used by local people for livestock watering.

3.8 **Environmental Module**

3.8.1 **RCRA Subtitle C Sites**

No hazardous waste sites occur on or near the project site. No hazardous waste is expected to be used, generated, handled, or stored on or near the proposed project site as part of the operational activities of the proposed project.

3.8.2 **RCRA Subtitle D Sites**

No solid waste sites occur on or near the project site. The project sponsor will provide portable trash containers on the project site and empty them into the local solid waste transfer station at Gap, Arizona. Construction waste generated by the project activities will be hauled to the regional landfill in Flagstaff, Arizona, by the general contractor.

3.8.3 **RCRA Subtitle I Sites**

No underground storage tanks occur on or near the proposed project site. There are no plans to install underground tanks as part of the proposed project.

3.8.4 **CERCLA Sites**

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website (www.epa.gov/superfund), CERCLA National Priority List (NPL) sites are not found on or near the proposed project site.

3.8.5 **Toxic Substances Control Act Sites**

Toxic substances, as defined under the Toxic Substances Control Act, do not occur on the project site and none will be used generated, handled, or stored on or near the proposed project site as part of the proposed project.

3.9 **Resources/Land Use Patterns**

The following resources or land uses are not found in the study region: hunting, fishing and gathering, timber harvesting, mining, outdoor recreation and solid or hazardous waste dumpsites. However, the following land uses or practices occur in this region: transportation use network, agriculture and land use plans.

3.9.1 **Transportation Use Network**

The Cedar Ridge community is served by U.S. Highway 89 which extends north from Flagstaff through Cedar Ridge and northward to Page, Arizona. The remaining transportation network system consists of dirt roads that extend off the highway.

3.9.2 **Land Use Plans**

The Bodaway-Gap Chapter passed a Chapter Resolution in support of the proposed project. Therefore is not in conflict with the Chapter's land use plan.
3.10 Other Values

3.10.1 Wilderness

No areas have been designated as wilderness areas by the Navajo Nation, federal or state governments on or near the proposed project site. The nearest designated wilderness area is the Saddle Mountain Wilderness managed by the U.S. Forest Service located approximately 18 miles west of the site.

3.10.2 Sound and Noise

Natural sound and noise in the project area primarily consists of noise made from atmospheric phenomena such as wind, thunder or cries made by various animals. Man-made sound and noises is comprised of traffic along U.S. Highway 89, nearby neighborhood activity, and occasional aircraft flyovers.

3.10.3 Public Health and Safety

The proposed project area is served by the Navajo Nation Police, Tuba City District. The community public health and safety facilities in the Chapter include a Community Health Representative, Navajo Division of Social Services, Senior Citizens Center, Navajo Area Agency on Aging, and food distribution services. The Tuba City Regional Health Center, Page Medical Center, and the Flagstaff Medical Center provide medical care services to the Chapter community.

3.10.4 Visual Setting

The project area is rich in natural beauty. The proposed project is located in an area previously disturbed by existing developments.
4 Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action

This chapter describes the impacts of the proposed project on the surrounding environment and resources. Mitigation measures that reduce or eliminate impacts are also discussed where appropriate.

4.1 Land Resources Impacts and Mitigation

4.1.1 Topography

The proposed project activities will involve minimal earth moving activities associated with the small building development. However, since the project site is flat, very little site modification will be necessary. Therefore, minor impact the site topography is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.1.2 Soils

On the project site, soil disturbance will occur from the installation of the building foundations and underground utilities. Initially, the soil will be somewhat unstable and susceptible to soil erosion and stream sedimentation. Controlling storm runoff and pollution is the purpose of Section 402 of the CWA. This part of the federal law prohibits storm water discharges from certain construction activities to waters of the U.S. unless that discharge is covered under a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit. Where one or more acres are disturbed, operators of construction sites must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under a NPDES general permit and prepare and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Mitigation Measure: Obtain a NPDES general permit. Obtaining a NPDES permit involves: (1) submittal of a NOI, (2) development of a SWPPP, and (3) submission of Notice of Termination (NOT). The SWPPP must include a site description and sources of pollution, description of controls that will be used on-site for erosion and sediment control, description of maintenance and inspection procedures, and pollution prevention measures for any non-storm water discharges present. For more information, go to www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/cgp or telephone the Storm Water Notice Processing Center at (866) 352-7755.

With adherence to the above mitigation measure, the impact to the soil is anticipated to be minor and short-term.

4.1.3 Geologic Setting and Mineral Resources

No mineral resources occur on or near the project site. No impact to the geologic setting or mineral resources will occur as a result of the proposed project.

4.2 Water Resources Impacts and Mitigation

4.2.1 Surface Water

During construction, disturbed areas will experience increased run-off rates, localized soil erosion, and the potential for non-point source pollution of surface water. These impacts will be minimized through the implementation of an effective SWPPP, which is part of the NPDES permit coverage, discussed in Section 4.1.2.

