

Burning Man 2003 Special Recreation Permit
Environmental Assessment
NV-020-03-16

ERRATA SHEET

Changes indicated here result from analysis of comments received during the public comment period that ended on June 30, 2003. All changes are hereby incorporated into the EA.

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2.1.d Event Security and Public Safety

1. Law Enforcement – On-Site

The BLM and the Pershing County Sheriff's Office (PSO) would provide law enforcement on site. These agencies would be focused on enforcement of federal, State and local laws and regulations as well as permit stipulations. The Burning Man Law Enforcement Agency Liaison (LEAL) would coordinate and work with the various law enforcement agencies ~~and the Black Rock Rangers.~~

3. Security – On-site

Burning Man would supply event security, using the Black Rock Rangers (BRR). The BRR would patrol the City, assist participants and coordinate with law enforcement officers ~~and LEAL.~~ There would be two BRR outposts situated within Black Rock City. The BRR would be generally be the first point of participant contact for stipulation violations, BRC regulations and other non-crime related concern within Black Rock City. Matters requiring Law Enforcement actions would be referred to BLM or PSO.

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2.1.h Runway and Aircraft

The runway would be a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved temporary runway facility and would be approximately 60 feet wide by 5,000 feet in length located southeast and outside the perimeter fence (Map 2). The runway would be set up in a southwest to northeast ~~west~~ direction taking advantage of prevailing winds. The runway would be delineated by placement of orange cones and signing, to deter vehicle traffic from entering the area. Numbers and threshold markings at both ends of the runway would indicate compass bearing and help define boundaries. ~~A compass rose would also be painted.~~ The numbers and ~~rose~~ threshold markings would be painted on the

playa surface using a ~~calcium carbonate/water suspension~~ biodegradable agricultural colorant that contains properties that allows it to fade and breaks down in a few weeks. ~~The painted markers would be raked or washed down following the event to obliterate them.~~

An area for aircraft parking would be delineated outside the perimeter fence and adjacent to the runway.

Windssocks on 20-foot steel poles would be installed adjacent to the runway. Radio communication with pilots would be provided through a Common Traffic Advisory Frequency and would inform pilots of landing pattern direction and safety information. Burning Man participants in single and twin piston-engine, fixed wing aircraft and helicopters would be able to use the runway. Black Rock City would prepare a NOTAM to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and post as required.

2.1.j Event Take Down and Clean Up

1. On-Site

Public service messages on event radio stations as well as other means would encourage participants to clean up their sites and take their garbage home or to an approved landfill. Structure and site clean up would begin on September 3rd~~4th~~. Structure disassembly and general on-site garbage removal would ~~begin September 8th and would~~ be completed by September 16th ~~within two weeks~~. Final cleanup will be completed by September 30th. BRC would dispose of debris in an approved landfill. Burn marks from fires would be shoveled, raked, and dragged to remove all debris and break up any hardened surface associated with baking of the playa surface. The perimeter fence would be the last structure to be removed. Dunes formed as a result of dust blowing into the perimeter fence would be dragged or graded. A detailed site inspection by BLM would occur on October 10, 2003 with a follow-up inspection-taking place in the spring of 2004. Post event debris could not exceed 33 parts per million on an area basis.

2. Off-Site

Off site clean up would include trash pickup on County Road 34 from Hualapai Valley to the town of Gerlach and on State Road 447 from the town of Wadsworth to the CA/NV border. Crews would patrol and collect all roadside trash for disposal in an approved site. If necessary, other road shoulders and sites would also be cleaned, including County Road 34 to Vya, and Trego Hot Springs, ~~and Black Rock Hot Springs~~. Off site clean up would follow event exit and continue for several days.

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3.6 Water Resources

The Burning Man event site is located within the Black Rock Desert Hydrographic Region. The site itself is situated on the terminal lake/playa surface, which receives intermittent surface water flows from the Quinn River drainage, the Mud Meadow Creek drainage and other smaller streams. Surface flows and inundation are seasonal, normally associated with springtime snowmelt and occasional thunderstorms (Sinclair, 1963).

During a normal precipitation year, the playa is partially covered with standing water during the months of March into June. The extent and duration of standing water is dependent on weather conditions, annual precipitation and temperature regimes (Welch and Preissler, 1990). The event is held in late August and early September when the playa surface is dry. The playa has been classified as a discharging playa. This designation is due to the relatively shallow water table. The maximum depth to groundwater at the site is 5-10 feet. Through evaporation and capillary forces, groundwater is actively discharged to the atmosphere, resulting in a vertical hydraulic gradient.

No springs, seeps, wells, streams, or permanent lakes are located in, or adjacent to the event boundary. Several hot springs including Great Boiling Spring, Trego, and Black Rock Hot Springs are located adjacent to the playa but more than 57 miles from the Burning Man event site.

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3.11 Socio-Economics

BRC estimates that the Burning Man 2001 event had an operating budget of approximately \$5.3 million. It is estimated that more than \$1 million of the budget was spent in northern Nevada. The regional expenditures include contracting for medical, fire, and law enforcement; services; equipment; supplies; and rental equipment (BRC, 2001a).

The event results in over 140,000 visitor days on public lands. This is about half the total visitor use to the NCA. Based upon the numbers contained in the visitor survey for the 2001 event (BRC, 2001b), visitors to the event generate at least \$3,000,000 of economic activity in northern Nevada.

In the past three years BRC contributed about \$5079,000 to civic causes in Gerlach including the volunteer fire department and the senior citizen's center. BRC has also contributed over \$15,000 to the Pyramid Lake Tribe and has contributed to civic causes in Pershing County.