

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL

CX Number: DOI-BLM-OR-B020-2011-0014-CX
File Code (Project/Serial Number): N/A
Preparer: Aaron Eklund
Title of Proposed Action: Vault Toilet Replacements

Date: 1/21/2011
Applicant: Aaron Eklund

Description of Proposed Action and Project Design Elements (if applicable): Twenty existing vault toilets (18 single vaults; 2 double vaults) in Burns District would be replaced with new, ADA-compliant concrete vault toilets. These concrete toilets would have a concrete underground vault with a plastic liner (dual containment). All planned vault toilets to be replaced are located on established recreation and administrative sites. Oregon DEQ would perform a site investigation for each toilet to determine if the current location meets current DEQ vault toilet siting standards. There is a possibility that current vault toilet locations do not meet current DEQ siting standards and may require the new vault toilet to be moved to a new location within the respective recreation or administrative site. Any new location would require a test pit (5' x 4' x 2') to be excavated at the proposed location by the BLM Operations Crew for DEQ to inspect. If a new location is necessary, appropriate Burns District Staff will be consulted (e.g. botanist and archaeologist). Initially, all 20 vault toilets to be removed would be serviced (emptied) by a Contractor, and then removed by the BLM Operations Crew with a backhoe. Existing concrete pads would be disposed of on respective site through burial or at a Harney County solid waste disposal facility. Appropriate Burns District Staff will be consulted (e.g. botanist and archaeologist) for proper on-site disposal locations. The remaining structure waste would be taken to a Harney County solid waste disposal facility. The BLM Operations Crew would prepare the subsurface according to the new vault toilet manufacturer's recommendations with backhoe. Approximately 3-4 CY of well-graded, weed-free aggregate would be placed within the subsurface (aggregate base for toilet vault) and on the surface near the new vault toilet (building perimeter, walkways). A separate Contractor would provide and install the new concrete vault toilets. A crane would be used to place the new pre-fabricated vault toilet and a backhoe or excavator would be used to backfill around the toilet vault. All equipment would be cleaned of all dirt, mud, and plant parts prior to being transported to each site. Each affected recreation or administrative site will always have toilet services available during replacement operations, which may include temporary portable toilet services. The following is a list of Burns District recreation and administrative sites that are planned to have vault toilets replaced, including the number of vault toilets to be replaced by site:

-Poison Creek Reservoir Recreation Site	1 vault toilet (single vault)
-Warm Springs Reservoir Recreation Site	1 vault toilet (single vault)
-Chickahominy Reservoir Campground	3 vault toilets (single vault)
-Page Springs Campground	2 vault toilets (double vault)
-Mann Lake Recreation Site	2 vault toilets (single vault)
-Fish Lake Campground	4 vault toilets (single vault)
-Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic Site	1 vault toilet (single vault)
-South Steens Campground	6 vault toilets (single vault)

Legal Description: See Attached Map.

B. Conformance with Land Use Plan (LUP): The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions:

--Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area Resource Management Plan:
Date Approved/Amended: August 2005

-Land Use Plan Goals:

-Goal Number 1: Serve current and future publics.

-Provide opportunities for environmentally responsible recreation—pg. 12

-Reduce threats to public health, safety, and property.—pg. 12

-Resources, Goals, Objectives, Rationale, Management Direction, and Monitoring (Water Resources):

-Water Resources:

-Objective 1: Comply with State and Federal requirements to protect public waters—pg. 18

-“The BLM, as a Designated Management Agency, is responsible pursuant to the CWA [Clean Water Act] for implementing land management activities that maintain, protect, or improve the quality of waters under its jurisdiction.”—pg. 18

-Recreation:

-Objective 2: Manage recreation facilities to protect natural resources and to meet user needs—pg. 66

-“Management and maintenance of existing developed recreation sites will continue.”—pg. 67

-“Maintenance of and repairs to existing facilities and design of any new facilities will incorporate

--Andrews Management Unit Resource Management Plan:

Date Approved/Amended: August 2005

-Land Use Plan Goals:

-Goal Number 1: Serve current and future publics.

