

**Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)  
for  
Ashland Resource Area's  
Hazard Tree Removal (Firewood Permits) Project**

**DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2014-0009-DNA**

*Under the Medford District Programmatic CE and Decision Record for Hazardous Tree Felling/Removal  
(2014-2018):*

*DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2014-0001-CX*

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**A. Describe the Proposed Action:**

The proposed action includes the issuance of seven (7) firewood permits. A total of 26 hazard trees (snags) will be felled and removed for firewood within 1-1/2 tree lengths of existing road systems. Only trees identified as hazardous by the Field Guide for Danger Tree Identification and Response (Toupin et al. 2008)<sup>1</sup> will be removed.

The location of the project is along BLM-administered roads in T. 39 S., R. 1 W., SW ¼ of section 28, and SE ¼ of section 29; T. 39 S., R. 2 W., NE ¼ of section 5; T. 38 S., R. 3 W., NE ¼ of section 15, NE ¼ of section 13, SW ¼ of section 20, and NE ¼ of section 35.

The proposed action will incorporate all appropriate Project Design Features included in the Categorical Exclusion (CE) for the *Hazardous Tree Felling/Removal within the Medford District BLM* (January 2014).

The following Project Design Feature shall be included in addition to the above mentioned project design features:

- If, during project implementation, the contractor/workers encounters or becomes aware of any objects or sites of cultural value on federal lands, such as historical or pre-historical ruins, graves, grave markers, or artifacts, the contractor shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural value and notify the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR). The project may be redesigned to protect the cultural resource values present, or evaluation and mitigation procedures would be implemented based on recommendations from the resource area archaeologist and concurrence by the Ashland Field Manager and State Historic Preservation Office.

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

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the following plans:

- Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (Northwest Forest Plan FSEIS, 1994 and ROD, 1994)
- Final Medford District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement, and Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (EIS, 1994 and RMP/ROD, 1995)

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<sup>1</sup> Toupin, R., G. Filip. T. Erkert, M. Barger. 2008. Field Guide for Danger Tree Identification and Response. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region and USDI Bureau of Land Management.

- Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Management of Port-Orford-Cedar in Southwest Oregon (FSEIS 2004) and ROD (2004)
- Medford District Integrated Weed Management Plan Environmental Assessment (1998) and tiered to the Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program (EIS, 1985)
- Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (2008) and PRMP/FEIS (2005)
- Rogue National Wild and Scenic River: Hellgate Recreation Area, Recreation Area Management Plan (2004) and PRMP/FEIS (2003)
- Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey & Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (FSEIS, 2000 and ROD, 2001)

This proposal is also in compliance with the direction given for the management of public lands in the Medford District by the Oregon and California Lands Act of 1937 (O&C Act), Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), the Clean Water Act of 1987 (CWA), Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (as amended 1986 and 1996) (SDWA), Clean Air Act of 1990, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA).

**C. Identify applicable NEPA documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

The following documents cover the proposed action:

- The Categorical Exclusion Review and Decision Record for the *Hazardous Tree Felling/Removal within the Medford District BLM*, (January 2014).

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

- 1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed? Is the current proposed action within the same analysis area of the previously analyzed project?** The *Hazardous Tree Felling/Removal within the Medford District BLM* Categorical Exclusion (CE) Review, listed above, analyzed programmatically the felling and removing of hazard trees along open roadways across the Medford District BLM. This site-specific project includes felling and removing individual or small groups of hazard trees along existing system roads in the Ashland Resource Area of the Medford District BLM. Project Design Features required under the above referenced CE are included in this project.
- 2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA documents appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?** The range of alternatives analyzed in the above CE is appropriate with respect to the current proposed action.
- 3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances?** This project is consistent with the suite of activities analyzed in the above referenced CE. The project proponent planning and overseeing the implementation of this site-specific project sent a detailed description of the proposed action to resource specialists according to the specified time frame (10 days prior to implementation). Resource specialists reviewed the design of this project against those documented in the above referenced CE and found the existing analysis to be valid for this proposed action.

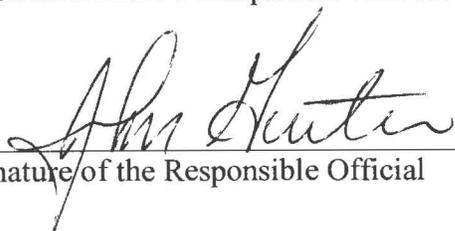
4. **Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA documents continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?** The interdisciplinary team approach was used in evaluating the proposed action. The present methodology continues to be appropriate because the action is the same.
5. **Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the current proposed action similar to those identified in the existing NEPA documents?** The ID Team planning and overseeing the implementation of this site-specific project reviewed the anticipated effects of this project against those documented in the above referenced CE and the effects disclosed are the same as those identified and analyzed. The Ashland Resource Area Cultural Resource Specialist included an additional project design feature to mitigate any adverse effects on potential new sites. No other new information or circumstances would affect the predicted environmental impacts as stated in the above referenced CE.
6. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequately for the current proposed action?** The Categorical Exclusion for the *Hazardous Tree Felling/Removal within the Medford District BLM* was made available for public review on BLM's Medford District Website in January of 2014.

**E. Interdisciplinary Analysis:** This document, which includes a detailed description of the project, was distributed to the appropriate members of the Ashland Resource Area Interdisciplinary Team for review and input within at least 10 days prior to implementation of the project (Appendix B).

**F. Mitigation Measures:** Project Design Features (PDFs), discussed in Section A above, are included as part of the proposed action for the purpose of reducing or eliminating anticipated adverse environmental impacts.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

  
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Signature of the Responsible Official

3/26/14  
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Date