



OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

White oak road reclamation consultation

1 message

Priscilla Burton <priscillaburton@utah.gov>

Mon, Feb 24, 2014 at 11:04 AM

To: Darin Caine <omanranches@hotmail.com>, OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Hello Darin,

During our last discussion on December 9, 2013, you inquired whether the Division would be removing the culvert along Eccles Creek. The Division has since reviewed the Mining and Reclamation plan more closely and found that the culvert was planned for removal in the original document, unless UDOT requested otherwise. The Division has contacted UDOT and learned that UDOT does not have an interest in retaining the Eccles Creek culvert and pad. UDOT asked only that a wide shoulder be retained along the Hwy 264. The UDOT Engineer for Maintenance in the area, Jim Chandler, stated the following:

" My main concern with leaving the culvert in place is the possibility of a fire causing a debris flow down the creek. The culvert that is in place there is not big enough to allow logs and debris to get past that point. I believe it will be best for everyone if the culvert is removed."

Since our funds are limited for reclamation, if we remove the Eccles culvert, we will not have enough funds to completely remove the asphalt from the mile long access road, but we could remove asphalt up to the location of the bowl. There is a possibility that a bid would come in below our engineer's estimate, and then we could increase the length of asphalt removed based on the lower bid rate.

The alternative, is to remove asphalt from the full length of the road and leave the Eccles Creek culvert and pad. The liability for the culvert would remain.

(There is a possibility that the Division of Oil Gas & Mining and you, the landowner, could apply to the Utah Partnership for Conservation Development [Watershed Restoration Initiative](#) grant funds to help remove the Eccles culvert. Whether the project would be funded is not certain.)

We are moving ahead with plans to place this project out for bid this spring and conduct the work in mid-July 2014. As of now, the project specifies removal of the Eccles culvert and pad and removal of asphalt up to the bowl, with partial removal of asphalt beyond that point to lessen the width of the asphalt road. I am interested in knowing your thoughts as landowner, with regard to this reclamation approach for the White Oak access road.

Before I put the project out to bid, I will also need to know if the logging roads that are accessed from the asphalt road are to be reclaimed by the logger, so that we can coordinate the timing of the reclamation.

Best Regards,

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