

# Categorical Exclusion Documentation / Decision Record

## A. Background

BLM Office: Medford District Office      CE Number: OR110-09-01

Proposed Action Title: Christmas Tree Harvesting

### Location of Proposed Action:

Christmas tree selection will be in designated areas throughout the Medford District.

### Description of Proposed Action:

Harvesting of Christmas trees by permit in designated areas only.

### Design Features for the Proposed Action

- Harvest only trees that are less than 12 feet tall; keep stump height of no more than 12 inches above the ground; and harvest a tree only if there is no other tree within 12 feet of it
- Harvest only on public lands that are open for Christmas tree harvest. Do not cut trees on private property. Do not cut within fenced or posted tree plantations. Do not cut trees within 200 feet of state highways, campgrounds, and other developed areas.
- Resale of Christmas trees and /or permits is not permitted.
- Validate and attach your permit to your tree before transporting.
- One permit is required for each tree.

## B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: *Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP)*

Date Approved: June 1995

The proposed action is in conformance with the RMP because it is specifically provided for in the following RMP decision:

“Manage for the production and sale of special forest products when demand is present and where actions taken are consistent with primary objectives for the land use allocation. (ROD/RMP, p. 75).

## C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 C(5) as follows:

Disposal of small amounts of miscellaneous vegetation products outside established harvest areas, such as Christmas trees, wildings, floral products (ferns, boughs, etc.), cones, seeds, and personal use firewood.

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

#### D. Categorical Exclusion Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation

The proposed categorical exclusion action will:	YES	NO
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		X
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 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).		X
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		X

**E. Signature of Authorizing Official**

*for*   
Timothy J. Reuwsaat  
Medford District Manager

11/25/2008

Date

**F. Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CE review, contact Jim McConnell, Medford District BLM, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504.

**G. Administrative Remedy**

Notice of forest management decision to be made on the action described in this categorical exclusion, will be posted on the District internet website. The action is subject to protest under 43 CFR section 4.450-2. A decision in response to a protest is subject to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals under 43 CFR part 4.