With adherence to the above mitigation measure, minimal impact to area surface water resources is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.
4.2.2 Ground Water
No impact to ground water is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.2.3 Floodplains
The site is not likely in a 100-year floodplain and therefore, there will be no impact to, or from, any floodplains as a result of the proposed project.

4.3 Air Resources Impacts and Mitigation

4.3.1 Quality/Visibility
No impact to the air quality and visibility is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.3.2 Climate/Meteorology
The area climate/meteorology will not be impacted by the proposed project.

4.4 Biotic Resources Impacts and Mitigation

4.4.1 Biological Community
No impact to the Great Basin Grasslands biotic community will occur as a result of the proposed project.

4.4.2 Wildlife
The project site has been previously disturbed by the existing developments on and near the project site. Therefore, little, if any, wildlife occurs on the project site. No impact to wildlife resources including riparian/aquatic wildlife species is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.4.3 Vegetation
Very little vegetation occurs on the project site. It will be cleared before construction activities begin.

Mitigation Measure: Reseed all areas not used on the site. The seed mixture and broadcasting methods must follow recommended re-vegetation techniques set forth by the Navajo Agriculture Department.

With adherence to the above mitigation measure, no impact to area vegetation is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.4.4 Threatened and Endangered Species
The proposed project site is surrounded by U.S. Highway 89, neighborhood homes, and utility infrastructure, where no threatened and endangered species occur. Given the above information, ETD, Inc. requested and received biological clearance from the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department for the proposed project. See Biological Resources Compliance Form in Appendix A.

4.4.5 Agriculture
Four acres of grazing land will be lost as a result of the proposed project. No farming activities occur on the project site. Minor impact to area agricultural resources or practices is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.
4.5 Cultural Resources Impacts and Mitigation

4.5.1 Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP), Religious and Historic Properties

No Traditional Cultural Properties, religious, or historic properties occur on the proposed project site. No impact to TCPs, religious, or historic properties is anticipated as a result of the project activities. See Cultural Resources Compliance Form in Appendix B.

4.5.2 Archaeological Resources

No archaeological resources that merit protection by law occur on the project site. No impact to archaeological resources is anticipated as a result of the proposed project. See Cultural Resources Compliance Form in Appendix B.

4.6 Socioeconomic Conditions Impacts and Mitigation

4.6.1 Employment and Income

No impact to the local employment and income characteristics is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.6.2 Demographics and Trends

No impact to the local demographics and trends is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.6.3 Lifestyles, Cultural Values, Attitudes and Expectations

No impact to the lifestyles, cultural values, attitudes and expectations of the local community is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.6.4 Community Infrastructure

The proposed project will require minimal electrical and water utilities during operation. No impact to the local community infrastructure is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.6.5 Environmental Justice

The proposed project will result in positive impact to the community, which is comprised mainly of low income, minority citizens.

4.7 Indian Trust Resources Impacts and Mitigation

Indian Trust Resources have not been identified on or near the project area; thus, no adverse impacts to Indian Trust Resources are expected as a result of the project activities.

4.8 Environmental Module Impacts and Mitigation

No adverse environmental impacts are anticipated with site condition(s) or project activities with respect to RCRA, CERCLA or TSCA sites.

4.9 Resource and Land Use Patterns

4.9.1 Transportation Use Network

No impact to the local transportation use network is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.
4.9.2 Land Use Plans

The proposed project is in accordance with the land use plans since the Chapter passed a Resolution in support of the proposed project. No impact to the Chapter's land use plans is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.9.3 Agriculture

No impact to the local agricultural resources is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.10 Other Values

4.10.1 Sound and Noise

No impact to the existing community sound and noise levels is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.10.2 Public Health and Safety

No impact to the public health and safety of the local community is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.10.3 Visual Setting

No impact to the visual setting of the local area is anticipated as a result of the proposed project.

4.11 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless what agency or person undertakes. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. There will be minor, short-term impacts to the project site soils and vegetation; however, provided that the project sponsor adheres to the mitigation measures identified above, the proposed project will not result in any cumulative impacts.
5 Preparer

5.1 Personal Qualifications

This document has been prepared by Mr. Erwin Tso. Mr. Tso has over 5 years experience in environmental regulatory compliance in Indian Country and is well versed in the environmental policies and regulations that affect development. He holds a B.S. Degree in Chemical Engineering for the University of New Mexico, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He has completed numerous environmental documents and has successfully completed a 40-hour NEPA Training course provided by the Shipley Group.

6 List of Agencies and Organizations Consulted

The information used in this analysis was obtained from reports, government databases, biological and archaeological field surveys, and direct communication either by phone or letters with the following agencies: Navajo Nation EPA, Navajo Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Navajo Historic Preservation Department, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, Navajo Nation Branch of Water Management and Indian Health Service.

7 Document Preparer's Signature

Erwin J. Tso, B.S. Chemical Engineering
Research Specialist, ETD, Inc.