-Provide opportunities for environmentally responsible recreation—pg. 12

-Reduce threats to public health, safety, and property.—pg. 12

-Resources, Goals, Objectives, Rationale, Management Direction, and Monitoring (Water Resources):

-Water Resources:

-Objective 1: Comply with State and Federal requirements to protect public waters—pg. 17

-“The BLM, as a Designated Management Agency, is responsible pursuant to the CWA [Clean Water Act] for implementing land management activities that maintain, protect, or improve the quality of waters under its jurisdiction.”—pg. 18

-Recreation:

-Objective 2: Manage recreation facilities to protect natural resources and to meet user needs—pg. 67

-“Design of any new facilities will incorporate Americans with Disabilities Act standards.”—pg. 68

--Three Rivers Resource Management Plan:

Date Approved/Amended: September 1992

-Recreation:

-R1.3: Upgrade Chickahominy Recreation Site to accommodate a projected 26 percent increase in recreation use from 27,000 visits in 1989 to 34,000 visits by the year 2000—pg. 2-110

-“Program to fund maintenance personnel, equipment and supplies to manage and operate a high standard campground development on a long-term basis.”—pg. 2-110

-“Continuing evaluation of information, interpretation and facility needs.”—pg. 2-110

-R2.6: Provide and maintain minimal facilities (rest rooms, boat ramp, parking area and periodic maintenance of the access road) to enhance the fishing opportunities during the high spring and summer use season at Moon Reservoir—pg. 2-116

-R2.7: Provide minimum sanitation, picnicking and boat launching facilities and their maintenance at Warm Springs Reservoir to enhance water sports and fishing opportunities—pg. 2-116

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, Safety Manager	
Signature and Date: <i>John Petty 2/8/11</i>	
Rationale: The impact of public safety during the construction of these toilets will be to control the access of the public.	
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): Matt Obradovich and Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologists	
Signature and Date: <i>Matt Obradovich 2/8/11 Jason Brewer 2/8/11</i>	
Rationale: Replacement of toilets would occur in developed recreation areas on existing toilet sites. Replacement toilets that are not installed on the site of the current toilets would be placed nearby at the recreation site, impacting a small (< 20' X 20') surface area. Migratory birds at recreation sites are typically more tolerant of human presence and activity, and replacement of toilets would not affect these birds other than displacing birds from the area during construction activities.	
<u>Historic and Cultural Resources</u>	
Specialist (Print Name and Title): Scott Thomas, Archeologist	
Signature and Date: <i>Scott Thomas 2-8-11</i>	
Rationale: It is unlikely that any of the proposed sites for toilet replacement are located within historic and cultural resource site.	

<p>However, if locations are shifted for one reason or another, it would be recommended that a cultural resources inventory be completed for new locations or where excess concrete from previous toilets is buried.</p> <p><u>Areas of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Areas</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Doug Linn and Caryn Meinicke, Botanists Signature and Date: <i>[Signature]</i> 2-8-11 <i>[Signature]</i> 2-9-11 Rationale: No impacts to RNAs or ACECS would occur as a result of this proposal.</p>
<p><u>Water Resources/Flood Plains</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Lindsay Davies or Lisa Grant and Daryl Bingham, Fisheries Biologists Signature and Date: <i>[Signature]</i> 2/8/2011 <i>[Signature]</i> 14 FEB 2011 Rationale: There are no known significant impacts to water resources as DEQ's siting standards would mitigate possible impacts. The proposed action is to replace existing toilets. There are no additional impacts to floodplains with the implementation of the proposed action.</p>
<p><u>Soils, Biological Soil Crust, Prime Farmlands</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Doug Linn and Caryn Meinicke, Botanists Signature and Date: <i>[Signature]</i> 2-8-11 <i>[Signature]</i> 2-9-11 Rationale: No significant impacts to these resources would occur as a result of this proposal.</p>
<p><u>Recreation/ Visual Resources</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Mike Kelly, Recreation Planner (Andrews RA), John Bothea, Recreation Planner (3 Rivers RA) Signature and Date: <i>[Signature]</i> 2-9-11 <i>[Signature]</i> 2-9-11 Rationale: Visual Resource: These vault toilets will be replacement toilets at already established recreation facilities. While there may be a temporary disturbance to the Visual Resource during installation this will be a temporary effect. No long term effects are anticipated.</p> <p>Recreation; Andrews Resource Area: These vault toilets will be replacement toilets at already established recreation facilities. While the location of the toilets may be moved within the recreation area, this and the installation will be temporary in nature. The new toilets will be handicap accessible and will provide an expanded recreation opportunity.</p> <p>Recreation; Three Rivers Resource Area: Vault toilet replacement including one at Poison Creek Recreation Site, three at Chickahominy Recreation Site, and one at Warm Springs Recreation site, will all replace toilets in the same location. The toilets being replaced are old and in poor condition so installing new ADA-compliant concrete vault toilets will meet accessibility requirements and enhance the overall recreation experience.</p>
<p><u>Wilderness/Wild and Scenic River Resources</u> Specialist (Print Name and Title): Eric Haakenson, Wilderness Specialist Signature and Date: <i>[Signature]</i> 2-9-11 Rationale: There is no wilderness, WSA, WSR or Lands with wilderness characteristics within the project area.</p>
<p>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>[Signature]</i> 2/9/11 Rationale: There are no known highly controversial environmental effects or unresolved conflicts concerning alternatives uses of available resources. The proposed action is to replace existing toilets. If the toilets need to be relocated, they would be relocated within an existing recreation or administrative site designed for such use.</p>
<p>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>[Signature]</i> 2/9/11 Rationale: There are no known uncertain or potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks. The proposed action is to replace existing toilets. If the toilets need to be relocated, they would be relocated within an existing recreation or administrative site designed for such use.</p>
<p>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>[Signature]</i> 2/9/11 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. The proposed action is to replace existing toilets. If the toilets need to be relocated, they would be relocated within an existing recreation or administrative site designed for such use.</p>
<p>2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</p>

