



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

#4890

April 28, 2015

## CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT

7012 3460 0002 9559 6342

Kirk Nicholes, Resident Agent  
Alton Coal Development, LLC  
463 North 100 West, Suite 1  
Cedar City, Utah 84720

Subject: Sage Grouse Mitigation Meeting and Determination to Issue NOV, Alton Coal Development LLC, Coal Hollow Mine, C/025/0005

Dear Mr. Nicholes:

The Division has considered the information presented by ACD and the Division's biologist at the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in Salt Lake. This letter is being sent to you to inform you of the Division's decision to issue a notice of violation for not completing the 355 acre BLM parcel mitigation project within the time allotted as described in the approved Mining and Reclamation plan. The attached NOV # 18150 and corresponding inspection report are included.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5325 or Joe Helfrich at 801 538-5290.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock  
Coal Program Manager

DRH/sqs  
Attachment

O:\025005.COL\Mitigation NOV Cover Letter\Mitigation NOV Cover Letter (1).doc





**Citation for Non-Compliance**  
**Utah Coal Regulatory Program**  
 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84114  
 Phone: (801) 538-5340 Fax: (801) 359-3940

**Citation #:** 18150  
**Permit Number:** C0250005  
**Date Issued:** 04/28/2015

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION**     **CESSATION ORDER (CO)**     **FAILURE TO ABATE CO**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Permittee Name: ALTON COAL DEVELOPMENT LLC               | Inspector Number and ID: 1 JHELFRIC     |
| Mine Name: COAL HOLLOW                                   | Date and Time of Inspection: 04/14/2015 |
| Certified Return Receipt Number: 7012 3460 0002 95596342 | Date and Time of Service: 04/28/2015    |

**Nature of condition, practice, or violation:**  
 See the text under item # 9 of the attached inspection report for a complete description of the violation.

**Provisions of Act, regulations, or permit violated:**  
 R645-300-142, 143

**This order requires Cessation of ALL mining activities.** (Check box if appropriate.)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condition, practice, or violation is creating an imminent danger to health or safety of the public.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Permittee is/has been conducting mining activities without a Permit.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condition, practice, or violation is causing or can reasonably be expected to cause significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air, or water resources. | <input type="checkbox"/> Permittee has failed to abate Violation(s) included in <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Violation or <input type="checkbox"/> Cessation Order within time for abatement originally fixed or subsequently extended. |

**This order requires Cessation of PORTION(S) of mining activities.**

| Mining activities to be ceased immediately: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Abatement Times (if applicable). |
|--|----------------------------------|
|  |                                  |
|  |                                  |
|  |                                  |
|  |                                  |

**Action(s) required:**  Yes  No  
 See the text under item # 9 of the attached inspection report for a complete description of the actions required to abate the violation.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Kirk Nicholes</b><br>(Print) Permittee Representative | <b>JOE HELFRICH</b><br>(Print) DOGM Representative |
| Permittee Representative's Signature - Date              | DOGM Representative's Signature - Date             |

**SEE REVERSE SIDE Of This Form For Instructions And Additional Information**



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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

# Inspection Report

|                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Permit Number:   | C0250005                |
| Inspection Type: | TECHNICAL               |
| Inspection Date: | Tuesday, April 14, 2015 |
| Start Date/Time: | 4/14/2015 6:45:00 AM    |
| End Date/Time:   | 4/14/2015 9:30:00 AM    |
| Last Inspection: | Monday, March 23, 2015  |

Inspector: Joe Helfrich

Weather: Sunny partly cloudy 45

InspectionID Report Number: 4164

Accepted by: JHELFRIC  
4/27/2015

| Representatives Present During the Inspection: |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| OGM  | Joe Helfrich    |
| OGM  | Rachel Williams |

Permittee: **ALTON COAL DEVELOPMENT LLC**  
 Operator: **ALTON COAL DEVELOPMENT LLC**  
 Site: **COAL HOLLOW**  
 Address: **463 North 100 West, Suite 1, CEDAR CITY UT 84720**  
 County: **KANE**  
 Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**  
 Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

#### Current Acreages

|        |                        |
|--------|------------------------|
| 721.00 | <b>Total Permitted</b> |
| 342.00 | <b>Total Disturbed</b> |
|        | <b>Phase I</b>         |
|        | <b>Phase II</b>        |
|        | <b>Phase III</b>       |

#### Mineral Ownership

- Federal
- State
- County
- Fee
- Other

#### Types of Operations

- Underground
- Surface
- Loadout
- Processing
- Reprocessing

#### Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The purpose of this site visit was to conduct a lek survey, and take photographs and measurements of some of the Pinyon/Juniper trees that had been felled by ACD in the BLM 355 acre parcel. Two previous lek surveys were also conducted on March 10 and 31. Copies of the three survey reports are included in this report.

Notice of Violation 18150 was issued to Alton Coal Development LLC as a result of the inspections conducted on February 11, March 10 and April 14, 2015. A description of the violation and the required abatement measures are included under Item 9, (Protection of Fish Wildlife and Related Environmental Values), of this report. Photographs of the March 10 and April 14 site visits are also included in this report.

Inspector's Signature:

*Joseph C. Helfrich*  
Joe Helfrich,

Inspector ID Number: 1

Date

Monday, April 27, 2015



Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.  
telephone (801) 538-5340 • facsimile (801) 359-3940 • TTY (801) 538-7458 • www.ogm.utah.gov

**REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - a. For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.
  - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.

|  | Evaluated                           | Not Applicable           | Comment                             | Enforcement              |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Signs and Markers   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Topsoil   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions                               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Explosives  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Noncoal Waste   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Slides and Other Damage                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Contemporaneous Reclamation                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Backfilling And Grading                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Revegetation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Subsidence Control   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Cessation of Operations                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing                 | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16.b Roads: Drainage Controls                                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Other Transportation Facilities                              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. AVS Check  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. Air Quality Permit   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21. Bonding and Insurance  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22. Other  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## **9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues**

ACD has twice failed to complete sage-grouse mitigation work for the 355-acre project (that was identified in Appendix 3-7 of the approved MRP) on time. The September 19, 2013 BLM letter authorized the "removal of pinyon and juniper tress within the 355 acres." At an October 24, 2013 meeting where ACD's skilled biologists were present, the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) explained what standards were necessary for the mitigation work to benefit the sage grouse population. On October 28, 2013, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGGM) approved an amendment to the Mining Reclamation Plan (MRP), which included a requirement that the stump height of any felled tree would not exceed six (6) inches. ACD failed to meet this standard by the beginning of the 2014 February-to-July mating season. The BLM later clarified what standard it required on its land in its February 28, 2014, which was subsequently amended to the MRP on March 21, 2014. That amendment stated "[a]fter assessment of the project in early 2014 by the BLM, it was decided that additional work needed to be done in the appropriate season of 2014 as per the letter dated 3/3/2014 from [the BLM]. . . ." Again, ACD failed to complete the additional work required to meet those standards that the BLM, DWR, and DOGM have provided to ACD by the end of the working season of 2014 and 2015. At the beginning of the 2015 February-to-July mating season, the 355-acre project has still not been treated to the required standard.

