

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL

CX Number: DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0043-CX
File Code (Project/Serial Number): 714022
Preparer: Rachel McNeley
Title of Proposed Action: Alkali Spring Trough Replacement

Date: 7/12/2010
Applicant: Texaco Basin Allotment Permittee

Description of Proposed Action and Project Design Elements (if applicable):

The proposed action entails general maintenance of the Alkali Spring range improvement project; replacing the trough and filling in around it with dirt or gravel, repairing plumbing where needed (leaks or breaks), reconstructing failing corners of the spring enclosure, and tightening fence. The current development has deteriorated to the point it needs to be maintained. The trough replacement will require the use of a dump truck and backhoe to be used within the project area. Project work would likely be completed in less than a week.

Legal Description (attach Location Map):

Township 22 South, Range 36 East, Section 20, NE 1/4SE1/4 (Texaco Basin Allotment #05566 –Bread Springs Pasture)

B. Conformance with Land Use Plan (LUP) (name): Three Rivers Resource Management Plan
Date Approved/Amended: September, 1992

The proposed action is in conformance with the Three Rivers Resource Management Plan (RMP), September 1992, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the goals and objective on page 2-36 of the RMP and as outlined above under the proposed action.

DOI Categorical Exclusion Reference (516 DM 2, Appendix 1):

1.7 –Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects.)

Screening for Exceptions: The following extraordinary circumstances (516 DM 2, Appendix 2) may apply to individual actions within the categorical exceptions. The indicated specialist recommends the proposed action does *not*:

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION	
2.1	Have significant impacts on public health or safety.
Specialist (Print Name and Title):	John Petty, District Safety Officer
Signature and Date:	<i>[Signature]</i> 8/9/10
Rationale:	No significant impact on public health or safety.
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); flood plains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.
<u>Migratory Birds</u>	
Specialist (Print Name and Title):	Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologist
Signature and Date:	<i>[Signature]</i> 8/9/10
Rationale:	The project would take place at a previously disturbed area adjacent to a road. Maintenance activities and disturbances would be confined to a relatively small area (spring site, pipeline, trough), and would be completed in less than a week.
<u>Historic and Cultural Resources</u>	
Specialist (Print Name and Title):	Scott Thomas, District Archeologist
Signature and Date:	<i>[Signature]</i> 8/18/10
Rationale:	The proposed project was inventoried on 7-27-10 and no cultural resources were found.
<u>Areas of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Areas</u>	
Specialist (Print Name and Title):	Doug Lynn, District Botanist
Signature and Date:	<i>[Signature]</i> 8/11/10

Rationale: No impacts to RNAs or ACECs will occur as a result of this proposal.
<u>Water Resources/Flood Plains</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Lisa Grant, Natural Resource Specialist, Riparian Signature and Date: <i>Lisa Grant</i> 8/11/10
Rationale: There will be no additional impacts to water resources as a result of the proposed action.
<u>Soils, Biological Soil Crust, Prime Farmlands</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Doug Linn, District Botanist Signature and Date: <i>Doug Linn</i> 8/4/10
Rationale: No significant impacts to these resources will occur as a result of this proposal.
<u>Recreation/ Visual Resources</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): John Bethoa, Recreation Planner Signature and Date: <i>John Bethoa</i> 8/10/10
Rationale: No significant impacts to Recreation or Visual Resources. The reconstruction of a spring development will improve the current condition which will improve recreation and visual resources.
<u>Wilderness/Wild and Scenic River Resources</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist Signature and Date: <i>Eric Haakenson</i> 8/9/10
Rationale: There is no wilderness, WSA, or WSR.
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].
Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 8/23/10
Rationale: There are no known highly controversial environmental effects or unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 8/23/10
Rationale: There are no known highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects of unique or unknown environmental risks. Reconstruction of spring developments is a common practice.
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 8/23/10
Rationale: No precedent for future actions or decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects would occur as reconstruction of springs is a common practice.
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 8/23/10
Rationale: There are no known direct relationships to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
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.
Specialist (Print Name and Title): Scott Thomas, District Archeologist Signature and Date: <i>Scott Thomas</i> 8/10/10
Rationale: No eligible or listed properties are located in the project area.
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.
<u>Endangered or Threatened Species-Fauna</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologist Signature and Date: <i>Jason Brewer</i> 8/9/10
Rationale: There are no federally listed species or Designated Critical Habitat present in the project area, and none would be affected off-site by the proposed activities. Greater sage-grouse are a candidate species for listing and occur near the project area.

