

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District
1103 North Fancher Road
Spokane Valley, WA 99212

A. Background

BLM Office: Border Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: OR-135-08-CX-006

NEPA Log Number: OR-135-08-CX-006

Proposed Action Title: Juniper Dunes Roadwork

Location of Proposed Action: Juniper Forest, Franklin County, WA. 10N, 31E, Sec.2, 11, 15, 18, 21, 28 (see attached map).

Description of Proposed Action: Regrade and compact approximately 5 miles of existing roads in the Juniper Dunes Recreation Area. This work will take out the large humps in the roads, fill in ruts and potholes, and remove washboarding. The roads to be regraded include the Smith Canyon Road from where it branches off of Juniper Dunes Road to the BLM property line (approximately 1 mile), and Juniper Road from where it branches off of Juniper Dunes Road to the boundary of the ACEC (approximately 4 miles). See attached map. A bulldozer will level out the big humps, followed by Mr. DeRuyter's grader to smooth the road. A water truck might be used to achieve sufficient road dirt moisture, and a surface compactor will follow to finish the work. Heavy equipment will remain on the established roads.

Roadwork completed prior to March 1 will not require any pre-disturbance surveys or mitigation for ferruginous hawks. Roadwork done after March 1 will require pre-disturbance surveys for ferruginous hawks. If nesting hawks are found, a 250 m (820 ft) no-disturbance buffer of active nests will be observed from 1 March through 31 May.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Spokane Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: Approved 1987/Amended 1992

Option 1 (conforms with LUP): The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

OR

(Option 2: not explicitly provided for in the LUP) The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (*objectives, terms, and conditions*): Manage public lands and keep access routes open for a variety of recreational opportunities/experiences, including both motorized and nonmotorized recreation activities.

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 2, Appendix 1, 1.7

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 apply, as shown in the following table:

CX EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION The proposed categorical exclusion action will:	YES	NO
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

designated Critical Habitat for these species.		
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

F: Signature

Authorizing Official: /S/ Kevin Devitt Date: 2/20/08
(Signature)

Name: Kevin Devitt
Title: Field Manager, Border Resource Area

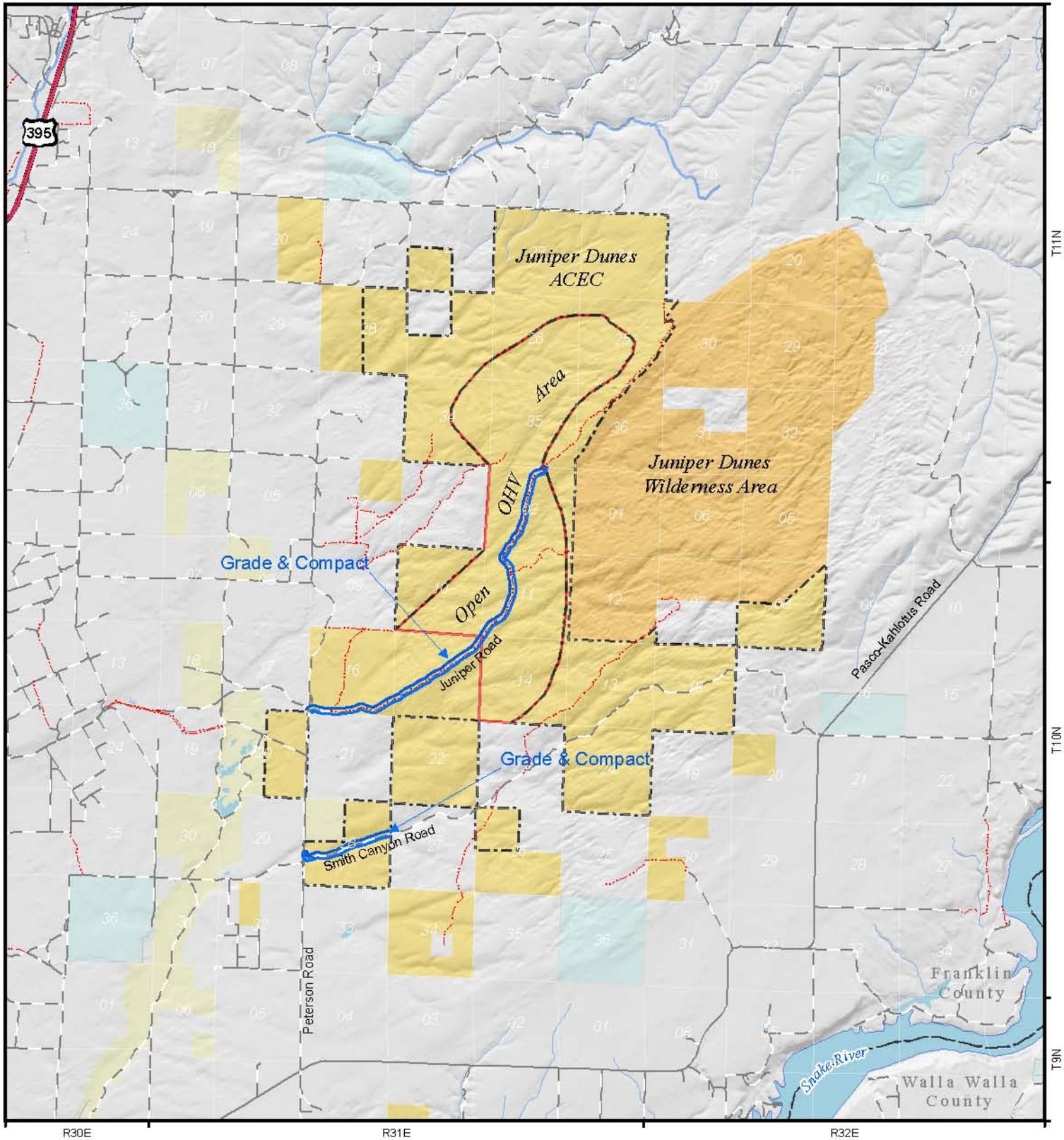
G. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Steve A. Smith, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Border Resource Area, Steve_A_Smith@blm.gov, 509-536-1219

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.

Juniper Dunes Road Maintenance

OR-135-08-CX-006



- Proposed Road Maintenance
- Paved Road
- Unpaved or Other Road
- Trail - Access As Designated
- Federal Highway
- Juniper Dunes ACEC
- Juniper OHV Open Area
- Juniper Dunes Wilderness
- BLM Administered Land
- DNR Land
- Bureau of Reclamation



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