Action(s) required:

ACD must do one of two things:

- (1) Provide an amendment to the MRP that expressly includes the standards provided by DWR, BLM, and DOGM by May 18, 2015. That amendment must include a deadline to complete the work to the above standards by October 31, 2015 or eight (8) weeks after DWR or DOGM has confirmed that it is a safe time to begin mitigation work, whichever date is earlier.
- (2) Establish and fund a project with the Utah Partners in Conservation Development (UPCD) by July 1, 2015 to finish the work on this 355-acre area.

In addition, ACD must provide an amendment to the MRP by May 18, 2015 that gives specific and detailed plans for the 240-acre mitigation project for the calendar year 2015, with a deadline of December 31, 2015.

# SAGE-GROUSE LEK COUNTING FORM

Lek Name: Alton Sink Valley County: Kane Year: 2015

UTM (NAD 83): 370586.006 E, 4138593.793N Observer: JOE HELFRICH

Status (Occupied, Unoccupied/Active, Inactive): OCCUPIED/ACTIVE

Site Description and Habitat Type: MECHANICALLY TREATED PINYON/JUNIPER SAGEBRUSH

| DATE       | # OF MALES | TEMP       | WIND VELOCITY | % CLOUD COVER | COMMENTS                                    |
|------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| 03/10/2015 | 12         | 42 raining | 4-7           | 100           | Birds were observed lekking on 4-6" of snow |
|            |            |            |               |               |   |
|            |            |            |               |               |   |
|            |            |            |               |               |   |
|            |            |            |               |               |   |
|            |            |            |               |               |   |
|            |            |            |               |               |   |

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. A minimum of three counts should be made at approximate weekly intervals between March 20 and May 7. Maximum seasonal count should be observed after the peak of breeding.
2. Make all counts from 1/2 hour before to 1 1/2 hours after sunrise.
3. Record the maximum number of males observed on the lek each date visited in space provided above. Each lek should be counted 3 to 5 times each morning to determine the maximum number of males.
4. Use a separate form for each lek.
5. Record weather conditions as specified below.
6. Record other observations or comments such as: disturbances to the birds (eagles, coyotes), the presence of hens and if breeding is occurring, snow conditions, and if you determined the count was good.
7. Completed forms should be returned to the Regional Office no later than May 15; and to SLO by June 1.

Beaufort Wind Scale:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Calm      | smoke rises vertically, leaves motionless |
| 1-3 mph   | smoke drifts, leaves move slightly        |
| 4-7 mph   | wind felt on face                         |
| 8-12 mph  | leaves move constantly                    |
| 13-18 mph | dust rises, small branches move           |

<OVER>

**SAGE-GROUSE LEK LOCATION FORM**

LEK NAME: Alton Sink Valley YEAR LOCATED: 2011

COUNTY: Kane USGS 7.5 QUAD: Alton

TOWNSHIP: 39 SOUTH RANGE: 5 WEST SEC: 30  $\frac{1}{4}$  SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  SW

UTMs: 370586.006 E 4138593.793 N (GPS SHOULD BE SET TO NAD83)

UTM collected by (check one): GPS \_\_\_\_\_ MAP X

Dominate Vegetation Type: SAGEBRUSH

Secondary Vegetation Type: GRASS

Land Ownership: BLM Elevation: 6896'

General Comments:

**Driving Directions: (Give driving directions from a major road or prominent location)**  
**4 TO 4.5 MILES SOUTH OF THE TOWN OF ALTON ALONG THE COUNTY BY-PASS ROAD**

**Datasheet Instructions**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Lek Name:</b>             | Unique name given to lek. Adjacent major landmark or map feature often used to identify lek.   |
| <b>Year Located:</b>         | Year lek was initially located and counted.  |
| <b>County:</b>               | County where lek is located.   |
| <b>USGS 7.5-minute Quad:</b> | Name of quad map where lek is located.   |
| <b>Township</b>              | Township where lek is located  |
| <b>Range:</b>                | Range where lek is located.  |
| <b>Sec.</b>                  | Section number where lek is located.   |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ :              | Sub-quarter section where lek is located. Use NW, NE, SW, SE.  |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ :              | Quarter section where lek is located. Use NW, NE, SW, SE.  |
| <b>UTM Easting</b>           | UTM easting of lek. Should be six (6) numbers long.  |
| <b>UTM Northing</b>          | UTM northing of lek. Should be seven (7) numbers long and begin with 4.<br>UTM data should be collected in North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) |
| <b>Dominant Vegetation:</b>  | Indicate the dominant vegetation around lek.   |
| <b>Secondary Vegetation:</b> | Indicate secondary vegetation around lek (if needed).  |
| <b>Land Ownership:</b>       | Indicate the proper ownership of land where lek is located (e.g. private, USFS, BLM, SITLA, Tribal).   |
| <b>Elevation</b>             | Elevation of lek in FEET.  |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Comments:</b>           | Any pertinent comments helpful in describing lek location not covered above.       |
| <b>Driving Directions:</b> | Concise driving directions to lek. Start directions at an easily located landmark. |

## SAGE-GROUSE LEK SEARCH AND STATUS FORM

**Each flush site, lek search, and all lek counts should be reported** (even where no birds are seen).

- Arrive at search site at least **15** minutes before dawn.
- Mark a topo map in pencil with the present lek position or search area.
- Return maps and data sheets to UDWR Regional Offices or Search coordinator

Lek Name (nearest lek): \_\_\_\_\_

Observer Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Start: \_\_\_\_\_ Time End: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Minutes Observed: \_\_\_\_\_

Current location via UTM (correct the location on maps if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_ UTM (E ) or Longitude \_\_\_\_\_ UTM (N ) or Latitude \_\_\_\_\_

