



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Grand Mesa,
Uncompahgre and
Gunnison
National Forests

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Voice: 970-874-6600
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File Code: 2360

Date: October 31, 2011

EDWARD NICHOLS
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
HISTORY COLORADO CENTER
1200 BROADWAY
DENVER, CO 80203

Re: Cultural resource Inventory of the Town of Ouray Water Line and New Tank

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Enclosed for your information in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3—800.5 is the report listed above and associated resource records. The following information applies:

GMUG Project Number: R2011-020406-098

Type of Project: Class III Complete Survey

The Town of Ouray, working with the EPA and this national forest, plans to place a new 500,000-gallon water tank on a new pad, near an existing tank on Canyon Creek, with 1.5 miles of new buried pipeline to the town water system (see attached drawing of the pipeline route). The route was surveyed by Metcalf Archaeology in 2011. The Town hoped to begin work this year (2011). Much of the new pipeline will be buried in an existing road or alongside an existing pipe (though not in the same trench).

Sites or IFs Recorded: The following new or re-evaluated cultural resources were recorded in the survey and records are enclosed:

5OR2091.1	Imogene Pass/Canyon Creek Road	New Site/Non-supporting segment of eligible site
5OR1007	Ouray Hydro Penstock	Re-evaluated Non-supporting feature of eligible district(s)
5OR1412	Revenue Powderhouse	Re-evaluated Eligible building

Site 5OR1412, the eligible masonry Revenue Powderhouse site, lies in proposed APE and will be avoided during project activities. The structure is eligible under A and C. The pipeline trench will pass within 10 feet east of the structure following the alignment of the existing water pipeline. The trench will not have any effect on the structure itself. The Town is aware of the significance of the building and will ensure that the excavation of the trench will be restricted to the existing disturbed area. Because space is confined near the building where the pipe has to go, it is unlikely the excavator will be stationed closer than 6 feet to the building, but the trench excavation and possibly back dirt may be piled there. The Forest has coordinated with the Project Manager Matt Hutson (at Schmueser Gordon Meyer in Gunnison, CO at 970-641-5355) to include the following language into the excavation contract, which will ensure there is no adverse effect from trenching adjacent to the building:

"The proposed alignment for the water main is located near the historic powder house structure (sta. 18+00). Construction immediately around and adjacent to this structure must be done with utmost care and sensitivity during construction. No blasting will be permitted within 50' of either side of the powder house. If rock is encountered in this area, trench depth may be modified to allow for shallower burial depth using polyurethane foam insulation. Any revisions to the horizontal or vertical alignment of the pipeline in this area must be approved by the engineer in the field. The powder house structure cannot be compromised in any way by the construction of this project."



There is very low potential for archaeological deposits around the Powderhouse and no potential for that kind of impact, because the area of the water line is previously disturbed both on the surface, due to the heavy modern use by the Ice Park, and below the surface because of the burial of the penstock, the construction of the Box Canyon road bridge, and the previous water line. Note: Ownership of the parcel of land under the Powderhouse is in the process of being conveyed to the Town of Ouray for open space purpose, and your office was consulted about this conveyance in April of 2007. Both the penstock and the Powderhouse in this project would then be on land managed by the Town and not the Forest Service when the conveyance is completed in approximately four months.

The Imogene Pass/Tomboy Road in this report would be more accurately named the Canyon Creek Road, since one may take it up Canyon Creek to either the Imogene Pass turn-off (Tomboy Mine was on the other side of Imogene Pass) or follow Canyon Creek to Yankee Boy Basin, where the road served many mines such as Revenue, Atlas, Virginius, the ghost town of Sneffles, and other sites from the historical San Juan mining period. The historical significance described by the report pertains to the route that connected the two towns, Ouray and Telluride, and the fact that some early maps do not show the Yankee Boy mines access above the Imogene turn off. Therefore, this site number 5OR2901 has been applied from the town of Ouray past the project area, turning off and passing through Camp Bird Mine, and ends at Imogene Pass where the San Miguel county number begins for the segment leading to Telluride. A different site number would be obtained if the upper Canyon Creek part of this road were ever recorded.

None of the remainder of this historic road site above the project area has been recorded or evaluated for integrity yet; and near Imogene Pass it *might* have greater integrity than it has here. Portions of the project pipeline would be buried in the road. Because this segment of the road, now a modern graded automobile road, does not support eligibility of the site, there would be no effect. Likewise, the hydro-electric penstock is within the APE, but will not be affected, and moreover it is non-supporting.

Determination: No historic properties adversely affected.

Please contact Leigh Ann Hunt at 970-874-6691 or lhunt@fs.fed.us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Corey P. Wong (for)
CHARLES S. RICHMOND
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Leigh-Ann Hunt
Liz Mauch