

**RECORD OF PLAN CONFORMANCE AND
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**

Project Name: Harpold Chaining Cattleguard CX Log #: DOI-BLM-OR-L040-2010-0010
Project Location: T39S, R11E, Sec.21, SW1/4 (map attached) Lease or Serial #: N/A
BLM Office: Lakeview District, Klamath Falls Resource Area County: Klamath County, Oregon

A. Background

Description of Proposed Action:

Installation of a 14' wide cattleguard and cement base on an existing road in the Harpold Chaining Allotment.

Purpose and Need for the Project:

The proposed action will eliminate the need for a gate at the entrance to the grazing allotment which should result in decreased unauthorized grazing in the adjacent wildlife area. The allotment area has recently had a high level of public use for firewood cutting and ATV use.

Additional Related Actions, if any:

N/A

Proposed Implementation:

The installation is proposed for April of 2010 so the cattleguard is in place for the 2010 grazing season.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

On July 16, 2009 the U.S. Department of the Interior, withdrew the Records of Decision (2008 ROD) for the Western Oregon Plan Revision and directed the BLM to implement actions in conformance with the resource management plans for western Oregon that were in place prior to December 30, 2008.

Although project planning and preparation of NEPA documentation for this project began after the effective date of the 2008 ROD, this project was designed to comply with the land use allocations, management direction, and objectives of the 1995 resource management plan (1995 RMP).

The proposed project has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with one or more of the following BLM plans, programmatic environmental analyses or policies:

- Rangeland Reform '94 FEIS and ROD (1995)
- Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the States of Oregon and Washington (1997)
- Standards for Land Health for Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the States of Oregon and Washington (1998)
- National Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy (2004)
- Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Strategy and Assessment for Oregon, Draft (2005)

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, G. (2). Installation of routine signs,...or cattleguards on/or adjacent to roads and trails identified in any land use or transportation plan, or eligible for incorporation in such plan.

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further analysis or documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) provided none of the Extraordinary Circumstances listed in 516 Departmental Manual 2, Appendix 2 (5/27/04) are met. The proposed action will:

CX Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation		
The proposed categorical exclusion action will:	YES	NO
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety. Rationale: Will be placed in existing road.		X
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); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. Rationale: Will be placed in existing road. None of the listed resources will be affected.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]. Rationale: This is a routine action that has no controversial effects.		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. Rationale: This is a routine action that has no unique or unknown risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. Rationale: This is a routine action that will not establish any precedent.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. Rationale: Will be placed in existing road. No cumulatively significant effects would occur.		X
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. Rationale: Cattleguard will be placed in existing road. Project area falls within previous cultural survey and no cultural resources are known to be within the project area.		X
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. Rationale: Will be placed in existing road. Species clearances will be completed prior to installation.		X
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. Rationale: Will be placed in existing road. No laws will be violated.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). Rationale: There will be no effect on low income or minority populations.		X
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). Rationale: There would be no affect on the integrity of or access to any sacred sites.		X
2.12 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). Rationale: Will be placed in existing road. Weed surveys will be completed prior to installation and stipulations for weed prevention applied as appropriate.		X

The proposed action would not meet any of the above extraordinary circumstances, or fail to comply with Executive Order 13212 (Actions to Expedite Energy-Related Projects) – to avoid direct or indirect adverse impact on energy development, production, supply, and/or distribution.

D. Surveys and Consultation

Surveys and/or consultation may be needed for special status plants and animals, for cultural resources, and other resources as necessary (appropriate fields are Initialed and Dated by responsible resource specialist):

Surveys	Are Completed	Will Be Completed	Are Not Needed
SS Animals			SGH 02/22/10
SS Plants			MJB 3/4/10
Cultural Resources	BMB 2/9/10		
Consultation	Is Completed	Will Be Completed	Is Not Needed
SS Animal Consultation*			SGH 02/22/10
Botanical Consultation			MJB 3/4/10
Cultural Consultation			BMB 2/9/10
*(SS = Special Status)			

Remarks:**E. Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Dana Eckard, Klamath Falls Resource Area, 2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603-7891 or telephone: 541-883-6916

Decision

It is my decision to proceed with the Proposed Action as described and shown on the attached map(s).

Rationale

The proposed action has been reviewed by the Klamath Falls Resource Area staff and appropriate Project Design Features, as specified, will be incorporated into the proposal. The proposed action would not create adverse environmental effects, meet any of the above extraordinary circumstances, or fail to comply with Executive Order 13212 (Actions to Expedite Energy-Related Projects) – to avoid direct or indirect adverse impact on energy development, production, supply, and/or distribution.

Based on the attached NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Categorical Exclusion Review, I have determined the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further environmental analysis is required.