UTM Zone (circle one): **11** 12 13

DATUM of UTM or LatLong coordinates (circle one): NAD27 **NAD83** WGS84

T \_\_\_\_\_ /R \_\_\_\_\_ /S \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ / \_\_\_\_\_ ¼-¼  
Township/ Range / Section / ¼ section / ¼-¼ section

Land Ownership (circle one): Public/Private \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Survey Type (circle one): Search, Status, or Count (if strutting birds are discovered)

Survey Method (circle one): Vehicle or Foot

Sky (circle one): Clear, Partly Cloudy, Overcast, Raining, Snowing

Wind Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ (see Beaufort scale)

Air Temp (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_ F C

Disturbance: (circle one) Low, Moderate, High

Count Quality: (circle one) Low, Mod, High

| Beaufort Wind Speed Scale: |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>0</b>                   | (< 1mph, smoke rises vertically)                |
| <b>1</b>                   | (1-3 mph, wind direction shown by smoke drift)  |
| <b>2</b>                   | (4-7 mph, wind felt on face, leaves rustle)     |
| <b>3</b>                   | (8-12 mph, leaves and twigs in constant motion) |
| <b>4</b>                   | (> 13 mph – DO NOT RUN A LISTENING ROUTE)       |

Lek Status (circle one): Active / Inactive / Unknown / Probably Satellite

New Lek (circle one): Yes No

Dog Used (searches only)? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Birds: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(Total) (Males) (Females) (Unclassified)  
<OVER>

Cheat grass present? No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Not determined \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes: Scarce/spotty \_\_\_\_\_ Moderate \_\_\_\_\_ Abundant \_\_\_\_\_

Other weeds? \_\_\_\_\_

Grouse droppings present? No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Not determined \_\_\_\_\_

UTM locations of groups of piles:

E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

Presence of:

Wetlands, wet meadows, water developments: No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Type & distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility poles/lines No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Fences and fence posts No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Trees (e.g., junipers, riparian) No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Trails and/or roads No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Size (circle one): Trail / two-track / ranch road / improved road / paved road

Estimated traffic: Scarce / light / moderate / heavy

Recent land disturbances? (e.g. burns, sod busting, oil and gas development, new structures, roads, other alterations?) \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat Description/Condition:

**A. Land Cover Types**

General land cover type description: percent of Sagebrush-Grassland: \_\_\_\_\_ Introduced  
Pasture: \_\_\_\_\_ and Cropland: \_\_\_\_\_ within 1 mile of lek. Categories: <5%=1, 5-50%=2, 50-  
95%=3, >95%=4 (Place number in blank)

**B. Land Cover Status**

Has the amount of sagebrush cover changed between this year and last year? Y N  
(circle), if Y then indicate % change. \_\_\_\_\_%; unknown \_\_\_\_\_%.

**C. Residual Cover Status**

Indicate quality/quantity of the herbaceous cover as Good (good growth during previous year, no  
to light grazing, good residual cover), Average (moderate growth and/or grazing pressure, residual  
cover patchy), or Poor (previous growing season dry or heavy grazing pressure, little residual cover).  
Circle good, average, or poor descriptor.

Comments (Take picture of lek and attach):

---

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|------------|------------|------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| 03/31/2015 | 8          | 55   | 4-7           | 10            |          |
|            |            |      |               |               |          |
|            |            |      |               |               |          |
|            |            |      |               |               |          |
|            |            |      |               |               |          |
|            |            |      |               |               |          |

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<OVER>

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Secondary Vegetation Type: GRASS

Land Ownership: BLM Elevation: 6896'

General Comments:

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**4 TO 4.5 MILES SOUTH OF THE TOWN OF ALTON ALONG THE COUNTY BY-PASS ROAD**

**Datasheet Instructions**

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|                              | UTM data should be collected in North American Datum 1983 (NAD83)                                    |
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| <b>Elevation</b>             | Elevation of lek in FEET.  |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
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Lek Name (nearest lek): \_\_\_\_\_

Observer Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Start: \_\_\_\_\_ Time End: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Minutes Observed: \_\_\_\_\_

Current location via UTM (correct the location on maps if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_ UTM (E) or Longitude

\_\_\_\_\_ UTM (N) or Latitude

UTM Zone (circle one): **11 12 13**

DATUM of UTM or LatLong coordinates (circle one): **NAD27 NAD83 WGS84**

T \_\_\_\_\_ / R \_\_\_\_\_ / S \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ / \_\_\_\_\_ ¼-¼  
 Township/ Range / Section / ¼ section / ¼-¼ section

Land Ownership (circle one): **Public/Private** County: \_\_\_\_\_

Survey Type (circle one): **Search, Status, or Count** (if strutting birds are discovered)

Survey Method (circle one): **Vehicle or Foot**

Sky (circle one): **Clear, Partly Cloudy, Overcast, Raining, Snowing**

Wind Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ (see Beaufort scale)

Air Temp (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_ **F C**

Disturbance: (circle one) **Low, Moderate, High**

Count Quality: (circle one) **Low, Mod, High**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Beaufort Wind Speed Scale:</b><br><b>0</b> (< 1 mph, smoke rises vertically)<br><b>1</b> (1-3 mph, wind direction shown by smoke drift)<br><b>2</b> (4-7 mph, wind felt on face, leaves rustle)<br><b>3</b> (8-12 mph, leaves and twigs in constant motion)<br><b>4</b> (> 13 mph – DO NOT RUN A LISTENING ROUTE) |
|--|

Lek Status (circle one): **Active / Inactive / Unknown / Probably Satellite**

New Lek (circle one): **Yes No**

Dog Used (searches only)? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Birds: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(Total) (Males) (Females) (Unclassified)  
<OVER>

Cheat grass present? No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Not determined \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes: Scarce/spotty \_\_\_\_\_ Moderate \_\_\_\_\_ Abundant \_\_\_\_\_

Other weeds? \_\_\_\_\_

Grouse droppings present? No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Not determined \_\_\_\_\_

UTM locations of groups of piles:

E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_  
E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_  
E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

Presence of:

Wetlands, wet meadows, water developments: No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Type & distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility poles/lines No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Fences and fence posts No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Trees (e.g., junipers, riparian) No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Trails and/or roads No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Size (circle one): Trail / two-track / ranch road / improved road / paved road  
Estimated traffic: Scarce / light / moderate / heavy

Recent land disturbances? (e.g. burns, sod busting, oil and gas development, new structures, roads, other alterations?) \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat Description/Condition:

**A. Land Cover Types**

General land cover type description: percent of Sagebrush-Grassland: \_\_\_\_\_ Introduced Pasture: \_\_\_\_\_ and Cropland: \_\_\_\_\_ within 1 mile of lek. Categories: <5%=1, 5-50%=2, 50-95%=3, >95%=4 (Place number in blank)

**B. Land Cover Status**

Has the amount of sagebrush cover changed between this year and last year? Y N (circle), if Y then indicate % change. \_\_\_\_\_%; unknown \_\_\_\_\_%.

