U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT

NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW & DECISION RECORD

GLENDALE RESOURCE AREA **CE #: OR118-08-09**

Proposed Project or Action Title: Oregon Bicycle Ride 2008
Location of Proposed Action: Glendale to Powers Bicycle route (T32S, R9W & 8W)
Land Use Allocation: Matrix, Riparian Reserve

Proposed Action: Oregon Bicycle Ride is proposing a 7 day bicycle ride for 250 people that traverses approximately 590 miles beginning and ending in Cottage Grove, Oregon between August 9 and August 16, 2008. Overnight stops along the way include the towns of Reedsport, Bandon, Powers, Riddle and Millpond Campground on the Roseburg District BLM. The proposed ride includes multiple access points onto BLM land via various secondary, paved roads. The Medford District will be affected specifically on Thursday, August 14 (day 5 of the ride). The day 5 segment will be from Powers to Riddle traversing approximately 13 miles of Medford BLM land beginning near Anaktuvuk Saddle (32-8-31) continuing on Bobby Creek Road (32-8-9.2) and then down West Fork Road (32-8-1.1) to Cow Creek Road. This segment is part of the Glendale to Powers bicycle route. Oregon Bicycle Ride will be responsible for all medical, safety, clean up, route marking, and personal needs of its riders.

One scheduled rest stop on Day 5 will occur on Medford BLM lands. The location of this stop is near the intersections of the West Fork Road (32-8-1.1) and Cow Creek Road. The site was once the town of West Fork, but has since been used as a gravel stockpile area, log landing, and heavy equipment staging area. A 15' box van with water, food, tents and 2 – 4 portable toilets will be set up here. Oregon Bicycle Ride will provide staff to service the riders with food, water and medical attention that may be needed at the rest stop. Clean up of the site is required.

One of the objectives stated in the Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan is to "Pursue recreation opportunities that will benefit local community economic strategies consistent with BLM land use objectives" (RMP, p.63).

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the following plans:

- *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (Northwest Forest Plan FSEIS, 1994 and ROD, 1994)
- *Final-Medford District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* and *Record of Decision* (EIS, 1994 and RMP/ROD, 1995)
- *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Management of Port-Orford-Cedar in Southwest Oregon* (FSEIS, 2004 and ROD, 2004)
- *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision and Standards and*

Measures Standards and Guidelines (FSEIS, 2000 and ROD, 2001) and amendments or modifications as of March 21, 2004

- *Medford District Integrated Weed Management Plan Environmental Assessment (1998)* and tiered to the *Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program* (EIS, 1985)

COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 H (1) "Issuance of Special Recreation permits for day use or overnight use . . . and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan."

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply (See attached checklist).

DECISION AND RATIONALE

I have reviewed this Plan Conformance, Categorical Exclusion Determination and attached NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plans and would not involve any significant environmental impacts. No further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigating measures identified below.

Mitigation Measures / Other Remarks: Engineering: West Fork Road (5.2 miles) will have active log haul during the event. Mitigation will require OBR to post signs at both ends warning vehicle traffic that bicycles will be on the road.

Katrina Symons, Field Manager
Glendale Resource Area

4/2/08
Date

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW

Department of the Interior Manual 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 provides for a review of the following criteria to determine if exceptions apply to this proposed action:

1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety. **( ) Yes** **(X) No**
Remarks: **None**

2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation, refuge, lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); ecologically significant or critical areas (including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks).

Cultural Resources	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**
Recreation	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**
Hydrology	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**
Soils	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**
Wildlife	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**

Remarks: **None**

3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(e). **( ) Yes** **(X) No**
Remarks: None

4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
( ) Yes **(X) No**
Remarks: None

5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about a future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. **( ) Yes** **(X) No**
Remarks: None

6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. **( ) Yes** **(X) No**
Remarks: None

7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either bureau or office.
Cultural Resources **( ) Yes** **(X) No**
Remarks: None

8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed for listed, on the List of Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.

Botany	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**
Wildlife	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**
Fisheries	**( ) Yes**	**(X) No**

Remarks: None

9. Violate a Federal law, or State, local, or tribal law requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.
( )Yes **(X)No**

Remarks: None

10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). **( )Yes** **(X)No**
Remarks: None

11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian Religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).
( ) Yes **(X) No**
Remarks: None

12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).
Botany **( ) Yes** **(X) No**

Remarks: None