

**RECORD OF PLAN CONFORMANCE AND
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DOCUMENTATION for
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS NOT ESTABLISHED BY STATUTE**

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

BLM Office: Lakeview District, Klamath Falls Resource Area
Proposed Action Title/Type: Momentum Seasonal Camp
NEPA Log #: DOI-BLM-OR-L040-2014-32-CX
Project Location: T41S, R5E, Sec.13

A. Background

Description of Proposed Action:

Momentum River Expeditions/BLM Special Recreation Permit (SRP) #189, has requested authorization to operate a seasonal camp in the Upper Klamath River Canyon, near the OR-CA state line. Momentum would freight in camping gear by raft in the early season, would set up the camp for individual overnight raft trips, would leave the gear and camp cached during the season when not in use, and then would freight all gear out at the end of the season. See the attached SRP proposal for more detail.

Purpose and Need for the Project:

The purpose of the proposed action is to enhance the recreation experience of whitewater boating on the Upper Klamath. The applicant proposes to create/maintain an organized, comfortable camp for their clients in an area that has limited vehicle access and very low traffic. The majority of good camping sites in the canyon are vehicle-accessible. Outfitters often report having to camp in the vicinity of large rowdy groups that play loud music and target shoot firearms in close proximity, well into the night. This camp would alleviate that social conflict.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Klamath Falls Resource Area Resource Management Plan
Date Approved/Amended: June 1995

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s), (objectives, terms, and conditions): page 50 “Klamath River Complex Special Recreation Management Area... Manage the special recreation management area to emphasize whitewater boating...”

C. Compliance with NEPA

The proposed action has been identified as a categorical exclusion under 43 CFR 2932.5, Bureau of Land Management Categorical Exclusions, 516 DM 11.9 H (1) - *Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.*

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, Appendix 2 apply. The following documentation describes whether or not the extraordinary circumstances apply to the project:

CX Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation		
Will the proposed categorical exclusion action:	YES	NO
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
Rationale: All camping gear and elements will be packed up and cached in lock boxes, or otherwise secured when the outfitter is not using the camp. There will be no significant impacts to public health and/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); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
Rationale: The proposed camp is seasonal and temporary in nature. There is minimal ground disturbance planned or proposed, neutral or earth tones will be used for items such as dining flies, and the site is mostly screened from the river by existing vegetation. The proposal is within the management scope of the Wild & Scenic river designation.		
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		X
Rationale: The proposal was reviewed by resource specialists and will have no significant environmental effects nor will it involve any unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.		
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
Rationale: The proposed seasonal camp is planned and designed to have little to no environmental impact to the area.		
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
Rationale: Seasonal outfitter camps are commonly authorized and managed throughout the western USA on public lands.		
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
Rationale: The proposal was reviewed by resource specialists and they determined that the proposed camp would not result or contribute to any significant cumulative effects. Camping is currently allowed throughout the Klamath River Canyon.		
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.		X
Rationale: The area has been previously inventoried by cultural resource specialists and there are no known sites in the vicinity. The undertaking would result in No Historic Properties Affected as determined under the terms of the Oregon BLM/ OR SHPO Protocol.		
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.		X
Rationale: The Upper Klamath River adjacent to the proposed seasonal camp is considered occupied by the Shortnose and Lost River Sucker, which are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The proposed action will have no effect on either species nor is this river reach adjacent to the camp within either designated Critical Habitat Unit. BLM biologists have determined that no other ESA listed species would be affected by the proposed action.		
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
Rationale: No laws prohibit the authorization of this seasonal outfitter camp.		
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
Rationale: The seasonal outfitter camp would not adversely affect any low income or minority populations.		
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).		X
Rationale: BLM cultural resource specialists determined that the proposed action would not limit access or use by members of the public.		
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).		X
Rationale: Existing regulations and guidelines (OR Aquatic Invasive Species permit program, Upper Klamath River Commercial Permit Stipulations-III A.) currently in place, would serve to minimize the spread of noxious weeds and non-native species. See PDF's regarding noxious weeds.		

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, or impact RMP exclusion and avoidance areas.

D. Surveys and Consultation

Surveys and/or consultation are note 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 10/17/2014
SS* Plants			DJH 11/21/2014
Cultural Resources	SAH 10/22/2014		
Consultation	Is Completed	Will Be Completed	Is Not Needed
SS* Animal Consultation			SGH 10/17/2014
Botanical Consultation			SGH 10/17/2014
Cultural Consultation	SAH 10/22/2014		
*(SS = Special Status)			

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact: Grant Weidenbach, Klamath Falls Resource Area, 2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603-7891 or telephone: 541-883-6916

**Determination for Momentum SRP Seasonal Camp
#DOI-BLM-OR-L040-2014-32-CX**

I have determined that it is appropriate to proceed with the Proposed Action as described and shown on the attached map(s) in the categorical exclusion.

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.

Authorizing Official: /s/ Terry Austin, acting for Date: 12/2/2014
(Signature)

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

Appendix A – Project Design Features (PDFs)

Weeds

Inspect and clean all rafting and camping equipment associated with the seasonal camp, prior to operating on BLM lands. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may contain noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.

Fire and Hazardous Fuels

Abide by all current fire regulations and fire restrictions.