**C. Residual Cover Status**

Indicate quality/quantity of the herbaceous cover as Good (good growth during previous year, no to light grazing, good residual cover), Average (moderate growth and/or grazing pressure, residual cover patchy), or Poor (previous growing season dry or heavy grazing pressure, little residual cover). Circle good, average, or poor descriptor.

Comments (Take picture of lek and attach):

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# SAGE-GROUSE LEK COUNTING FORM

Lek Name: Alton Sink Valley County: Kane Year: 2015

UTM (NAD 83): 370586.006 E, 4138593.793N Observer: JOE HELFRICH, RACHEL WILLIAMS

Status (Occupied, Unoccupied/Active, Inactive): OCCUPIED/ACTIVE

Site Description and Habitat Type: MECHANICALLY TREATED PINYON/JUNIPER SAGEBRUSH

| DATE       | # OF MALES | TEMP  | WIND VELOCITY | % CLOUD COVER | COMMENTS                              |
|------------|------------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| 04/14/2015 | 8          | 38-52 | Calm          | 0             | Wind picked up to 8-10 MPH by 8:30 AM |
|            |            |       |               |               |                                       |
|            |            |       |               |               |                                       |
|            |            |       |               |               |                                       |
|            |            |       |               |               |                                       |
|            |            |       |               |               |                                       |
|            |            |       |               |               |                                       |

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. A minimum of three counts should be made at approximate weekly intervals between March 20 and May 7. Maximum seasonal count should be observed after the peak of breeding.
2. Make all counts from 1/2 hour before to 1 1/2 hours after sunrise.
3. Record the maximum number of males observed on the lek each date visited in space provided above. Each lek should be counted 3 to 5 times each morning to determine the maximum number of males.
4. Use a separate form for each lek.
5. Record weather conditions as specified below.
6. Record other observations or comments such as: disturbances to the birds (eagles, coyotes), the presence of hens and if breeding is occurring, snow conditions, and if you determined the count was good.
7. Completed forms should be returned to the Regional Office no later than May 15; and to SLO by June 1.

Beaufort Wind Scale:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Calm      | smoke rises vertically, leaves motionless |
| 1-3 mph   | smoke drifts, leaves move slightly        |
| 4-7 mph   | wind felt on face                         |
| 8-12 mph  | leaves move constantly                    |
| 13-18 mph | dust rises, small branches move           |

<OVER>

**SAGE-GROUSE LEK LOCATION FORM**

LEK NAME: Alton Sink Valley YEAR LOCATED: 2011

COUNTY: Kane USGS 7.5 QUAD: Alton

TOWNSHIP: 39 SOUTH RANGE: 5 WEST SEC: 30  $\frac{1}{4}$  SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  SW

UTMs: 370586.006 E 4138593.793 N (GPS SHOULD BE SET TO NAD83)

UTM collected by (check one): GPS \_\_\_\_\_ MAP X \_\_\_\_\_

Dominate Vegetation Type: SAGEBRUSH

Secondary Vegetation Type: GRASS

Land Ownership: BLM Elevation: 6896'

General Comments:

Driving Directions: (Give driving directions from a major road or prominent location)  
**4 TO 4.5 MILES SOUTH OF THE TOWN OF ALTON ALONG THE COUNTY BY-PASS ROAD**

**Datasheet Instructions**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Lek Name:</b>             | Unique name given to lek. Adjacent major landmark or map feature often used to identify lek.   |
| <b>Year Located:</b>         | Year lek was initially located and counted.  |
| <b>County:</b>               | County where lek is located.   |
| <b>USGS 7.5-minute Quad:</b> | Name of quad map where lek is located.   |
| <b>Township</b>              | Township where lek is located  |
| <b>Range:</b>                | Range where lek is located.  |
| <b>Sec.</b>                  | Section number where lek is located.   |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ :              | Sub-quarter section where lek is located. Use NW, NE, SW, SE.  |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ :              | Quarter section where lek is located. Use NW, NE, SW, SE.  |
| <b>UTM Easting</b>           | UTM easting of lek. Should be six (6) numbers long.  |
| <b>UTM Northing</b>          | UTM northing of lek. Should be seven (7) numbers long and begin with 4.<br>UTM data should be collected in North American Datum 1983 (NAD83) |
| <b>Dominant Vegetation:</b>  | Indicate the dominant vegetation around lek.   |
| <b>Secondary Vegetation:</b> | Indicate secondary vegetation around lek (if needed).  |
| <b>Land Ownership:</b>       | Indicate the proper ownership of land where lek is located (e.g. private, USFS, BLM, SITLA, Tribal).   |
| <b>Elevation</b>             | Elevation of lek in FEET.  |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Comments:</b>           | Any pertinent comments helpful in describing lek location not covered above.       |
| <b>Driving Directions:</b> | Concise driving directions to lek. Start directions at an easily located landmark. |

## SAGE-GROUSE LEK SEARCH AND STATUS FORM

**Each flush site, lek search, and all lek counts should be reported** (even where no birds are seen).

- Arrive at search site at least **15** minutes before dawn.
- Mark a topo map in pencil with the present lek position or search area.
- Return maps and data sheets to UDWR Regional Offices or Search coordinator

Lek Name (nearest lek): \_\_\_\_\_

Observer Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Start: \_\_\_\_\_ Time End: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Minutes Observed: \_\_\_\_\_

Current location via UTM (correct the location on maps if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_ UTM (E ) or Longitude \_\_\_\_\_ UTM (N ) or Latitude \_\_\_\_\_

UTM Zone (circle one): **11 12 13**

DATUM of UTM or LatLong coordinates (circle one): **NAD27 NAD83 WGS84**

T \_\_\_\_\_ /R \_\_\_\_\_ /S \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ / \_\_\_\_\_ ¼-¼  
Township/ Range / Section / ¼ section / ¼-¼ section

