



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Manti-La Sal  
National Forest

Ferron/Price Ranger District  
Ferron Work Center  
115 West Canyon Road  
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Ferron, UT 84523  
Phone # (435) 384-2372  
Fax # (435) 384-3296

*Tan*

0017

File Code: 2820-4  
Date: June 18, 2003

*Jacoby*  
*6/18/03*

Dear Interested Party:

The Manti-La Sal National Forest is currently evaluating a proposed coal exploration plan submitted by Ark Land Company (a subsidiary of Arch Coal Inc.) on behalf of Canyon Fuel Company, LLC to conduct coal exploration and reclamation activities during late summer 2003. All exploration activities would take place on Federal Coal Leases U-63214 and U-76195 in Sevier County, Utah approximately 6 to 9 miles northwest of the town of Emery. Exploration holes would be drilled at four locations to further delineate the coal seam geology and minability in advance of underground coal mining at Canyon Fuel's SUFCO Mine (see map). One exploration drill hole would be drilled on U-63214 and three on U-76195. A drill pad, with the approximate dimensions of 100 ft x 100 ft., would be constructed at each site. The drilling technique would consist of plugging/coring from the surface to total depth.

The proposed drill holes and pertinent information are tabulated below:

| <u>Drill hole #.</u> | <u>Lease #</u> | <u>Location</u>           | <u>Depth</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 03-12-1              | U-76195        | T21S, R5E, SW 1/4 Sec 12  | 1,000 feet   |
| 03-12-2              | U-76195        | T21S, R5E, NW 1/4 Sec 12  | 1,000 feet   |
| 03-17-1              | U-63214        | T21S, R5E, NE 1/4 Sec 17  | 1,800 feet   |
| 03-24-1              | U-76195        | T21S, R5E, SW 1/4 Sec. 24 | 1,000 feet   |

Access to drill holes 03-12-1, 03-12-2, and 03-24-1 would be along existing roads FR 028 and FR 309. These holes would be plugged and sites reclaimed upon completion. Access to hole number 03-17-1 would require construction of a temporary 3/4 mile access road in which the pad and road would be reclaimed upon drilling completion. This hole is proposed to be completed as a water monitoring well. Access for occasional well monitoring would be by foot or horseback, and hole plugging would need to be done either by helicopter or by foot or horseback.

Heavy equipment access to the exploration area would generally be via the Accord Lakes Road (FR 50007). Equipment capable of using the steep Link Canyon Road (FR 50044) would access the project area from the east. A Road-Use Permit would be obtained from the Forest Service before equipment is transported onto National Forest System lands.

*MAN*  
JUN 24 2003  
*6/24/03*

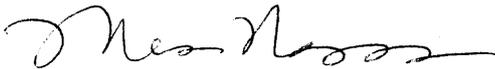


The general method to be followed during drill hole exploration, reclamation and abandonment is: 1) repair the Forest roads where needed and prepare the drill site, 2) rotary drill, log, and plug the exploration drill holes, and 3) reclaim the drill site and access route. No blasting would be done for road building or repair.

Since the proposed project is on existing federal coal leases, the District Ranger must decide what conditions of approval (mitigations) are needed to protect non-coal resources. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the lead agency regarding lease administration and approval of coal exploration plans, however the District Ranger must concur with the terms and conditions prior to approval by BLM. None of the proposed activity is in inventoried roadless.

The Forest Service is requesting Federal, State, and local agencies, and other individuals or organizations interested in or potentially affected by the proposal to participate in the planning process through scoping. If you have any comments or concerns you would like addressed in the environmental analysis, or have any questions regarding the project, please forward them to Brian McClelland at the Ferron-Price Ranger District, 115 West Canyon Road, P.O. Box 310, Ferron, Utah, 84523; or by telephone 435-636-3588 by July 19, 2003.

