

Visual Effects APE Guidance: Examples

1.

Here's an example of an APE for a ditch project that doesn't include any above-ground elements. It could include placing pipe in the ditch, blading over the ditch, lining the ditch with concrete, etc. You'll notice that the APE includes the small dirt track south of the ditch that will be used for access and staging. This APE measures approximately 0.9 acres. Since activities are occurring at- or below-grade, a visual effects APE is not necessary here.



Map Image from Google Earth

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2.

The second example is an APE for the installation of three new headgates that will extend above ground a few feet. This APE includes all areas from which the headgates will be reasonably visible. In this example, the APE is drawn across portions of buildings. This is because the buildings will have a view of the headgates (some areas behind buildings were not included since views of all headgates would be blocked in some locations). The identification effort for this APE would include a list of all historic-age resources within the APE, including buildings, roads, fences and corrals, historic pastures or fields, irrigation ditches, etc. The ranch resources would then be evaluated for NRHP eligibility both as individuals and as possible contributing resources to a historic district or rural historic landscape. This APE is approximately 0.81 acres in size and includes areas for staging and access. This type of APE would also apply to other small-scale, above-ground construction where vertical elements would be visible from a short distance, such as diversion dams or standpipes. Taller new elements would require larger APEs to account for increased visibility.



Map Image from Google Earth

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3.

This example is an APE for an addition on the rear of a building. This could also apply to the installation of a large generator, a cooler, construction of a small shed at this location, etc. This APE is approximately 3.3 acres in size and includes areas from which the new construction will be readily visible. It also includes plenty of space for staging and access. Again, any historic buildings, structures, or sites within the APE would be identified and evaluated for NRHP eligibility as individuals and as possible members of a historic district or rural historic landscape.



Map Image from Google Earth

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4.

The fourth example is an APE for the construction of new fences (fences depicted in yellow). The APE shows areas from which the fences will be readily visible. Building to the west and trees to the SE block the view of the fences in places. But from everywhere else, the new fences will be seen from some distance before they start to disappear into the landscape. This APE is approximately 8.5 acres in size. Several potential historic buildings and fences would be within this APE.

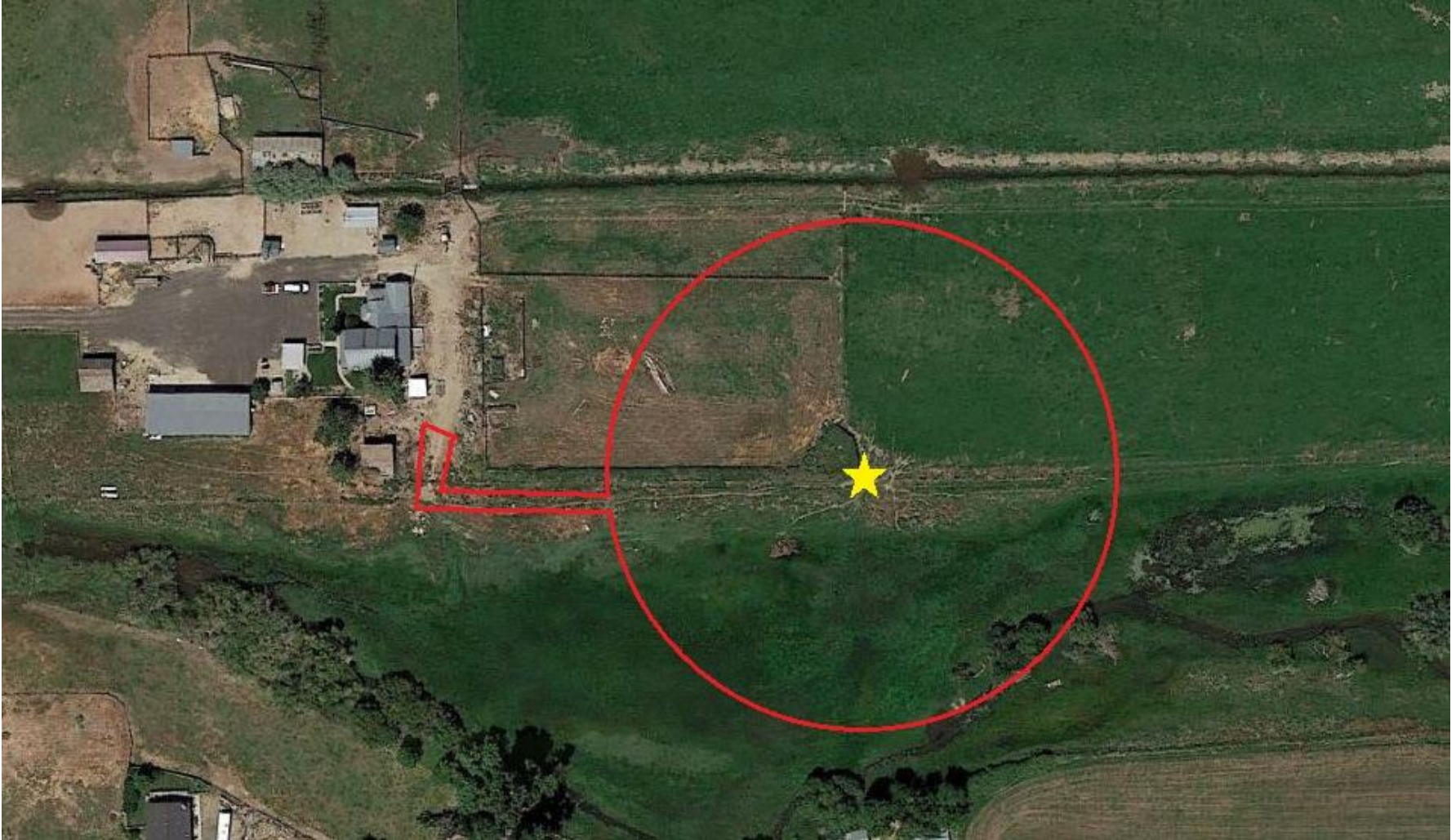


Map Image from Google Earth

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5.

The final example is an APE for construction of a tall pump with a solar panel. In addition to the pump's visibility, the solar panel will be reflective and will therefore be seen from a distance. This is the type of APE that can often be defined as a certain radius, since the pump will be at the center and will generally be visible from X number of feet in any direction. This APE includes a radius for the pump's visibility, plus a section for the direct effects from staging and access, for a total of approximately 2.9 acres.



Map Image from Google Earth