Land Ownership (circle one): **Public/Private** County: \_\_\_\_\_

Survey Type (circle one): **Search, Status, or Count** (if strutting birds are discovered)

Survey Method (circle one): **Vehicle or Foot**

Sky (circle one): **Clear, Partly Cloudy, Overcast, Raining, Snowing**

Wind Speed: \_\_\_\_\_ (see Beaufort scale)

Air Temp (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_ **F C**

Disturbance: (circle one) **Low, Moderate, High**

Count Quality: (circle one) **Low, Mod, High**

| Beaufort Wind Speed Scale: |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>0</b>                   | ( < 1mph, smoke rises vertically)               |
| <b>1</b>                   | (1-3 mph, wind direction shown by smoke drift)  |
| <b>2</b>                   | (4-7 mph, wind felt on face, leaves rustle)     |
| <b>3</b>                   | (8-12 mph, leaves and twigs in constant motion) |
| <b>4</b>                   | (> 13 mph – DO NOT RUN A LISTENING ROUTE)       |

Lek Status (circle one): **Active / Inactive / Unknown / Probably Satellite**

New Lek (circle one): **Yes No**

Dog Used (searches only)? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Birds: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(Total) (Males) (Females) (Unclassified)  
<OVER>

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If yes: Scarce/spotty \_\_\_\_\_ Moderate \_\_\_\_\_ Abundant \_\_\_\_\_

Other weeds? \_\_\_\_\_

Grouse droppings present? No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Not determined \_\_\_\_\_

UTM locations of groups of piles:

E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_  
E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_  
E \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

Presence of:

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Type & distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility poles/lines No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Fences and fence posts No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Trees (e.g., junipers, riparian) No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Trails and/or roads No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Est. distance to lek: \_\_\_\_\_

Size (circle one): Trail / two-track / ranch road / improved road / paved road  
Estimated traffic: Scarce / light / moderate / heavy

Recent land disturbances? (e.g. burns, sod busting, oil and gas development, new structures, roads, other alterations?) \_\_\_\_\_

Habitat Description/Condition:

**A. Land Cover Types**

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**B. Land Cover Status**

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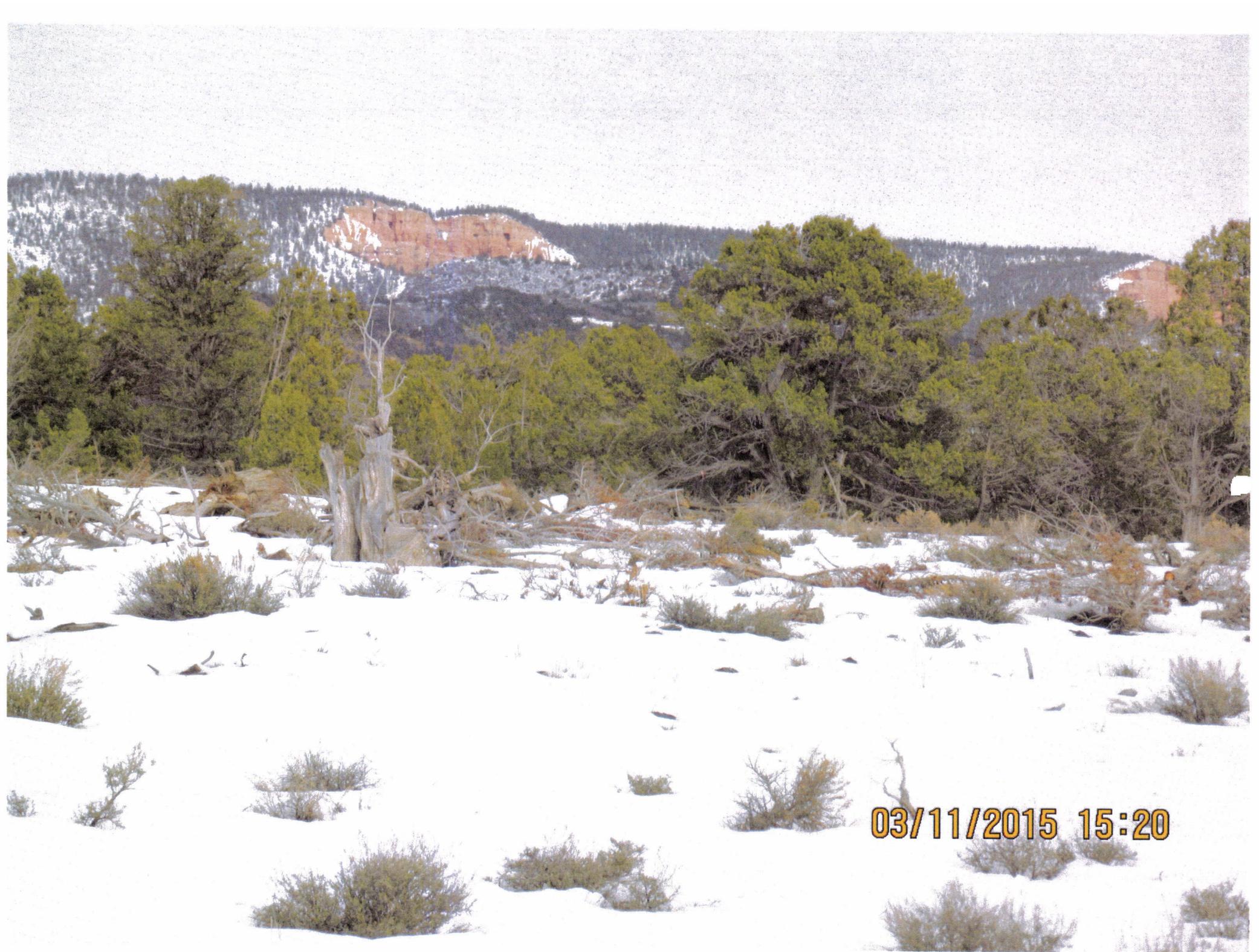
Comments (Take picture of lek and attach):  
\_\_\_\_\_