Date

References Cited


APPENDIX B
Cultural Resources Compliance Form
PROJECT TITLE: ETD-07-034: A Cultural Resources Inventory of a Proposed Veteran’s Memorial Park in Bodaway/Gap Chapter, Coconino County, Arizona

LEAD AGENCY: BIA/NR

SPONSOR: Leonard Sloan, Echo Cliffs Veteran’s Organization P.O. Box 1435 Gap, Arizona 86020

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed undertaking will involve the construction of a memorial park and associated facilities within the 4.0 acre lease area. Ground disturbance will be extensive and intensive.

LAND STATUS: Navajo Tribal Trust

CHAPTER: Bodaway/Gap

LOCATION: T.35N., R.18E.; Unplatted; Cedar Ridge Quadrangle, Coconino County, Arizona; G&SRPM&B

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST: Mathilda Burke

NAVAJO ANTIQUITIES PERMIT NO.: B07451

DATE INSPECTED: 8/14/07
DATE OF REPORT: 8/24/07
TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED: 6.4

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION: Class III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced 7.5 m apart.

LIST OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOUND:

(1) Site AZ-K-36-49

LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:

None

LIST OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:

(1) Site AZ-K-36-49

LIST OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

None

EFFECT/CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE: No historic properties affected.

In the event of a discovery ["discovery" means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources including but not limited to archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices], all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease, and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified at (928) 871-7148.

FORM PREPARED BY: Ettie Anderson
FINALIZED: September 13, 2007

Notification to Proceed Recommended: Yes XX No
Conditions: Yes ___ No XX

Navajo Region Approval: Yes X No ___

Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Officer

[Signature]

Date 10/3/07

Acting Regional Director

[Signature] 10/3/07
JO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM

**NTC § 164 Recommendation:**
- [ ] Approval
- [ ] Conditional Approval (with memo)
- [ ] Disapproval (with memo)
- [ ] None (with memo)

Gloria M. Tom, Director, Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife

* I understand and accept the conditions of compliance, and acknowledge that lack of signature may be grounds for the Department not recommending the above described project for approval to the Tribal Decision-maker.

Representative’s signature

Date

Signature

Date 22 Aug. 2007
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM
NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
P.O. BOX 1480, WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515-1480

It is the Department's opinion the project described below, with applicable conditions, is in compliance with Tribal and Federal laws protecting biological resources including the Navajo Endangered Species and Environmental Policy Codes, U.S. Endangered Species, Migratory Bird Treaty, Eagle Protection and National Environmental Policy Acts. This form does not preclude or replace consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if a Federally-listed species is affected.

PROJECT NAME & NO.: Biological Reconnaissance: Veteran's Memorial Park Project (4.0 acres) Cedar Ridge, AZ

DESCRIPTION: Construction of Park, Pavilion, Memorial feature, Picnic area, Parking lot

LOCATION: Cedar Ridge T35N R08 NAD27 UTM 4027290N 0452915E

REPRESENTATIVE: ETD Inc. - Erwin Tso

ACTION AGENCY: Echo Cliffs Veteran's Organization


SIGNIFICANT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOUND: NA

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

TRIBAL ENDANGERED SPECIES (G2 & G3) TAKEN: NA

FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AFFECTED: NA

OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Wupatki Pocket Mouse, Beath Milk-vetch

AVOIDANCE / MITIGATION MEASURES: All project equipment and personnel shall remain in project area - the use of best available construction practices is required to limit impacts to land, water (surface and ground), and biological resources - avoid rodent burrows during construction when possible.

CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE:

FORM PREPARED BY / DATE: Ron W. Malecki / 22 August 2007

COPIES TO: (add categories as necessary)

☐ Navajo Environmental Protection Agency ☑ BIA Navajo Region, Environmental Services
☐ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NM Field Office ☐ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, UT Field Office
☐ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, AZ Field Office ☐ (Other)
APPENDIX A

Biological Resources Compliance Form
BIOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE:

Veteran’s Memorial Park Project (4.0 acres), Cedar Ridge, Arizona

Prepared by:
ERWIN J. TSO, B.S. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

ETD, INC. CONSULTING AND APPLIED RESEARCH
2102 N. 4th St., Suite 220
Flagstaff, Arizona 86004
928.779.6032

August 15, 2007
Introduction
The Echo Cliffs Veteran’s Organization proposes to construct a Veteran’s Memorial Park on a four-acre site along U.S. Highway 89 in Cedar Ridge, Arizona, within the Bodaway/Gap Chapter of the Navajo Nation (Figure 1). It is situated along the Eco Cliffs Monocline, a very distinguishing geologic feature in this region. The Park is intended to serve as a gathering place for local veterans and their families in a commemorative setting. The project activities will involve constructing a small building, memorial feature with flag pole, picnic area and gravel parking lot. The site encompasses 4.0 acres.

This biological reconnaissance documents the project site description, its habitat potential with regard to the habitat requirements of any threatened, endangered and sensitive (TES) species. Such species are protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and the Navajo Endangered Species List of 2001.