The short duration of the work proposed and previously disturbed nature of the project site would not impact this species. Repair of the enclosure would reduce the likelihood of livestock trampling and utilization of riparian vegetation in the runoff area.

Endangered or Threatened Species-Aquatic

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Lisa Grant, Natural Resource Specialist, Riparian
Signature and Date: Lisa Grant 8/11/10

Rationale: The proposed action falls within the Bull Trout, Malheur Recovery Unit. Bull Trout are listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. A "no effect" determination was made for this allotment in 1999. This determination was based on the improbability of species occurrence due to upstream passage issues and water temperatures. Bull trout critical habitat is not within this watershed.

Endangered or Threatened Species-Flora

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Doug Linn, District Botanist
Signature and Date: Doug Linn 8/11/10

Rationale: No T&E species of flora or associated Critical Habitat are present.

2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Signature and Date: Rhonda Karges 8/23/10

Rationale: No known law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment would be violated.

2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Signature and Date: Rhonda Karges 8/23/10

Rationale: Implementation would not result in a disproportionately adverse effect on minority or economically disadvantaged populations as such populations do not occur in or near the project area.

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).

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Scott Thomas, District Archeologist
Signature and Date: Scott Thomas 8/10/10

Rationale: No Indian sacred sites or access to sacred sites will be affected by the proposed project.

2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or nonnative 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).

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Lesley Richman, District Weed Coordinator
Signature and Date: Lesley Richman 8/11/2010

Rationale: Noxious weeds are known to be present in and in close proximity to this area. Treatments are on-going. The weeds are not present in sufficient quantity to be considered a significant impact at this time.

Additional review (As determined by the Authorized Officer):

RMP conformance and CX review confirmation:

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, District P+EC
Signature: Rhonda Karges Date: 8/23/10

Management Determination: Based upon review of this proposal, I have determined the Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP, qualifies as a categorical exclusion and does not require further NEPA analysis.

Authorized Officer (Print Name and Title): Richard Roy
Signature: Richard Roy Date: 8/23/10

Note: A separate decision document may be prepared for the action covered by this Categorical Exclusion following program-specific guidance.

Decision: It is my proposed decision to implement the Proposed Action as described above.

Any applicant, permittee, lessee or other person whose interest is adversely affected by the final decision may file an appeal in accordance with 43 CFR 4.470 and 43 CFR 4160.4. The appeal must be filed within 30 days following receipt of the final decision. The appeal may be accompanied by a petition for a stay of the decision in accordance with 43 CFR 4.471, pending final determination on appeal. The appeal and petition for a stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer Richard Roy, Field Manager, Three Rivers Resource Area, Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, OR 97738. The appeal shall state the reasons, clearly and concisely, why the appellant thinks the final decision is in error and otherwise complies with the provisions of 43 CFR 4.470. The appellant must serve a copy of the appeal by certified mail on the Office of the Solicitor,

U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of Hearings and Appeals
405 South Main Street Suite 400
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

and person(s) named {43 CFR 4.421(h)} in the Copies sent to: section of this decision.

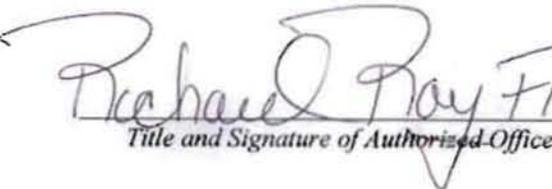
Should you wish to file a petition for a stay, see 43 CFR 4.471 (a) and (b). In accordance with 43 CFR 4.471(c), a petition for a stay must show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

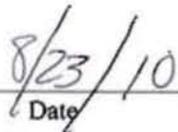
- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits.
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