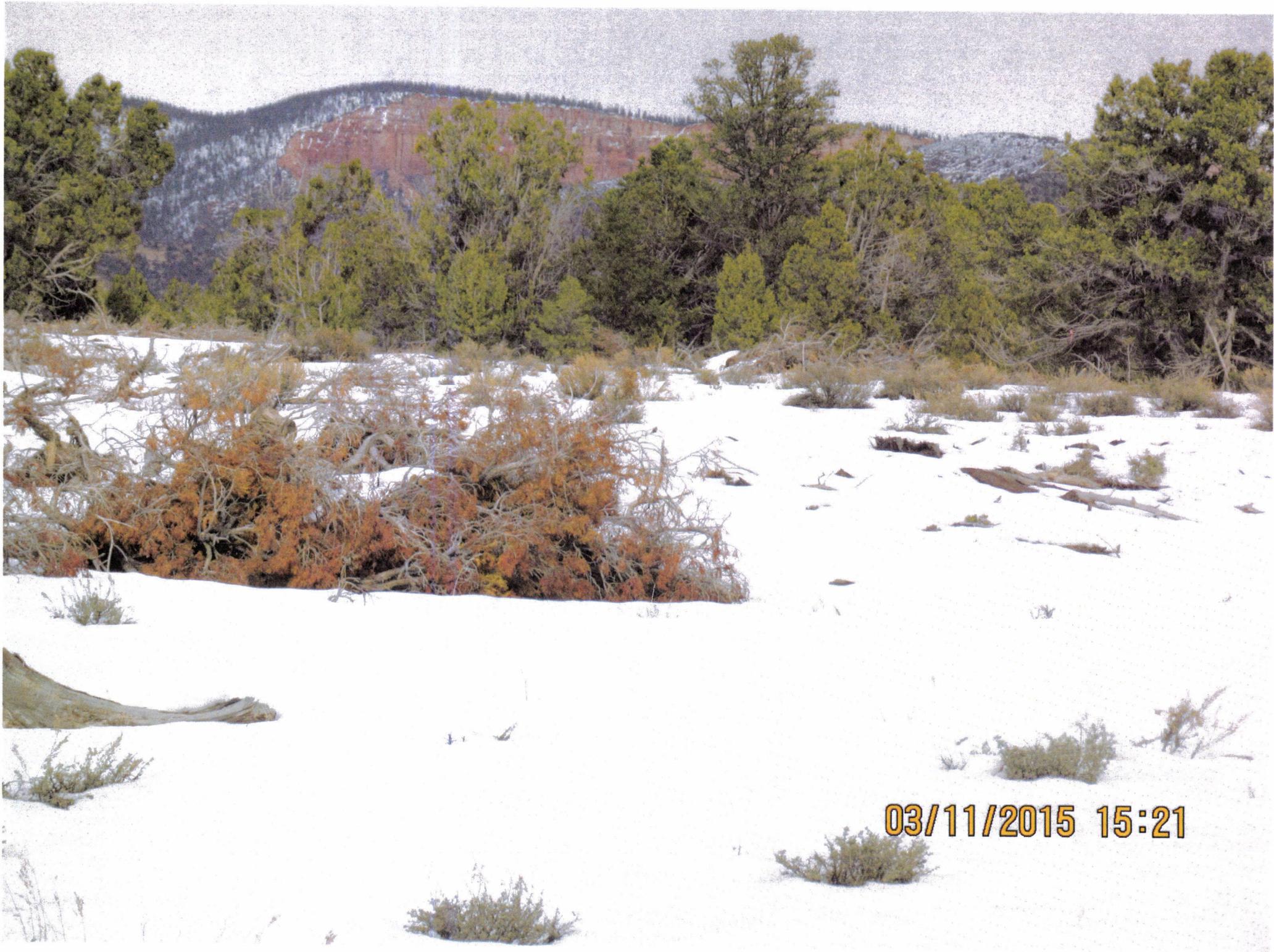
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03/11/2015 15:24