Figure 1. Project Site General Location Map.
Project Location and Habitat Description

The project site lies within T 35 North, R 08 East (projected) of the G&SRPM, in Coconino County, Arizona. It has been mapped on the Cedar Ridge, Arizona, 7.5-minute Quadrangle in Figure 2. The UTM coordinates (NAD 27) are: 1) 452915 E, 4027290 N, 2) 452980 E, 4027112 N, 3) 452991 E, 4027325 N, and 4) 453067 E, 4027150 N. The site has also been on an aerial photo in Figure 3.

The project site is accessed by traveling approximately 90 miles north of Flagstaff, Arizona, along U.S. Highway 89. The project site is located adjacent to the U.S. Highway 89 right-of-way, near milepost 505 and Navajo Route 5120.

Figure 2. Topographic map of proposed project site (Cedar Ridge, Arizona, 7.5' USGS Quadrangle).
Figure 3. Aerial Photo of the Proposed Project Site.
The topography of the proposed project site is relatively flat but gently slopes down to the east towards U.S. Highway 89 (Figures 4 and 5). The site's southwest corner is situated at 5,933 feet and the northeast elevation is situated 5,933 feet elevation. Some areas of the site have been previously disturbed by vehicular traffic and livestock grazing. The site is surrounded by existing developments including U.S. Highway 89, Navajo Route 5120, power lines, and scattered homesites.

Figure 4. View looking across the project site from the southwestern corner of the site.

Figure 5. View looking across the project site from the northeastern corner of the site.
The project site lies near the drainage divide between the Tanner Wash, which flows northward to the Colorado River, and Hamblin Wash, which flows southward to the Little Colorado River. These washes are ephemeral streams that flow only when there is sufficient precipitation. A few small drainage channels extend west-to-east across the project site towards U.S. Highway 89 and through a culvert and on to the Hamblin Wash.

The site lies in the transition zone between the Great Basin Desertscrub and Great Basin Conifer Woodland (Brown 1994). Vegetation on the site is dominated by blackbrush, broom snakeweed, and gama grass. Scattered juniper and pinyon trees are present on the foothills and ridges near the site.

Soils at the site are classified as the Winona-Boysag-Rock Outcrop Association. This association consists of shallow, well-drained soils and rock outcrop on broad limestone and sandstone plateaus and plains. The soils formed in residuum on limestone and calcareous sandstone. Winona soils make up about 60 percent of the association, Boysag soils 15 percent, limestone and sandstone rock outcrop 15 percent and included associated soils 10 percent. This association has good potential to produce livestock forage but many areas have reduced gross yields due to juniper and pinyon encroachment. The potential use for rangeland wildlife habitat is fair. The best habitat is in the higher wooded areas. Factors limiting the potential of these areas for building sites, sanitary facilities and recreational areas are shallow depth to bedrock, rock fragments on the surface and excessive slope on the steeper areas (Hendricks 1986).

**Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) Species**

A list of TES species that potentially occur on the Cedar Ridge, Arizona, 7.5-minute Quadrangle, was obtained from Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department (NFWD) in connection with a nearby site that was surveyed for a cell phone tower project (File#08ETD07). This list is presented in Attachment A. Since this list is less than two years old and occurs on the same quadrangle, it was used for this biological reconnaissance. The TES species are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1. TES species potentially occurring within the Cedar Ridge, Arizona, 7.5-minute Quadrangle.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>NESL Status</th>
<th>Federal Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perognathus amplus cineris</td>
<td>Wupatki (Arizona) Pocket Mouse</td>
<td>Group 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astragalus beathii</td>
<td>Beath Milk-vetch</td>
<td>Group 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquila chrysaetos</td>
<td>Golden eagle</td>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>EPA, MBTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buteo regalis</td>
<td>Ferruginous hawk</td>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>MBTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empidonax traillii</td>
<td>Southwestern willow flycatcher</td>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>LE, MBTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco peregrinus</td>
<td>Peregrine falcon</td>
<td>Group 4</td>
<td>MBTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustela nigripes</td>
<td>Black-footed ferret</td>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>LE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediocactus peeblesianus var. ficeiseniae</td>
<td>Ficeisen Plains Cactus</td>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A biological reconnaissance of the project area was conducted on August 2, 2007 by Erwin Tso, Research Specialist, ETD, Inc. The weather was mildly hot with no winds. No wildlife species were observed on or near the project site during the survey. ETD, Inc. conducted a biological habitat investigation to determine if the project site holds suitable habitat for any TES species. Table 2 presents the findings of the habitat evaluation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>General Habitat Requirements</th>
<th>Presence of habitat or evidence of species</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perognathus</td>
<td>Wupatki</td>
<td>Occupies Great Basin Desertscrub habitat with sparse ground cover of greasewood, snakeweed,</td>
<td>The project site is relatively flat with no rock outcrops. No burrows were observed on the project site.</td>
<td>No Effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amplus cinerei</td>
<td>(Arizona)Pocket Mouse</td>
<td>rabbitbrush, ephedra, shortgrass, and possibly, short junipers. Rock ledges and outcrops have been found to provide the most quality habitat for various species of mice in this area.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ammodtes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astragalus</td>
<td>Beach Milkvetch</td>
<td>Sandy flats, red clay knolls, and gullied washes in badlands, on selenium bearing soils derived from Moenkopi sandstone shale at 4,000 to 4,800 ft. Often along roads.</td>
<td>This species is a rather large, brightly-colored plant. No plants resembling the Beach Milkvetch was observed on or near the project site.</td>
<td>No Effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beathii</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquila</td>
<td>Golden Eagle</td>
<td>Nest on steep cliffs, typically ≥ 30 m in height, although cliffs ≥ 10 m infrequently used. Nesting cliffs are normally directly adjacent to foraging habitat of desert grasslands or desertscrub, with only sparse shrubs if present, that provides primary prey of cottontail and jackrabbits.</td>
<td>Echo Cliffs occur east of the site where nesting may occur; however, these steep cliffs are located about 4,000 feet away. Marginal foraging habitat is present within the project area. However, no rabbits, gophers, or other prey were observed on or near the project site.</td>
<td>May affect, not likely to adversely affect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chrysaetos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buteo regalis</td>
<td>Ferruginous Hawk</td>
<td>Ferruginous Hawks nests in badlands, flat or rolling desert grasslands, and desertscrub. Most nests on the Navajo Nation are on clay or rock pinnacles, small buttes, or short cliffs (&lt; 30 m height); fewer are placed in top of juniper trees or on the ground. Habitat surrounding nest site must support populations of their preferred prey items of cottontail and jackrabbits, prairie dogs, ground squirrels and gophers.</td>
<td>Echo Cliffs occur east of the site where nesting may occur; however, these steep cliffs are located about 4,000 feet away. Marginal foraging habitat is present within the project area. However, no rabbits, gophers, or other prey were observed on or near the project site.</td>
<td>May affect, not likely to adversely affect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empidonax</td>
<td>Southwestern Willow</td>
<td>Nesting is in dense riparian vegetation near surface water or saturated soil; either in monotypic or mixed stands of native (e.g. willow) and/or exotic species (e.g. tamarisk or Russian olive), with or without an overstory.</td>
<td>No riparian or wetland areas containing riparian vegetation occur on or near the project site.</td>
<td>No Effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taliilus</td>
<td>Flycatcher</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco peregrinus</td>
<td>Peregrine Falcon</td>
<td>Nests on steep cliffs &gt; 30 m tall (typically ≥ 45 m) in a scrape on sheltered ledges or potholes. Foraging habitat quality is an important factor; often, but not always, extensive wetland or forest habitat is within the falcon's hunting range of ≤ 12 km. Variability in topographic features, such as elevation and slope, may also indicate the availability of prey.</td>
<td>No wetlands or forest habitat is located on or near the project area. Echo cliffs occur east of the site where nesting may occur; however, these steep cliffs are located about 4,000 feet away.</td>
<td>May affect, not likely to adversely affect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustela</td>
<td>Black-footed</td>
<td>Medium to large active prairie dog</td>
<td>No prairie dog communities</td>
<td>No Effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nigripes</td>
<td>Ferret</td>
<td>towns (&gt; 80 ha, and ≥ 20 burrow/ha) or complex of towns (two or more towns within 7 km). Prairie dogs are their main food source, and burrows are used for denning and rearing young.</td>
<td>or burrows were observed on or near the project site.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pediocactus peabianus var. tickensis</em></td>
<td>Fickisen Plains Cactus</td>
<td>Soils overlain by Kaibab Limestone in Navajo desert or Great Basin Grasslands, along canyon rims and flat terraces along washes, typically with limestone chips scattered across the surface. Populations are known to occur between 4,000 - 5,800 ft. elevations.</td>
<td>No individuals cactus were observed on the project site. The geologic unit underlying the soil is the Moenkopi Formation. The Kaibab Limestone lies beneath the Moenkopi Formation. It is exposed east of the project site.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion**

This biological reconnaissance concludes that the project does not provide suitable habitat or significant foraging habitat for TES species. Based on the habitat evaluation, the project will likely have no effect to the Wuputki Pocket Mouse, Beath milkvetch, Southwestern willow flycatcher, Black-footed ferret, and the Fickisen Plains Cactus. The project may affect, but is not likely to affect the Golden eagle, Perigrine falcon, and the Ferruginous hawk, since only a small foraging area will be impacted. In fact the foraging is considered marginal to minimal because of the surrounding developments. Potential nesting sites for the Golden Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk and Peregrine Falcon occur along Echo Cliffs. However, Echo Cliffs are located approximately 4,000 feet away from the proposed project site and therefore will not be impacted by the project activities. ETD recommends that no further surveys are needed and the project should be allowed to proceed.