Specialist (Print Name and Title): Rhonda Karges, Planning and Environmental Coordinator Signature and Date: <i>Rhonda Karges 2/9/11</i>
Rationale: There are no known individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. The proposed action is to replace existing toilets. If the toilets need to be relocated, they would be relocated within an existing recreation or administrative site designed for such use.
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, Archeologist Signature and Date: <i>Scott Thomas 2-9-11</i>
Rationale: It is unlikely that any of the proposed sites for toilet replacement are located within historic and cultural resource site. However, if locations are shifted for one reason or another, it would be recommended that a cultural resources inventory be completed for new locations or where excess concrete from previous toilets is buried.
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.
Endangered or Threatened Species-Fauna Specialist (Print Name and Title): Matt Obradovich, and Jason Brewer, Wildlife Biologists Signature and Date: <i>Matt Obradovich 2/8/11 Jason Brewer 2/8/11</i>
Rationale: No species listed or proposed for listing as Endangered or Threatened and no designated Critical Habitat are present at the recreation sites proposed for replacement of toilets. Occurrence of listed species at these sites would be incidental and likely involve individuals briefly passing through during migration or transitioning between more suitable habitat.
Endangered or Threatened Species-Aquatic Specialist (Print Name and Title): Lindsay Davies or Lisa Grant and Daryl Bingham, Fisheries Biologists Signature and Date: <i>Lindsay Davies 2/8/11 Daryl Bingham 14 FEB 2011</i>
Rationale: There are no known Threatened or Endangered species or their habitat within the vicinity of the proposed toilet replacements.
Endangered or Threatened Species-Flora Specialist (Print Name and Title): Doug Linn and Caryn Meinicke, Botanists Signature and Date: <i>Doug Linn 2-8-11 Caryn Meinicke 2-9-11</i>
Rationale: No Threatened or Endangered species of flora or associated Critical Habitat would be impacted as a result of this proposal.
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: <i>Rhonda Karges 2/9/11</i>
Rationale: No known laws or requirement for protection of the environment would be violated. Oregon DEQ will be involved in the process to determine if the current location meets current DEQ vault toilet siting standards.
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: <i>Rhonda Karges 2/9/11</i>
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 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, Archeologist Signature and Date: <i>Scott Thomas 2-9-11</i>
Rationale: The existing and proposed toilet locations do not limit access or adversely affect their physical integrity.
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, Weeds Specialist Signature and Date: <i>Lesley Richman 2/8/2011</i>
Rationale: Noxious weeds are known to be present in or in close proximity to many of the toilet locations. Treatments are ongoing. The weeds are not present in sufficient quantity at any of the locations 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, Planning and Environmental Coordinator

Signature:

[Handwritten Signature]

Date:

2/9/11

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):

Joan Suther, Andrews Field Manager

Signature:

Joan M. Suther

Date:

2/14/2011

Richard Roy, Three Rivers Field Manager

Signature:

Richard Roy

Date:

2/14/2011