

Dan,

Could you include the following as BIA-Western Region comments regarding the Draft BARCAS report. I'm not sure when the 60-day comment period ends. My comments are basically related to my earlier email on the question of the delineation of the study area.

1. How was the study area for the BARCAS determined? What were the criteria for selection of basins to be included: hydrogeology, potential water development, DOI interests, legislation, etc.
2. What DOI Bureaus, if any, were contacted to participate and participated in the formulation of the BARCAS scope of work and initial determination of extent of the study?
3. Were any Indian Tribes contacted regarding access to resources (springs, wells, etc.) or for participation in the process?
4. If further BARCAS-related work is proposed (i.e., modeling) suggest expanding the study area to include Deep Creek Valley and Railroad Valley North. Not only do these basins contain Indian reservations which the BIA have an interest in, but it will "fill out" and make the study area more contiguous.

Thanks,

Ray Roessel  
Hydrologist  
BIA-Western Region