Signature

Authorizing Official: /s/ Donald J. Holmstrom Date: 3/08/10
(Signature)

Name: Donald J. Holmstrom
Title: Manager, Klamath Falls Resource Area

Administrative Remedy

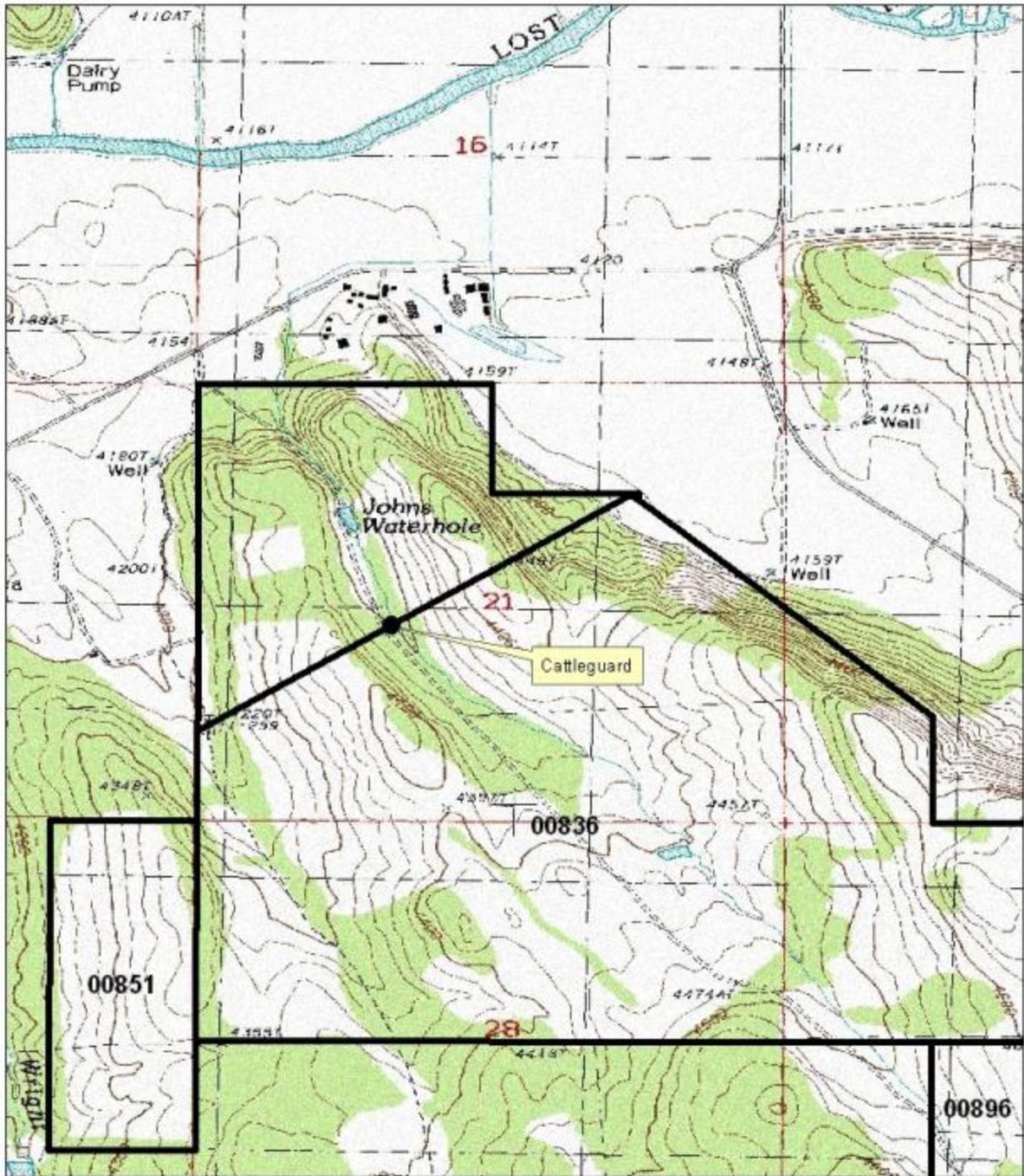
Notice of the decision made on the action described in this categorical exclusion will be posted on the District internet website. The action is subject to protest under 43 CFR section 4.450-2. A decision in response to a protest is subject to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals under 43 CFR part 4.

Appendix A – Weed Mitigation Measures

All vehicles and equipment will be cleaned off prior to operating on BLM lands. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.

High concentrations of noxious weeds in the immediate area of mechanical operations shall be mowed to ground level prior to the start of project activities.

All equipment and vehicles operating off of main roads shall be cleaned off prior to leaving the job site when the job site includes noxious weed populations. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.



**Harpold Chaining Allotment
Cattleguard Site
T39S,R11E, Sec.21, NE1/4,SW1/4**



This map was made by the Bureau of Land Management on the basis of the best available information. It is not a warranty, guarantee, or endorsement, and it does not constitute an offer of insurance or any other financial product. It is provided for informational purposes only and should not be used for any other purpose.