**Literature Cited**


FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT, EA-07-164
VETERANS’ MEMORIAL PARK PROJECT IN CEDAR RIDGE, ARIZONA

ECHO CLIFFS VETERANS' ORGANIZATION & TUBA CITY REGIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Location: Cedar Ridge, AZ, Quadrangle, USGS 7.5-Minute Series Map
Projected, T35N, R8E, G&SRPM&B
Cedar Ridge, Coconino County, Arizona

The proposed action is approval, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, of the withdrawal of a 4.0-acre parcel of Navajo Tribal Trust land for the construction of the Veterans’ Memorial Park to serve as a gathering place for local veterans and their families in a commemorative setting. The Park is also intended to provide a rest stop for travelers on U.S. Highway 89. The project activities will entail constructing a small building with a memorial feature and flag-pole, a picnic area, and a gravel parking lot. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) owns and operates the electricity, water and wastewater infrastructure in the region. The NTUA has provided utility clearance for use of electricity and water. There are no sewer lines in the vicinity. A septic tank and drain field system will be used. The proposed project site is located in the Bodaway-Gap Chapter approximately 90 miles north of Flagstaff, Arizona, along U.S. Highway 89. The project is sponsored by the Echo Cliffs Veterans’ Organization, P.O. Box 4135, Gap, Arizona 86020 and Tuba City Regional Business Development Office, P.O. Box 485, Tuba City, Arizona 86045.

The environmental assessment (EA) was reviewed in the Division of Environmental, Cultural and Safety Management, Navajo Regional Office. Based on the environmental assessment, and the mitigation measures specified in the document, it is determined that the proposed project will not have a significant impact on the natural and human environment. Therefore, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102 (2) (C), an environmental impact statement will not be required.

The following references, incorporated in the environmental assessment, serve as the bases for this decision:

1. Agency and public involvement was solicited. Environmental issues relative to the proposed project were identified. Alternative courses of action and mitigation measures were developed in response to environmental concerns and issues.

2. The EA disclosed the environmental consequences of the proposed action and two viable alternatives including the “no action” alternative.

3. In compliance with the Endangered Species Act, informal consultation was held with the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife (NNDFW), Natural Heritage Program (NHP). ETD, Inc. used a species listing for an earlier project located in the same quadrangle as the current proposed project. On August 2, 2007, Erwin Tso of ETD, Inc. conducted a biological habitat
investigation to determine if the project site provided suitable habitat for any TES species. The conclusion was that the project area does not provide suitable habitat or significant foraging habitat for TES species. Foraging habitat is considered marginal to minimal because of surrounding developments (EA-Appendix A-Biological Reconnaissance). The NNDFW issued Biological Resources Compliance Form (BRCF) NNDF&Wl Review No. ETD081507 indicating compliance with Tribal and Federal laws protecting biological resources. Avoidance and mitigation measures cited in the BRCF are: “All project equipment and personnel shall remain in project area-the use of best available construction practices is required to limit impacts land, water (surface and ground), and biological resources - avoid rodent burrows during construction when possible” (EA-Appendix A-BRCF).

4. Potential impacts to floodplains and wetlands by the proposed project have been evaluated in accordance with Executive Orders 11988 and 11990. The project site is not likely located in a 100-year floodplain since the dry washes in the area lack the size necessary to flood the project site. No wetland areas occur on or near the project site (EA, Parts 3.2.1 & 3.2.3.).

5. Agriculture- no farming activities occur on the proposed project site (EA, Part 4.4.5.).

6. Water Resources - disturbed areas on the project site will result in increased run-off rates, localized soil erosion and potential for non-point source pollution of surface water. These impacts shall be reduced through the implementation of an effective Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). No impacts to ground water are anticipated as a result of the proposed project (EA, Parts 4.2.1 & 4.2.2.).

7. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, Section 106 consultation, and 36 CFR 800.9 (b), a cultural resources inventory was conducted on the project area by ETD, Inc. on August 14, 2007. The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (NNHPD) issued Cultural Resources Compliance Form (CRCF) NNHPD No. HPD-07-824 indicating “No historic properties affected” (EA-Appendix B-CRCF).

In the event of a discovery [discovery means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources including, but not limited to, archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices] all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease, and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified.

8. RCRA, Subtitle C, Hazardous Waste- no hazardous waste sites occur on or near the proposed project site. Hazardous waste shall not be generated, handled or stored on or near the proposed project site as part of the construction or operation of the proposed project (EA, Part 3.8.1.).

9. RCRA, Subtitle D, Non-Hazardous Solid Waste- no solid waste disposal sites occur on or near the proposed project site. Solid waste generated during construction shall be hauled to the regional landfill in Flagstaff, Arizona. Solid waste generated during operations shall be disposed at the local solid waste transfer station at Gap, Arizona (EA, Part 3.8.2).
10. RCRA, Subtitle I, Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) – no USTs occur on or near the proposed project site. There are no plans to install USTs as part of the proposed project (EA, Part 3.8.3.).

