

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

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW**

OFFICE: BLM Eugene District

TRACKING NUMBER: DOI-BLM-OR-E050-2014-0027-CX

PROJECT NAME: WEW Fence – Fir Butte

LOCATION/LLEGAL DESCRIPTION: T16S-R5w-Sec.24/1/4NW

**A. Description of Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures**

The Eugene District BLM will replace an existing old T-post fence this summer measuring approximately 900 feet in length which runs north-south. The new fence will consist of wire strands, metal T-posts, wood posts set in concrete, and two 8 foot gates. This fence will be installed on a parcel known as fir butte between August and early October 2014.

The West Eugene Wetlands (WEW) Project is a cooperative venture by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Eugene District, to protect and restore prairie ecosystems in the southern Willamette Valley of Oregon. This unique program involves a partnership of adjacent private landowners, federal, state, and local agencies and other organizations to manage lands and resources in a semi-urban area for multiple public benefits.

**Project Design features**

Federally listed species: A wildlife biologist and botanist shall review actions prior to implementation and verify that no treatment would adversely affect a federally-listed species. Kincaid's lupine plants will be dormant and Fender's blue butterfly caterpillars will begin to enter diapause, a form of hibernation during this project time frame.

To prevent the spread of noxious weeds and nonnative plants, all vehicles would be cleaned to remove mud, debris, and vegetation material prior to arriving at the project site.

**B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance**

This action is in conformance with the West Eugene Wetlands Plan and the proposed West Eugene Wetlands Resource Management Plan and final Environmental Impact Statement.

**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 Routine and continuing government business including maintenance.

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.

I have considered the details of the project (replacing a fence), there is no potential for significant impacts.

**D. Signature**

Signature of Project Lead:

/S/ Sally Villegas  
Sally Villegas-Moore, NR specialist

Date: 07/25/2014

Signature of NEPA Coordinator:

/S/ Sharmila Premdas  
Sharmila Premdas

Date: 07/25/2014

Signature of the Responsible Official:

/S/ Jan Robbins (Acting)  
Michael J. Korn, Siuslaw Resource Area Field  
Manager

Date: 07/25/2014

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this Categorical Exclusion review, contact: Sally Villegas-Moore  
(541) 338 - 7027

**EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES CHECKLIST**  
 DOI-BLM-OR-E050-2014-0027-CX  
 WEW Fence

*Review the proposed action against each of the 12 "extraordinary circumstances" listed below. Any action that is normally categorically excluded must be subjected to sufficient environmental review to determine whether it meets any of the extraordinary circumstances, in which case, further analysis and environmental documents must be prepared for the action. If the criterion does not apply, indicate "Not Applicable." Any mitigation measures (such as contract stipulations or terms and conditions on permits) necessary to ensure that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion should be identified at the bottom of the page.*

<b>Extraordinary Circumstances</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<p><b>1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.</b>  <u>Rationale:</u> The proposed action follow established Occupational Safety and Health Administration rules concerning health and safety.</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>  <u>Rationale:</u> The proposed action is designed to improve conditions for sensitive areas or to prevent further degradation of sensitive resources. This action would comply with relevant protection measures under the Bald Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and associated federal regulations and BLM policies, and would not measurably affect any of the species regulated by those acts.</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>  <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>  <u>Rationale:</u> There are no predicted effects from the proposed action that are highly uncertain, potentially significant, 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>  <u>Rationale:</u> There is no evidence that this action will establish a precedent or decision for future actions with potentially signification environmental effects.</p>		X
<p><b>6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</b>  <u>Rationale:</u> This project is replacing an old fence and will assist in protecting sensitive plants and butterflies. This action has been conducted in the past and has no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effect.</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>  <u>Rationale:</u> This property is not listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.</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>  <u>Rationale:</u> The partner (IAE) and BLM will review project design features with a wildlife biologist and botanist prior to installation of fence so that no actions will adversely affect a federally listed species. An IAE staff will be present during the installation of the fence.</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>  <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</b></p>		X

Extraordinary Circumstances	YES	NO
<p><b>populations (Executive Order 2898).</b>  <u>Rationale:</u> This proposed action would not affect low income or minority populations.</p>		
<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>  <u>Rationale:</u> This parcel has had pre-disturbance cultural surveys and found no evidence of sacred sites or other materials.</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>  <u>Rationale:</u> To prevent the spread of noxious weeds and nonnative plants, all vehicles would be cleaned to remove mud, debris, and vegetation material prior to entering at the project site. The proposed action does not introduce any vector for spread or introduction beyond such vectors already found.</p>		X

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**DECISION RECORD**  
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WEW Fence

**Decision**

It is my decision to implement this action as described in the categorical exclusion documentation DOI-BLM-OR-E050-2014-0027-CX.

**Decision Rationale**

The proposed action has been reviewed by BLM staff. Based on the Categorical Exclusion Review, I have determined that the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further analysis is required.

**Administrative Remedies**

Any person adversely affected by this decision may appeal it to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. If an appeal is taken, a notice of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days of this decision for transmittal to the Board. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and with the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal was filed. A copy of a notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs, must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, 805 SW Broadway, Suite 600, Portland, OR 97205.

Signature of the Responsible Official:

/s/ Jan Robbins (Acting)

Michael J. Korn, Siuslaw Resource  
Area, Field Manager

07/25/2014

Date