

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

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

CX Number: DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0016-CX

Date: 24 January 2011

File Code (Project/Serial Number): Crow Springs – 5535  
Wynn Spring - 4235

Preparer: David R. Ward

Applicant:

Title of Proposed Action: Crow Springs and Wynn Spring Maintenance

**Description of Proposed Action:**

Crow Springs (Grassy Basin Allotment #6017)

Replace bent and leaking trough at an existing range improvement project (Crow Springs) on BLM-administered land within Grassy Basin Grazing Allotment (6017). Replace existing headbox. Place new 5x12' galvanized steel trough 300 feet northeast from old trough on existing route. Bury overflow line in existing route from new trough location to existing catch basin (see attached detailed map). Build approximately 300 feet of enclosure fence utilizing four rock cribs around spring source. Replace existing drain field. Remove old trough to Fields Dump. No new roads need to be constructed. Existing roads would be used. Crow Springs and route to Crow Springs is not in WSA. Equipment required: backhoe, dump truck, flatbed truck, tilt-bed trailer

Wynn Spring (Sandhills Allotment #6016)

Replace detached, rusted, bent trough with new 5x12' galvanized steel trough. Plumb existing spring pipe to new trough. Bury new overflow line from new trough to existing catch basin. Remove old trough to Fields dump. No new roads need to be constructed. Access is by existing routes. Wynn Spring and route to Wynn Spring is not in WSA. Equipment required: backhoe, dump truck, flatbed truck, tilt-bed trailer

Both new troughs feature built in bird ramps.

All equipment will be cleaned and be free of mud and plant materials prior to entering the project areas.

A cultural resources inventory of the two springs will be completed prior to project implementation.

**Legal Description.**

Crow Springs

T.47N., R.32E., Sec.6, NESE, Nevada, Project location is not in WSA. See attached map.

Wynn Spring

T.47N., R.31E., Sec.1, SWSW, Nevada, Project location is not in WSA. See attached map.

**Conformance with Land Use Plan (LUP):** Andrews Management Unit Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan  
**Date Approved/Amended:** August, 2005

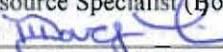
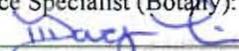
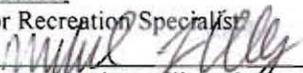
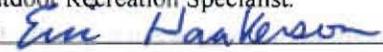
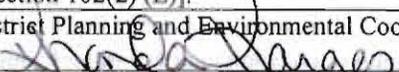
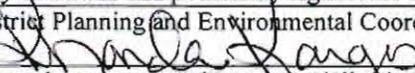
The proposed action is in conformance with the Andrews Management Unit RMP even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s): Appendix G, Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands in Oregon and Washington. Specifically, Appendix G, Page G-11, Paragraph 9a-d "Facilitating the Management of Livestock Grazing" and Appendix J, Page J-21, Footnote 19 "Maintain and Improve the ecological condition of upland vegetation communities."

**DOI Categorical Exclusion Reference (516 DM 2, Appendix I):** 1.7 – Routine and continuing government business including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities have limited context and intensity (e.g. limited size and magnitude or short-term effects).

**BLM Categorical Exclusion Reference (516 DM, Chapter 11.9 D (7): J(9) –** Construction of small protective enclosures including those to protect reservoirs and springs and those to protect small study areas.