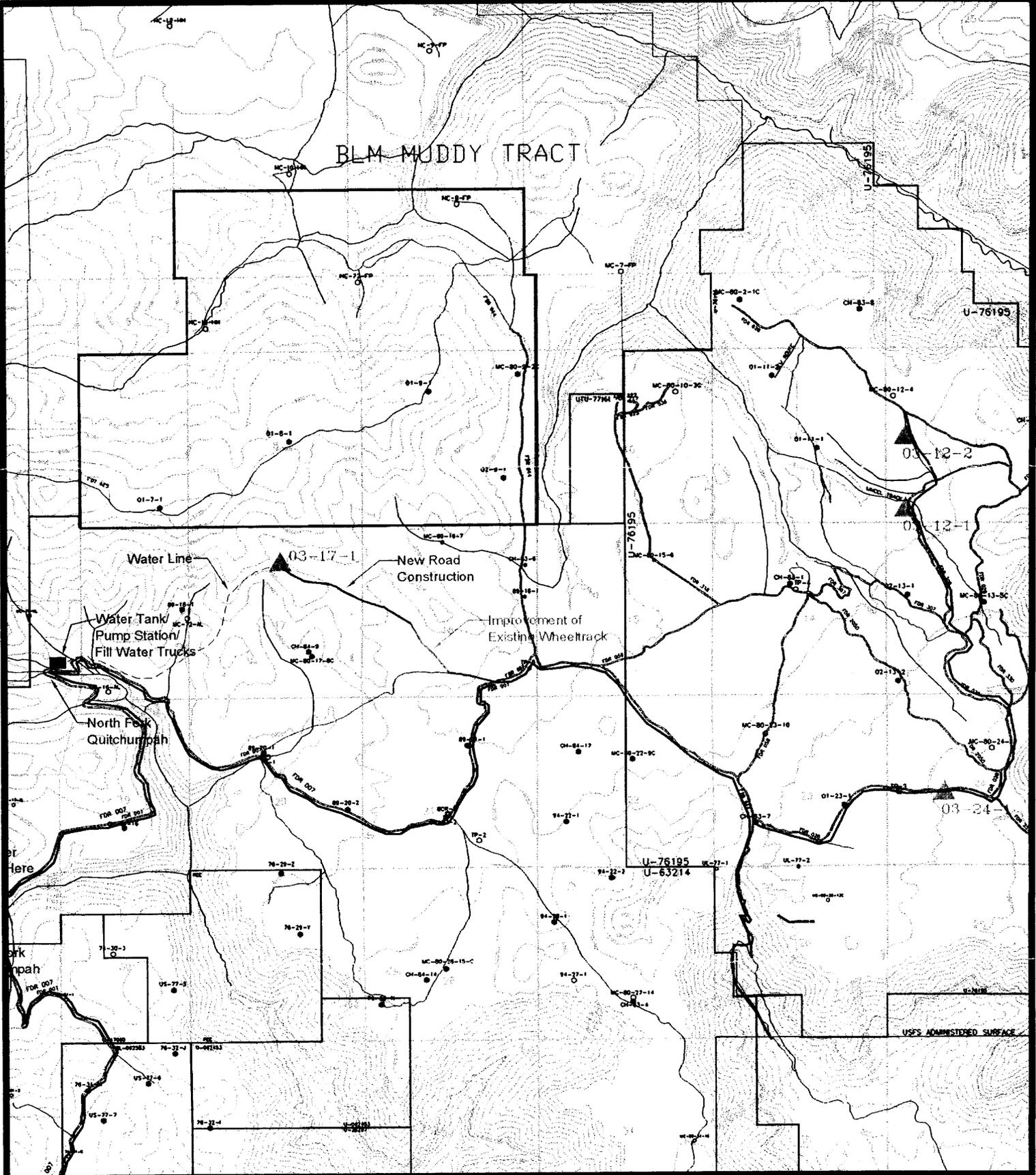
Sincerely,



Mesia Nyman  
District Ranger

enclosure

# BLM MUDDY TRACT



Main Access-Road Use

Improvement of Existing Wheeltrack

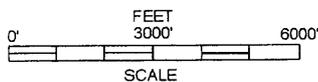
New Road Construction

Proposed Drillsite

Proposed Waterline

Proposed Water Tank/  
Pump Station

## MAP 3



|          |    |
|----------|----|
| DATE     | BY |
| DESIGNED | BY |
| CHECKED  | BY |
| APPROVED | BY |
| DATE     | BY |

**ARK LAND COMPANY**  
**DRILLING PROJECT, 2003**  
**FED. LEASES U-63214**  
**AND U-76195**  
**DRILL HOLE LOCATIONS**  
**CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD USE**  
**LAYOUT**

|            |                                  |           |
|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| SCALE      | FILE NO.                         | SHEET NO. |
| 1" = 4000' | P:\COO\SUPCO\2003\ARK\map\m3.dwg | of 1      |

03-12-2