11. CERCLA Sites- according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website, no CERCLA sites are located on or near the proposed project site (EA, Part 3.8.4.).

12. Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) – no toxic substances will be used, generated, handled, or stored on or near the proposed site as part of the proposed project (EA, Part 3.8.5.).

13. Noise – no impacts to the existing community sound and noise levels are anticipated as a result of the proposed project (EA, Part 4.10.1.).

14. Air Resources – no impacts to air quality or visibility are anticipated as a result of the proposed project (EA, Part 4.3.1.).

15. Community Infrastructure—electricity, water, and wastewater services in the region are owned and operated by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA). A power utility line currently extends along the western boundary of the site. Water utility lines do exist in the project area providing water to near-by homes. NTUA has provided utility clearances for use of water and electricity (Facsimile-November 29, 2007, Letters from NTUA to TCRBDO). A separate environmental assessment will be prepared to extend electricity and water to the project site. Wastewater lines do not extend to the project area. A septic tank/drain field system will have to be used by the project sponsor to provide wastewater utilities at the project site (EA, Part 3.6.4.).

16. Cumulative and secondary effects on soil, water, air, noise, vegetation, cultural resources, and wildlife resources (species and habitat) were considered, and the proposed mitigation measures were found to be acceptable.

17. In accordance with Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, impacts to minority and low-income populations and communities have been considered by the Regional NEPA Coordinator, as have impacts to Indian Trust Resources.

The proposed action will allow the Echo Cliffs Veterans’ Organization to honor area veterans through the development and construction of a public park for the local community and travelers along U.S. Highway 89.

\[\text{Signature} \quad \text{11/29/2007}\]
Ms. Eunice L. Tso
ETD, Inc.
2101 N. Fourth St. Suite 201
Flagstaff, Arizona 86004

Dear Ms. Tso:

The Environmental Assessment (EA), EA-07-164 for the Veterans' Memorial Park Project on a 4.0-acre tract of Navajo Tribal Trust land in Cedar Ridge, Coconino County, Arizona, has been reviewed in the Division of Environmental, Cultural and Safety Management, Navajo Regional Office. The proposed project site is located in the Bodaway-Gap Chapter approximately 90 miles north of Flagstaff, Arizona, along U.S. Highway 89. The Echo Cliffs Veterans' Organization proposes to construct the Veterans' Memorial Park to serve as a gathering place for local veterans and their families in a commemorative setting. The Memorial Park is also intended to provide a rest stop for travelers on U.S. Highway 89. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been determined for the proposed action which will not have a significant impact on the quality of the natural and human environment. An environmental impact statement for the proposed project is not required.

If you have questions, you may contact Ms. Harrilene J. Yazzie, Regional NEPA Coordinator, at (505) 863-8287.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Regional Director, Navajo

Enclosure
May 5, 2009

Howard Draper
Project Review
Division of Natural Resource
Window Rock, AZ 86515

RE: Submittal of Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization land withdrawal documents.

Dear Mr. Draper:

Enclosed you will find all required documents for a land withdrawal. By Chapter Resolution No. BA-09-104-05, the Bodaway/Gap Chapter supported and approved a land withdrawal in the amount of four (4) acres for Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization, now known as Echo Cliff Veterans Organization on September 25, 2005, see enclosed resolution. Other supporting documents include the following:

1. Three (3) land consent from local land users
2. Summary of the proposed land withdrawal by Leonard Sloan, Secretary/Treasurer Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization
3. Location map
4. Site plan map
5. Sanitary Clearance for Echo Cliff Veterans Park by Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation, Division of Environmental Health, letter dated March 7, 2008.
10. Environmental Assessment with archaeological survey and a FONSI.
11. Land survey map with legal description.

Please process the land withdrawal for final approval. Your assistance will be appreciated, if you have any question, contact me at (928)-

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Evelyn Acothley, Council Delegate
Bodaway/Gap Chapter

Enclosures
Cc: Bodaway/Gap Veterans Organization file:terbdo
CONSENT FORM 2
(Compensation for damages)

CONSENT TO USE
NAVAJO TRIBAL LANDS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, Daisy Willie, hereby grant consent to the Navajo Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Window Rock, Arizona to permit the Navajo-лага Tribe's Organization, and the Navajo/Gap Chapter to use a portion of my land use area for the following purpose(s): veteran's park for community use and public use. Activities, family gatherings, and special community events.

as shown on the map showing the location of the proposed project on the back of this consent form.

My consent is given subject to the receipt of compensation of _______________, which I acknowledge as good and adequate compensation for the diminishment in value of my land use rights as a result of the above-referenced project as proposed.

REMARKS: ____________________________

Date: 1/1/06  Land User Signature (or thumbprint): Daisy Willie  SS No.: 527:15:1294  Census No.: 116:710  Permit No.: 3-1421

Address: P.O. Box 255, Tuba City, AZ 86045

WITNESS:

Date: 1/2/06  Grazing Committee or Land Board Member: 93-3

Acknowledgement of Field Agent

I acknowledge that the consents of this consent form was read / / or fully explained / / to the land user in Navajo / / or English / / (check where applicable).

