



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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May 28, 2013

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1790 (ORL040)

To: All Interested Parties:

The Klamath Falls Resource Area (KFRA) of the Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is preparing the Stove Springs Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Road Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the effects of meadow/wetland rehabilitation and road relocation of a BLM easement on wildlife habitat, soils, hydrology, and other resources. The project area is located on private inholdings adjacent to BLM lands in the Gerber Reservoir watershed, east of Bonanza in Township 38 South, Range 14 East, Sections 29 and 30, Willamette Meridian. See attached location map.

Purpose & Need for Action

The Wyden Amendment (Public Law 109-54, Section 434) authorizes the BLM to enter into cooperative agreements to benefit resources within watersheds on BLM lands. Agreements may be with willing Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments, private and nonprofit entities, and landowners to conduct activities on public or private lands for the purpose of protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat and other resources.

The purpose of this meadow/wetland rehabilitation project is to restore hydrologic function and stream connectivity by relocating a BLM easement road out of a wet meadow and spring seep, and reconstructing the road segment in an adjacent upland area. This project would not result in any change to BLM or public egress or ingress. The project would assist both the private landowner and BLM (easement owner) in achieving the joint objectives of reduced sediment and nutrient loading in a tributary stream to Gerber Reservoir and enhanced fish and wildlife habitat.

The project would be implemented to achieve KFRA's 1995 Resource Management Plan (RMP) transportation management standards and objectives, and meet BLM water quality management goals by implementing road best management practices (BMPs). The current road alignment was built by the CCC in the 1930s and has since resulted in frequent road inundation and erosion of the roadbed due to aggradation of the meadow. BLM has a need to reduce unnecessary road maintenance costs, reduce the number of stream crossings, and decrease sediment input associated with roads located close to streams. To achieve these objectives, BLM would need to acquire a new road easement at the location of the new road alignment on private inholdings, and relinquish the easement on the existing road easement. The road segment in the stream and

meadow would need to be relinquished, decommissioned, and rehabilitated to achieve water quality and habitat objectives.

Proposed Treatments

The following actions have been identified as part of the proposed action for this EA:

1. Acquisition of a new easement at the proposed upland habitat location.
2. Road construction of 0.6 miles in the acquired easement location in upland habitat, with one stream crossing structure and adequate drainage structures that meet BLM road specifications.
3. Rehabilitation of existing easement by removal of existing road bed and surfacing, filling of cutbanks, and ditches, culvert removal, and site rehabilitation including erosion control, planting, seeding and reconstruction of historic streamflow paths.
4. Relinquishment of the old BLM easement (0.6 miles of road easement given back to private land owner).

Comments Requested

Please submit your comments by June 15, 2013 to be most effective in BLM's planning schedule. To submit issues or questions about the proposed treatments, I encourage you to submit them via email at the following address: BLM_OR_KF_Mail@blm.gov and identify your comments as being for the "Stove Springs CCC Road EA." If you desire to send a letter via regular mail, please use the address in our letterhead, ATTN: Field Manager.

Once an Environmental Assessment has been prepared, the public will be notified again and will have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed action and analysis. For further information, contact Andy Hamilton at 541-883-6916.

NOTE: Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Klamath Falls Resource Area Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

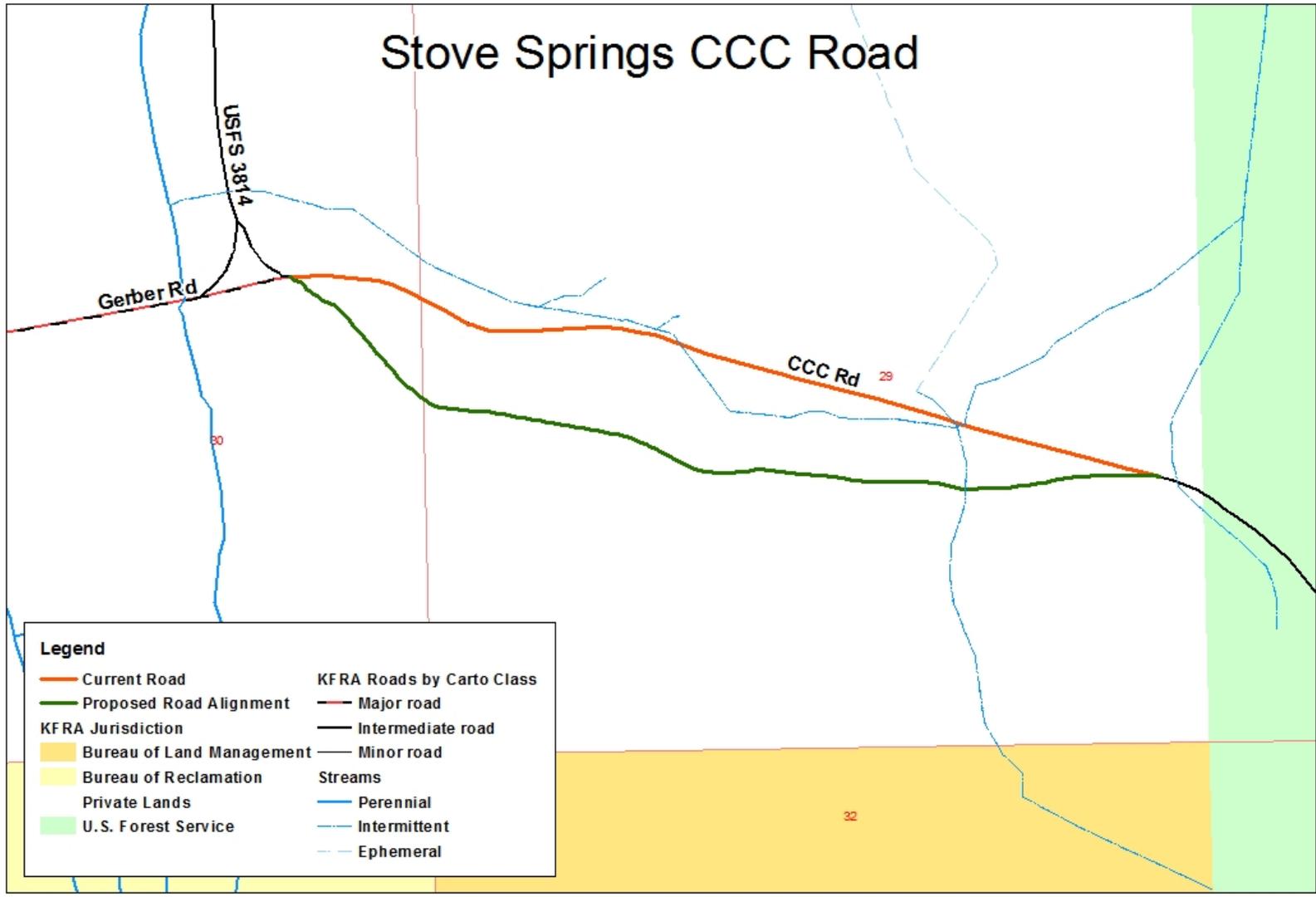
Sincerely,

Donald K. Hoffheins

(*acting for*) Donald J. Holmstrom
Field Manager

Enclosure

Stove Springs CCC Road



Legend

Current Road	KFRA Roads by Carto Class
Proposed Road Alignment	Major road
KFRA Jurisdiction	Intermediate road
Bureau of Land Management	Minor road
Bureau of Reclamation	Streams
Private Lands	Perennial
U.S. Forest Service	Intermittent
	Ephemeral



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