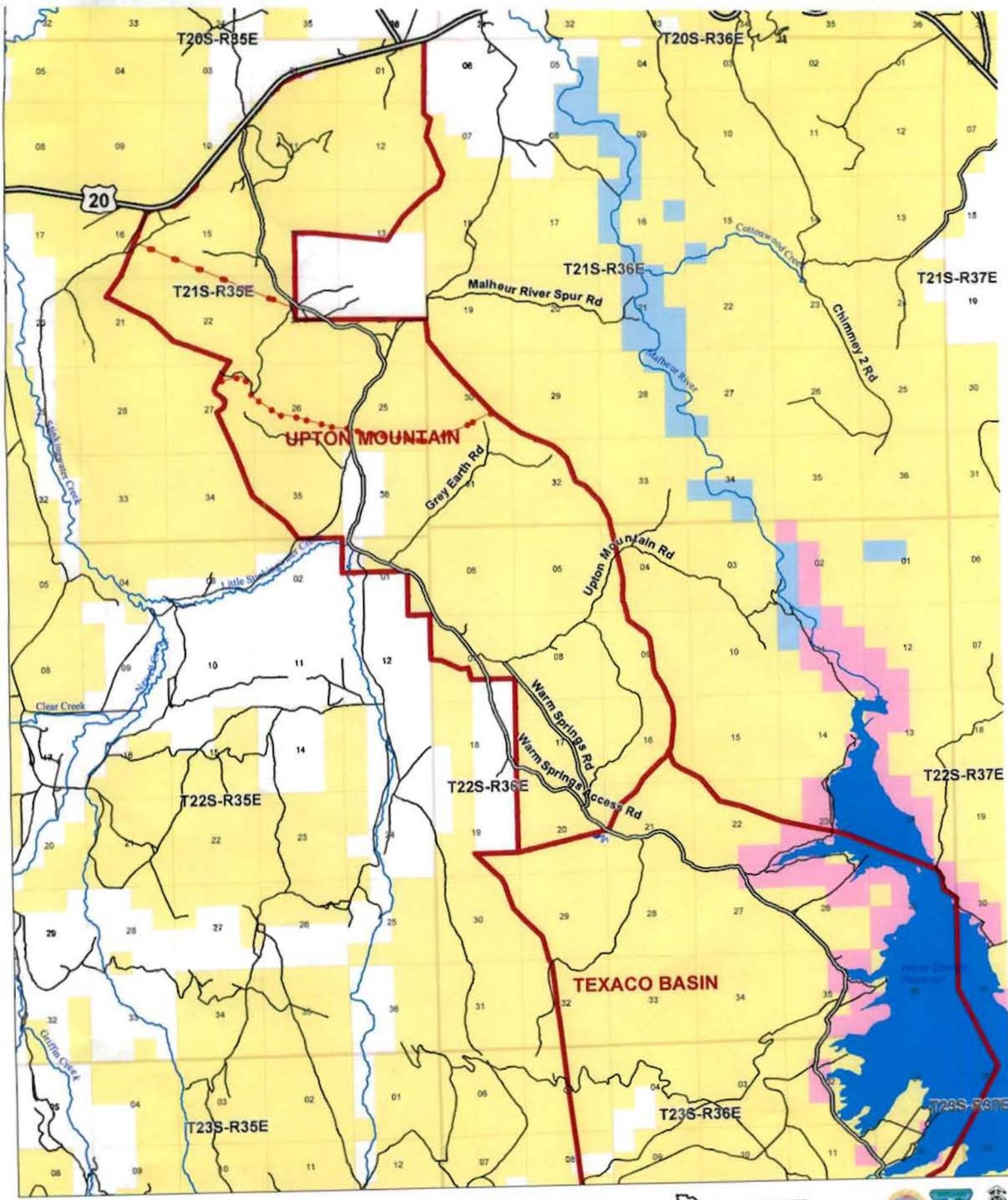
As noted above, the petition for stay must be filed in the office of the authorized officer and served in accordance with 43 CFR 4.471.

Any person named in the decision that receives a copy of a petition for a stay and/or an appeal see 43 CFR 4.472(b) for procedures to follow if you wish to respond.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Rachel McNeley at 541-573-4465 or Richard Roy at 541-573-4400.

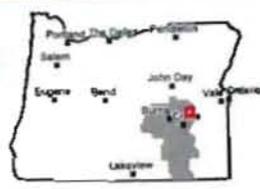
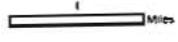

Richard Roy FIELDMANAGER
Title and Signature of Authorized Officer


Date



- Bureau of Land Management
 - U.S. Forest Service
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - Other Federal
 - Private Ownership
 - National Park Service
 - Local Government
 - Native Boundary
 - Water Stream
 - Improved Road
 - Non-Improved Road
 - Proposed or Unimproved Road
 - Proposed or Unimproved Road
- PROTOTYPE
 - TITLE GUARD
 - RESERVOIR
 - Wetland (per BLM)
- Well
 - Structure
 - Well
 - Pipeline Line
 - Ownership and Range

Alkali Spring Trough



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 Bureau of Land Management
 Boise District, Oregon

Note: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data was compiled from various sources and may be updated without notice.

www.blm.gov/AlkaliSpringTrough
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