Field Agent Signature
CONSENT FORM 2
(Compensation for damages)

CONSENT TO USE
NAVAJO TRIBAL LANDS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

1. Debbie Willie hereby grant consent to the Navajo Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Window Rock, Arizona to permit the use of a portion of my land use area for the following purpose(s):

   Family gatherings and special community events. The local veterans have an annual gathering/event which is very much needed and this would be an adequate location. The land will be developed to be used for communities and the general public for picnics, family gatherings and special community events. The local veterans have an annual gathering/event which is very much needed and this would be an adequate location.

   as shown on the map showing the location of the proposed project on the back of this consent form.

   My consent is given subject to the receipt of compensation of

   which I acknowledge as good and adequate compensation for the diminishment in value of my land use rights as a result of the above-referenced project as proposed.

REMARKS:

6-11-05 Debbie Willie 527-61-6753 311-055 3-1805
Date Land User Signature (or thumbprint) Social Security No. Census No. Permit No.
P.O. Box 4065 Page, AZ 86040
Address (P.O. Box, City, State, Zip)

WITNESS:

Date Grazing Committee or Land Board Member District No.

Acknowledgement of Field Agent

I acknowledge that the consent of this consent form was read / or fully explained / to the land user in Navajo / or English / / (check where applicable).

Field Agent Signature
CONSENT FORM 2
(Compensation for damages)

CONSENT TO USE
NAVAJO TRIBAL LANDS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

1. Suzanna Tacheene hereby grant consent to the Navajo Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Window Rock, Arizona to permit Bodaway/Gap Veterans’ Org of Bodaway/Gap Chapter to use a portion of my land use area for the following purpose(s): Cedar Ridge Veterans Park to provide the communities and the general public a place for picnics, family gatherings and special community events, etc. Veterans have their own annual event and need a place to hold it as shown on the map showing the location of the proposed project on the back of this consent form.

My consent is given subject to the receipt of compensation of ____________________________, which I acknowledge as good and adequate compensation for the diminishment in value of my land use rights as a result of the above-referenced project as proposed.

REMARKS: ____________________________

7/3/06 Suzanna Tacheene 527-74-8471 3-1926
Date Land User Signature (or thumbprint) Social Security No. Permit No.

P.O. Box 1479 Gap T.P. Cameron A.Z.
Address (P.O. Box, City, State, Zip)

WITNESS:

Date Grazing Committee or Land Board Member District No.

Acknowledgement of Field Agent
I acknowledge that the consents of this consent form were read / or fully explained / to the land user in Navajo / or English / (check where applicable).

Field Agent Signature
DEAR MS. LANE:

This letter is in response to your request for Utility Clearance from NTUA to serve electricity to the proposed Bodaway/Gap Veterans Park. The site is located south of the old Cedar Ridge on the west side of Highway 89. The following was observed:

ELECTRIC: There is an existing 3-phase powerline located on site.

With the recommendations above, this project is considered feasible to serve with electric service.

Our office requires a letter indicating the type of load center that will be used to serve the project site. This information will be used to ensure that NTUA's electric lines will accommodate the load.

A housewiring affidavit/certification is required from the certified electrician who wires the building and installs the meter loop. Other required documents include: a business site lease, a Commercial service application, and a Right-of-Way approval by the landholder(s), and a Chapter Resolution supporting your plans.

Enclosed is a quad map of NTUA's existing powerline for your convenience. If you have any questions, please call our office at (928) 283-5421.

Sincerely,

Willette Edwards, Engineering Technician
Tuba City NTUA Sub-Office
Navajo Nation
Tuba City Regional Business Development Office
Attn. Dolly Lane
Economic Development Specialist
P.O. Box 485
Tuba City, AZ 86045

Re: Request for approval to utilize existing access roads.
For Echo Cliff Veterans Memorial Park

Ms. Lane:

Please accept my apologies for not getting back to you sooner regarding access for the Echo Cliff Veterans Memorial Park proposed on the West side of US 89. The points you mention in your request at approximate highway MP 505.04 and 505.25, which formerly accessed the Cedar Ridge Trading Post site appear to be in good condition.

The previous permit in place for the two access points was to Babbitt Brothers Trading Company dated 10/01/1986. ADOT asks that a new permit request be submitted for these access points to reflect the change in use and to update our database. Both access locations should have a cattle guard to prevent livestock from entering the highway. If not, cattle guards will need to be installed at the highway right of way line at each location and will be a requirement of the encroachment permit. Please find the current ADOT Encroachment Permit application enclosed for your use.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Warren Sutphen
Permit Supervisor

Flagstaff District
Encroachment Permits
1801 S. Milton Rd.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 779-7520
(928) 779-5905 fax
wsutphen@azdot.gov