**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.
John Petty, Safety Officer: Signature and Date:	 3-18-11
Rationale:	No significant impacts 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> Matt Obradovich, Wildlife Biologist: Signature and Date:	 3/29/2011
Rationale:	Each of these projects would cause disturbance to migratory birds using the spring area, troughs or catch basins for watering purposes. The duration of the disturbance would be less than a week at each site. Birds would continue to water in the evenings and mornings when work crews are not there. Once the project is complete, birds would readily use the water sources again. There would be no effects to migratory birds in the long term.
<u>Historic and Cultural Resources</u> Scott Thomas, District Archeologist: Signature and Date:	 3-18-11
Rationale:	No cultural resources would be affected by this project.
<u>Areas of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Areas</u> Doug Linn, Natural Resource Specialist (Botany): Signature and Date:	 3-18-11
Rationale:	No impacts to RNAs or ACECs are expected as a result of this project.
<u>Water Resources/Flood Plains</u> Daryl Bingham, Natural Resource Specialist (Riparian and Fisheries): Signature and Date:	 8 February 2011
Rationale:	The water resource would benefit from the construction of the enclosure around spring source. Where there would be no expansion of the existing spring development, there would be no other effect to the water resource or floodplains.
<u>Soils, Biological Soil Crust, Prime Farmlands</u> Doug Linn, Natural Resource Specialist (Botany): Signature and Date:	 3-18-11
Rationale:	No significant impacts to these resources are foreseen as a result of this proposal.
<u>Recreation/ Visual Resources</u> Michael Kelly, Outdoor Recreation Specialist: Signature and Date:	 3-21-11
Rationale:	This maintenance project will not impact visual or recreation values.
<u>Wilderness/Wild and Scenic River Resources</u> Eric Haakenson, Outdoor Recreation Specialist: Signature and Date:	 3-18-11
Rationale:	There is no wilderness, WSR, WSA or Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the project area.
2.3	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].
Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Signature and Date:	 3/29/11
Rationale:	There are no known highly controversial environmental effects or unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. Implementation consists primarily of maintenance activities except for the small enclosure around a spring to protect it.
2.4	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Signature and Date:	 3/29/11
Rationale:	There are no known uncertain or potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks. Implementation consists primarily of maintenance activities except for the small enclosure around a spring to protect it.

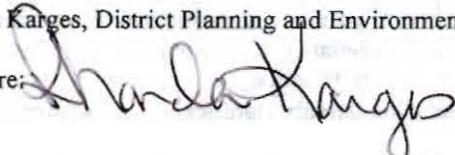
2.5	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
	Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 3/29/11
	Rationale: Implementation of the proposal would not set a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. Implementation consists primarily of maintenance activities except for the small enclosure around a spring to protect it. This type of maintenance is a routine BLM action.
2.6	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
	Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 3/29/11
	Rationale: There are no known individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. The spring developments currently exist and the proposal is to maintain them and protect a spring source. Maintenance activities is not expected to add any affects beyond those already occurring.
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.
	Scott Thomas, District Archeologist: Signature and Date: <i>Scott Thomas</i> 3/18/11
	Rationale: No National Register listed or eligible properties would be affected by this project.
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> Matt Obradovich, Wildlife Biologist: Signature and Date: <i>Matt Obradovich</i> 3/29/2011
	Rationale: There are no known federally listed endangered, threatened or proposed to be listed fauna species in this area so there would be no effects.
	<u>Endangered or Threatened Species-Aquatic</u> Daryl Bingham, Natural Resource Specialist (Riparian and Fisheries): Signature and Date: <i>Daryl Bingham</i> 8 February 2011
	Rationale: There are no Endangered or Threatened aquatic species in the proposed project area.
	<u>Endangered or Threatened Species-Flora</u> Doug Linn, Natural Resource Specialist (Botany): Signature and Date: <i>Doug Linn</i> 3-18-11
	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.
	Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 3/29/11
	Rationale: No known laws or requirements for protection of the environment would be violated. The spring developments currently exist and the proposal is to maintain them and protect a spring source. Maintenance activities is not expected to add any affects beyond those already occurring.
2.10	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).
	Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator: Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges</i> 3/29/11
	Rationale: Implementation of the proposal 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 areas.
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).
	Scott Thomas, District Archeologist: Signature and Date: <i>Scott Thomas</i> 3/18/11
	Rationale: No sacred sites are known to occur at these two locations. Access to or integrity of sacred sites would not be affected by this 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).
	Lesley Richman, District Weed Specialist: Signature and Date: <i>Lesley Richman</i> 3/18/2011
	Rationale: There are noxious weeds in close proximity to these project areas. They are treated on a regular basis. At this time, the weeds are not present in sufficient quantity to be considered a significant impact.

Additional review (As determined by the Authorized Officer):

RMP conformance and CX review confirmation:

Rhonda Karges, District Planning and Environmental Coordinator:

Signature:



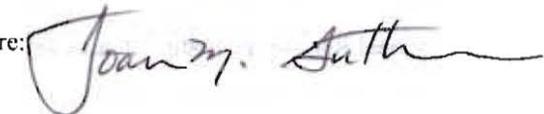
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**Management Determination:** Based upon review of this proposal, I have determined the Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP, qualifies as a categorical exclusion and does not require further NEPA analysis.

