

**United States  
Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eugene District Office**

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation**  
Categorical Exclusion No. DOI-BLM-ORE010-2012-0012-CX  
Right-of-Way Grant OR 33556

## **A. Background**

BLM Right-of-Way Grant OR 33556 was assigned July 22, 1982 to Aprovecho Institute and is scheduled to expire on March 2, 2012. Grant OR 33556 authorized the use and maintenance of a water pipeline across BLM land in Section 11, T. 20 S., R. 4 W., Will. Mer. for the purpose of transporting water for domestic use to private property located in Cottage Grove, Oregon. The above ground water pipeline varies between 1" – 1 1/2" and resides in a corridor approximately 5' wide x 410' long.

Proposed Action: In response to a request from Aprovecho Institute, the proposed action is to amend and renew the grant. Item 14, Exhibit C, of Right-of-Way Grant 33556, dated 2/3/82, will be amended to read: "This right-of-way is renewable". The grant will be renewed for a period of 20 years, subject to standard conditions required for rights-of-way granted under the authority of the Federal Land Management and Policy Act. The purpose of the grant amendment and renewal would be for the continued use and maintenance of the existing water pipeline. **No additional construction or ground-disturbing activities are associated with this action.**

Cost Recovery Processing fees were received on 1/13/12.

## **B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

The Eugene District has planned this project to conform and be consistent with the Eugene District's 1995 RMP. Following the March 31, 2011 decision by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Douglas Timber Operators et al. v. Salazar, which vacated and remanded the administrative withdrawal of the Eugene District's 2008 ROD and RMP, we evaluated this grant for consistency with both the 1995 RMP and the 2008 ROD and RMP. Accordingly, this grant is consistent with the Eugene District's 1995 RMP and the 2008 ROD/RMP.

## **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(E)(9), "Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations".

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because the proposed action is in accordance with 516 DM 11.9(E)(9) and there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Eugene District has reviewed the proposed action, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

## D. Categorical Exclusions Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation

| Extraordinary Circumstances   | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| <p><b>1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> The proposed activity renews the right-of-way for an existing, above ground water pipeline and poses no additional impact.</p>   |     | X  |
| <p><b>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.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> There are no natural resources or unique geographic characteristics that would be affected by this action.</p> |     | X  |
| <p><b>3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> There are no predicted environmental effects from the proposed action which are considered to be highly controversial nor are there unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses.</p>  |     | X  |
| <p><b>4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> The proposed operations are not unique or unusual. The BLM has considerable experience implementing similar actions without highly controversial, highly uncertain, or unique or unknown risks.</p>   |     | X  |
| <p><b>5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> The BLM has conducted similar actions since its inception. There is no evidence that this action will have potentially significant environmental effects and it would not establish a precedent or decision for future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</p>  |     | X  |

| Extraordinary Circumstances   | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| <p><b>6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> Based upon review of the project, and given current conditions on the grounds, the Eugene District did not find any resource issues of concern that would be affected by this action.</p>   |     | X  |
| <p><b>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.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> There are no eligible or listed properties within the proposed treatment areas.</p>   |     | X  |
| <p><b>8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, as an Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> Operation, use, maintenance and termination of the existing above ground water pipeline within the right-of-way boundaries will have no significant impact to species listed or proposed to be listed as an Endangered or Threatened Species, nor have significant impact on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</p>   |     | X  |
| <p><b>9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> The proposed action conforms to the direction given for the management of public lands in the Eugene District ROD/RMP, which complies with all applicable Federal, State, local and tribal laws.</p>  |     | X  |
| <p><b>10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 2898).</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> There would be no adverse effect on low income minority populations.</p>   |     | X  |
| <p><b>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).</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> The project would have no significant impact on access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sites.</p>  |     | X  |
| <p><b>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).</b><br/> <u>Rationale:</u> The proposed action does not result in measurable changes to the current baseline of the risk, or actual introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species in or from the project area. The proposed action does not introduce any vector for spread or introduction beyond such vectors already found.</p> |     | X  |

## E. Review

Prepared by: /s/ **Richard Norris**  
Land Law Examiner

Date: 2/8/12

Reviewed by: /s/ **Richard Hardt**  
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Date: 2/8/12

Approved by: /s/ **Alan D. Corbin**  
Siuslaw Field Manager

Date: 2/9/12

## F. Contact Person and Reviewers

For additional information concerning this Categorical Exclusion review, contact Richard Norris, Eugene District Land Law Examiner, (541) 683-6228.

## G. Administrative Remedies

This is a lands decision on a right-of-way action in accordance with BLM regulations at 43 CFR 2801.10. This decision is subject to appeal to the IBLA pursuant to Part 4 of 43 CFR Subtitle A. The decision is effective upon signing by the authorized officer and shall remain in effect pending an appeal (43 CFR Part 2801.10).

United States  
Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eugene District Office

DECISION RECORD  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Decision:

It is my decision to proceed with the proposed action as described in DOI-BLM-ORE010-2012-0012-CX.

Decision Rationale:

The proposed action has been reviewed by the appropriate staff and based on the NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review, I have determined that the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project as described.

The Eugene District has planned this project to conform and be consistent with the Eugene District's 1995 RMP. Following the March 31, 2011 decision by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Douglas Timber Operators et al. v. Salazar, which vacated and remanded the administrative withdrawal of the Eugene District's 2008 ROD and RMP, we evaluated this grant for consistency with both the 1995 RMP and the 2008 ROD and RMP. Accordingly, this grant is consistent with the Eugene District's 1995 RMP and the 2008 ROD/RMP.

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Authorizing Official:

/s/ Alan D. Corbin

Alan Corbin  
Acting Field Manager  
Siuslaw Resource Area

2/10/12

Date