03/11/2015 15:25



03/11/2015 15:26



04/14/2015 07:01



04/14/2015 07:01



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04/14/2015 07:02



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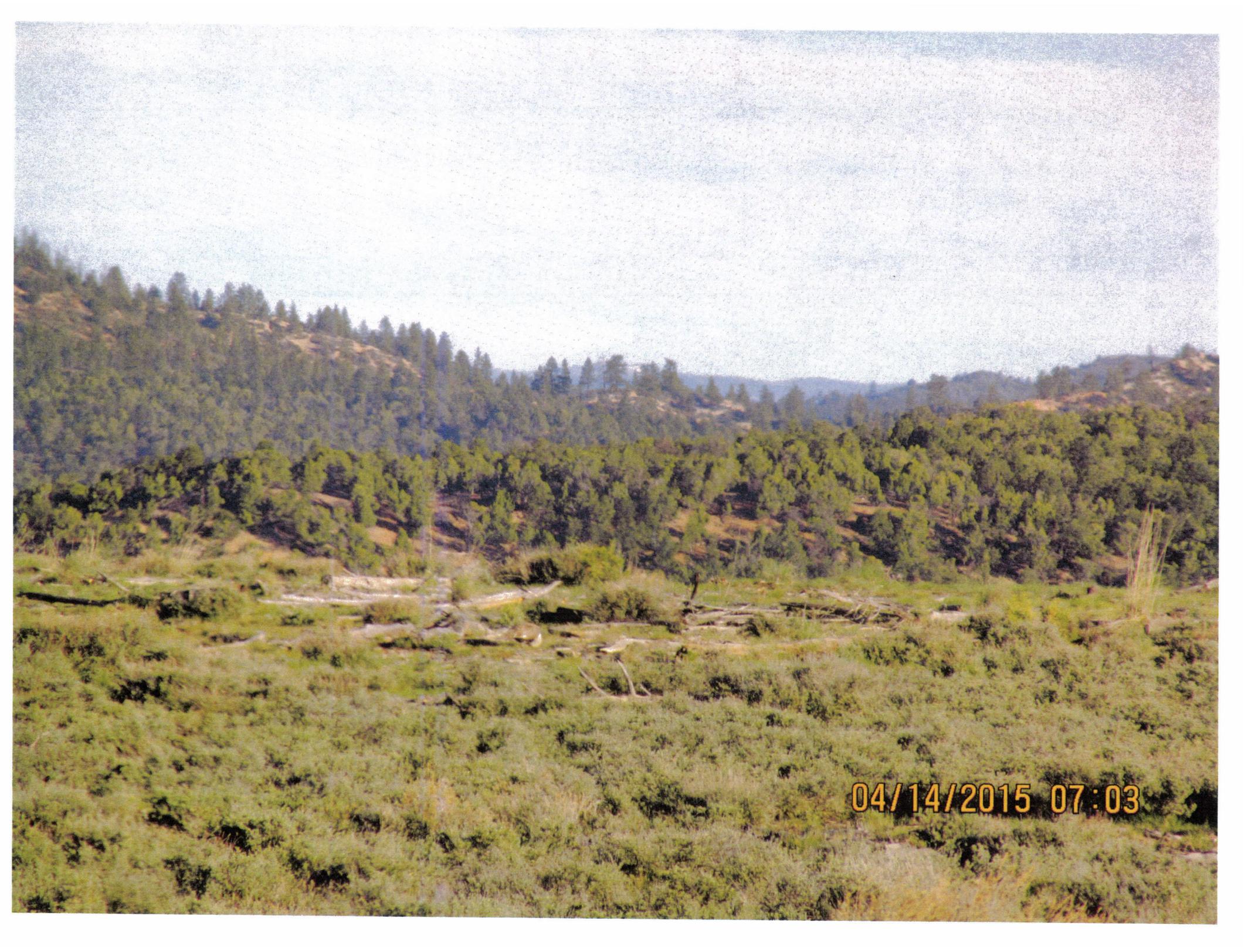
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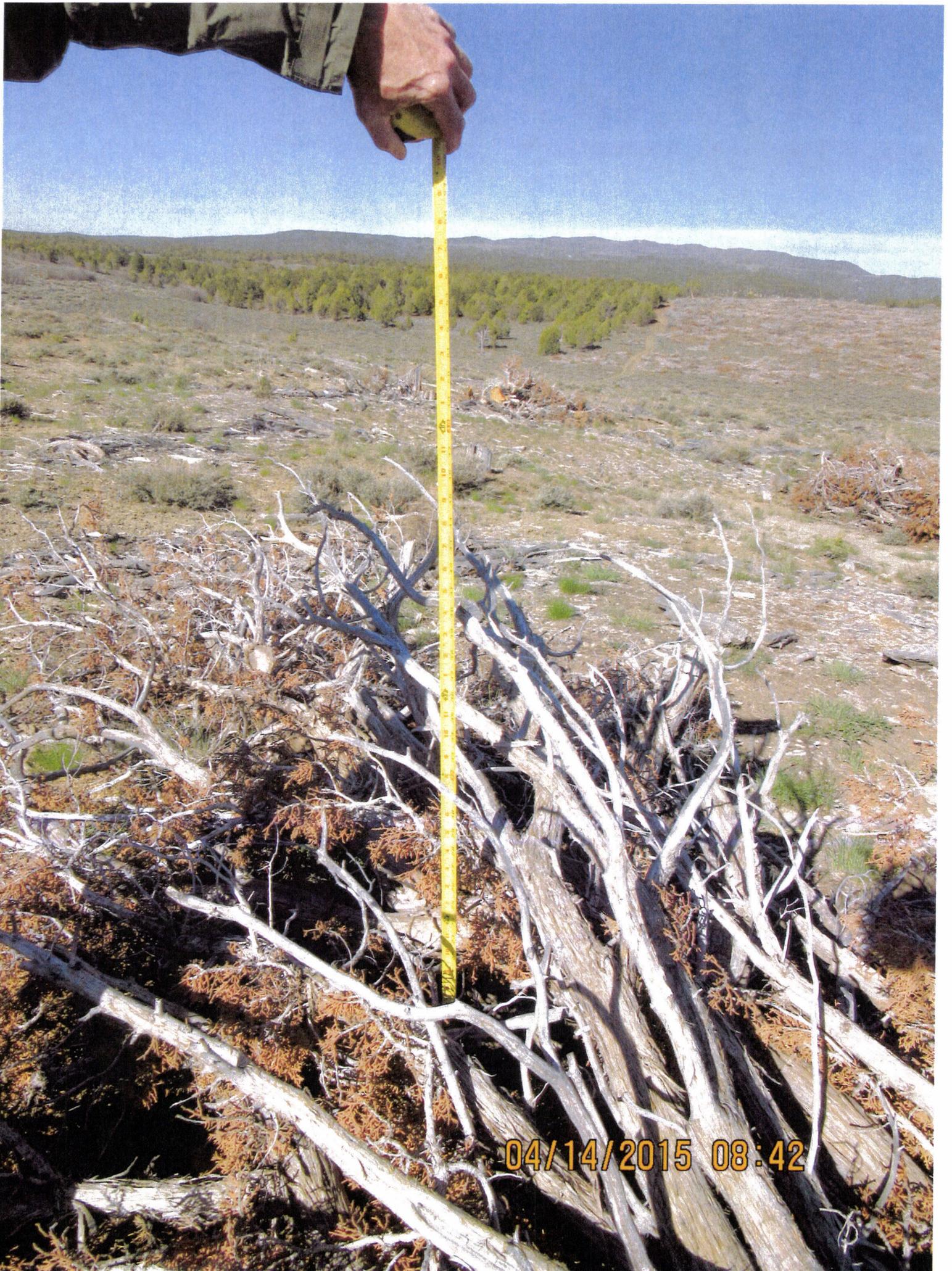