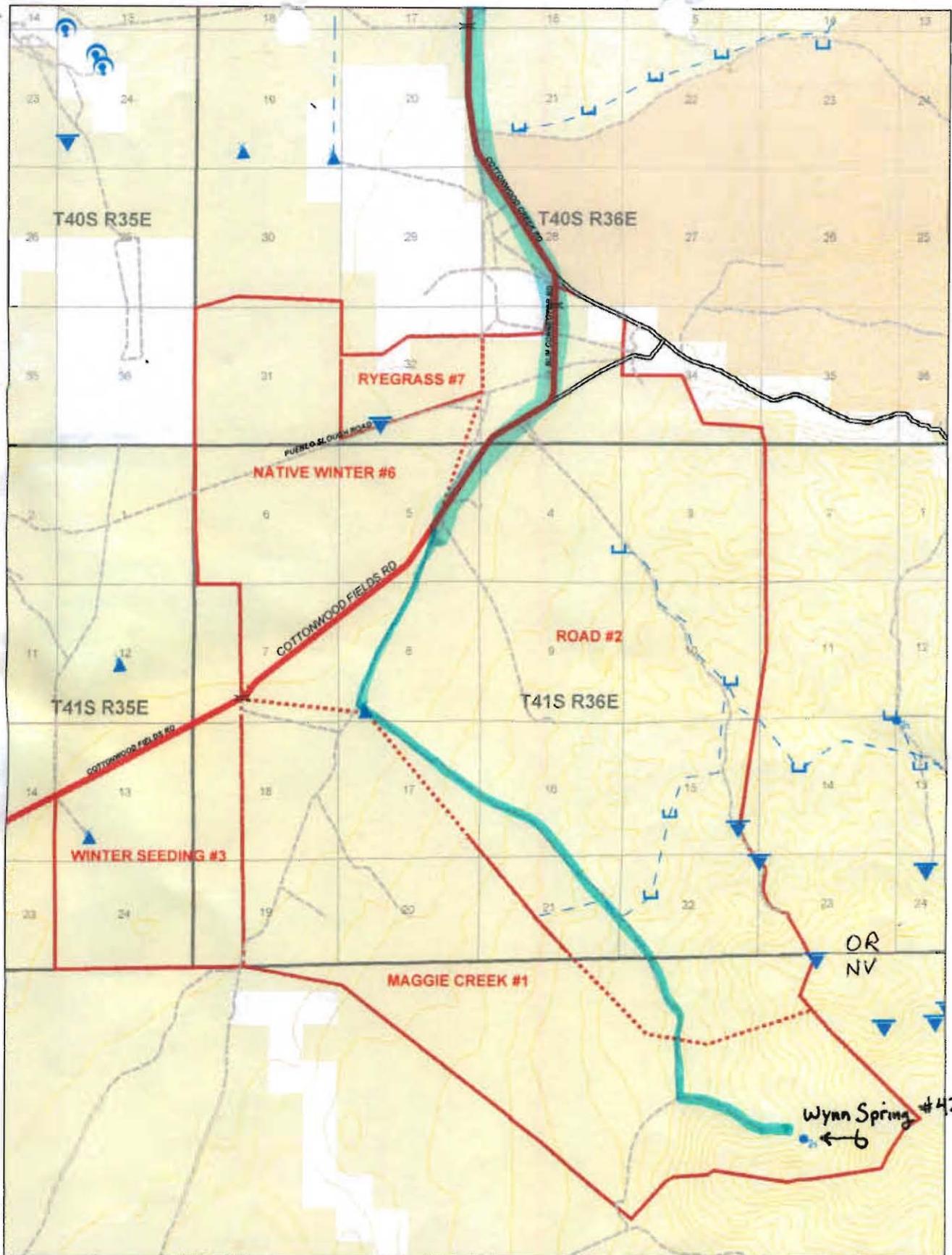
Joan Suther, Andrews Resource Area Field Manager

Signature:

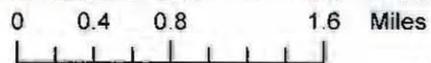


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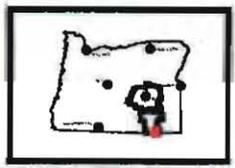
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### Sandhills Allotment #6016



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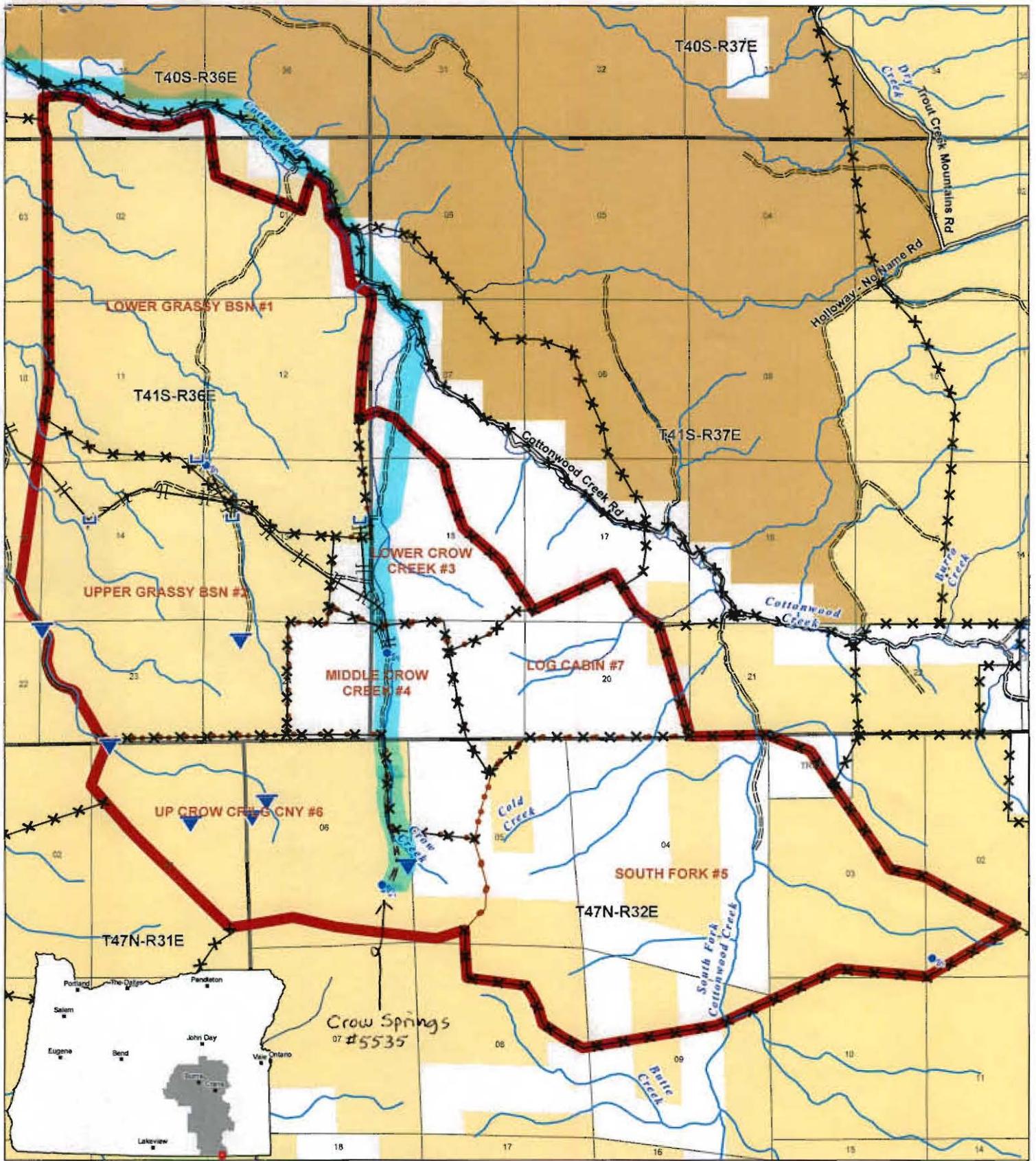




Sandhills Allotment #8013

Map of the Allotment





**Grassy Basin Allotment #6017**

- ✕ FENCE
- ≡ PIPELINE
- ▽ RESERVOIR
- SPRING (spring development)
- ▭ TROUGH
- Allotments
- ▭ Pasture Boundary
- ≡ Non-Paved Improved Road
- ≡ Primitive or Unknown Road Surface
- Perennial Streams
- Intermittent Streams



US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Land Management  
Burns 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 notification.

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1 Mile