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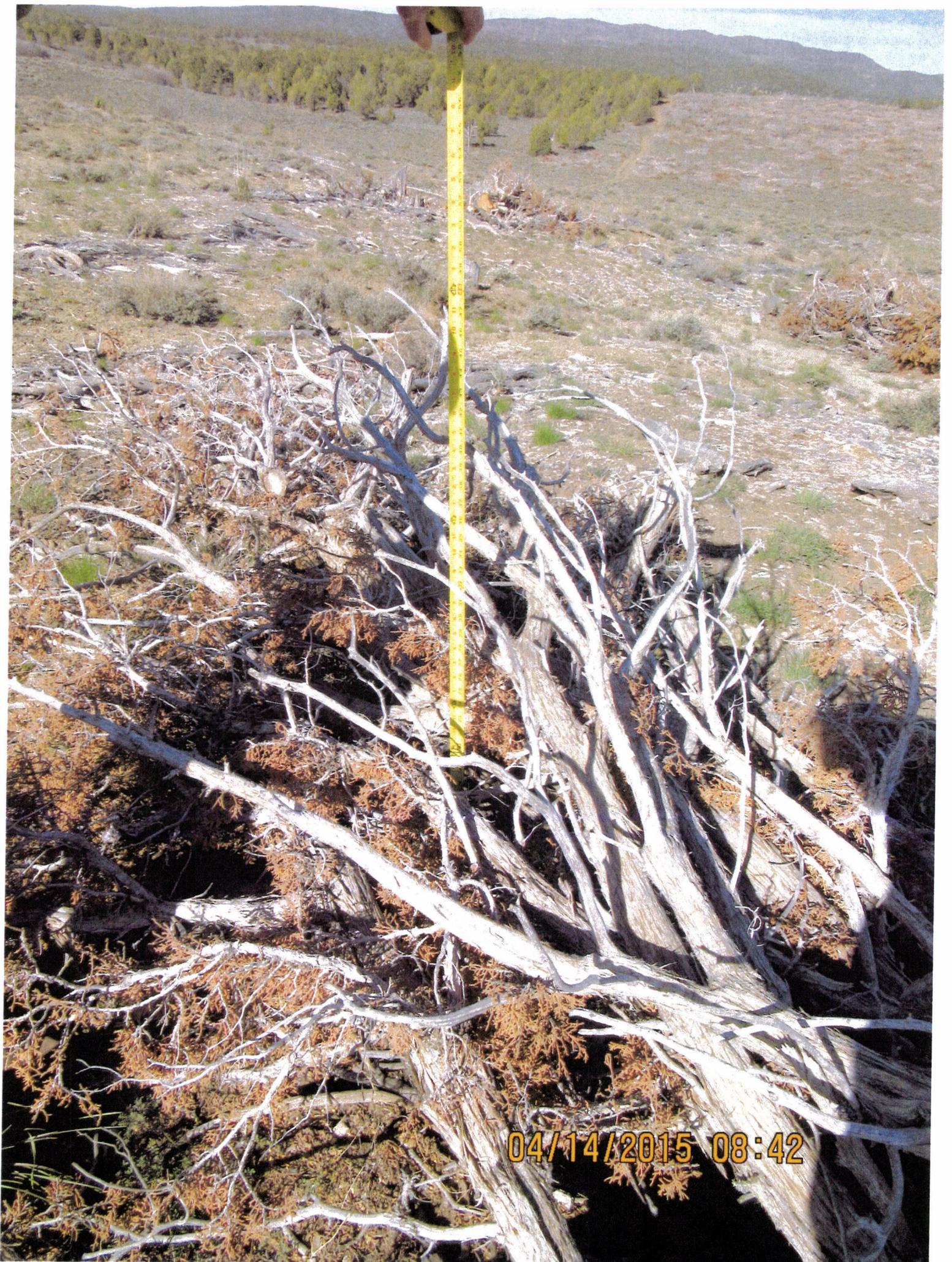
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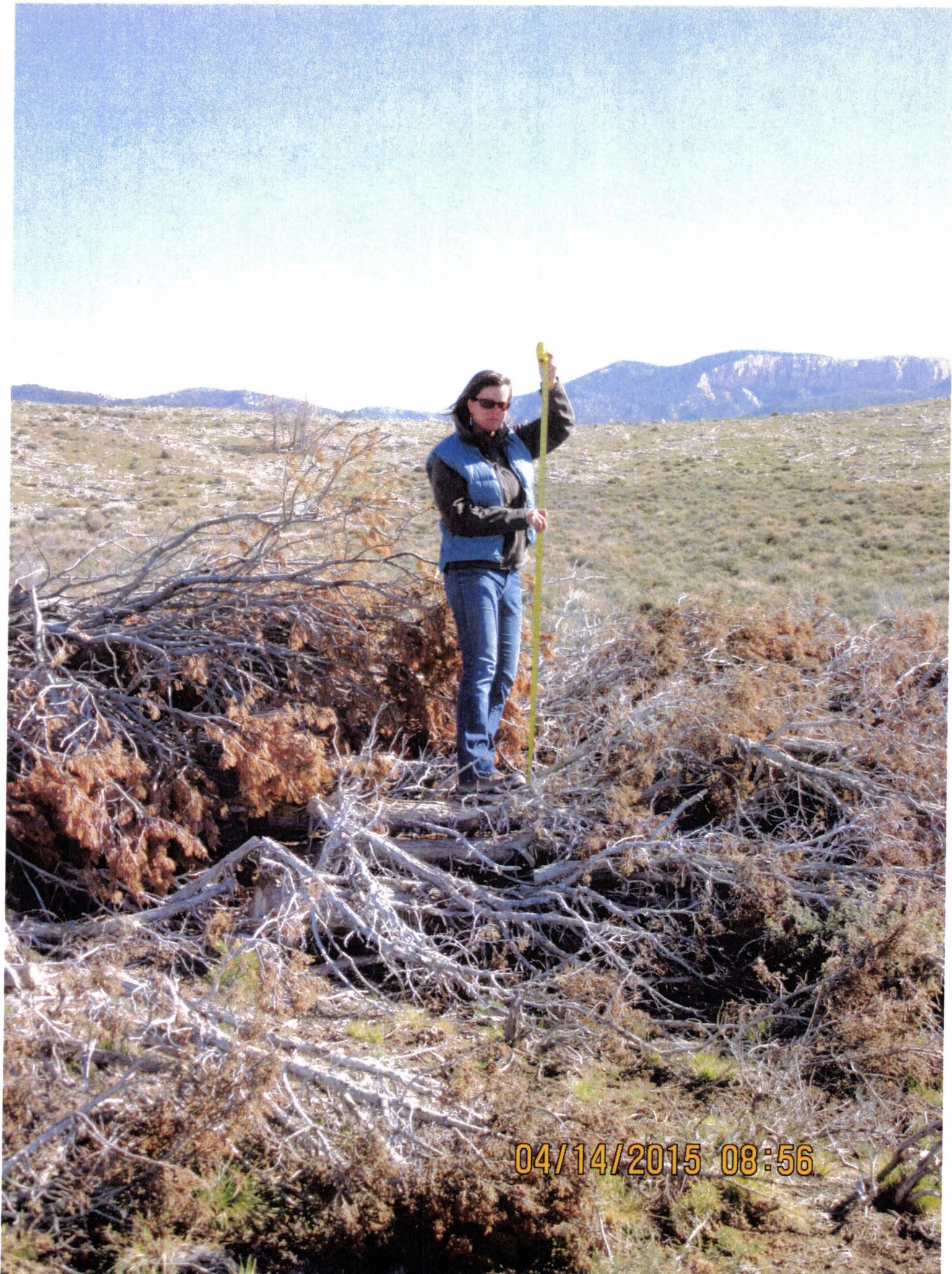
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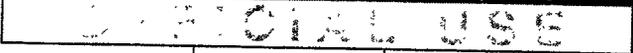


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PS Form 3800, August 2006

See Reverse for Instructions