

## DECISION RECORD & CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW

**Project Name:** Siskiyou Sports Car Club Hill Climb. (DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2009-22-CX)

**BLM Office:** Ashland R.A., Medford District. Phone # (541) 618-2369

### DESCRIPTION & LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:

The proposed action involves reissuance of a Special Recreation Use Permit (SRUP) for the use of a paved portion of Conde Cr. Rd (38-3e-17) for a three day timed hill climb event on June 12, 13 and 14<sup>th</sup> 2009. This event has been permitted generally on an annual basis (not every year), through a BLM Special Recreation Use Permit, beginning in 1996. Based on the submitted operations plan, vehicles would individually run along the 2.5 mile length of road to determine results from best timed runs. Each competitor will be allowed two runs per day. Vehicle types for this event range from modified Ford Fiestas at 1300 lbs to Chevy Corvettes at 3800 lbs. The competition is limited to 60 vehicles. All spectators and support personnel would be limited to specified areas. This event is sponsored by the Northwest Hill Climb Association and follows the safety rules of that group.

To comply with state fire regulations, the club would obtain any required permits from the Oregon Department of Forestry for this event. EMT's and fire suppression equipment would be staged at the quarry (indicated on the attached map) midway point of the course. Portable toilets would be placed in pairs at the start and finish areas. The large graveled area at the top of the hill (see map) would be used as a parking and pit area for the racecars and spectators. Regular traffic on Conde Creek Road may be delayed during vehicle runs. Traffic would be delayed for no more than 30-minute intervals and given information regarding the delay by a club representative. The road would be posted 2 days in advance of the event to alert the public of the delay. Radios would be used by event staff to regulate traffic and to provide added safety. The road would be cleaned of debris by the club by means of brooms, blowers and a sweeper. Weed cutting may be performed inside the road prism to reduce risk of ignition.

All fluid spills (i.e. oil, gas, antifreeze) will be contained immediately. All competitors will carry drip pans, oil pans and/or oil blankets and at least a 1 gallon container with lid to contain these fluids. All vehicles will be fueled in the gravel quarry or on a paved surface. When fueling vehicles, chemical absorbent blankets and oil pans or drip pans will be placed in the area of fueling. Corner stations along the course will be equipped with five gallons of dry chemical absorbent and a tarp to place underneath a vehicle in the event it leaves the road. Emergency response vehicles will be equipped with tarps and dry chemical absorbent. All chemicals spilled or leaking from vehicle will be removed from soils using techniques limiting soil disturbance.

In the *Code of Federal Regulations Public Lands: Interior 43 Part § 2932.11* Permits Required. Special Recreation Permits are required for commercial or competitive use involving more than one mile of public lands or shoreline.

### PLAN CONFORMANCE

This recreation proposal is in conformance with the Medford District's 2008 Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (USDI 2008). This project involves use of existing facilities and complies with the Management Objectives and Direction of the 2008 Resource Management Plan. In addition, this project fully complies with the management objectives, action, and direction of the resource management plan in place prior to the 2008 RMP, the 1995 RMP. The design of this project would not have differed under either plan. This recreation 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 (ESA) of 1973, the Clean Water Act of 1987, Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (as amended 1986 and 1996), Clean Air Act, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979.

### **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW**

The proposed action would not create adverse environmental effects under the categorical exclusion exceptions, unless as noted. The proposed action will:

<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Categorical Exclusion Exception</u></b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resource; 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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)] not already decided in an approved land use plan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but significant cumulative environmental effects. (40 CFR 1508.7 and 1508.25(a)).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10. Have disproportionate significant adverse impacts on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or nonnative 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).

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

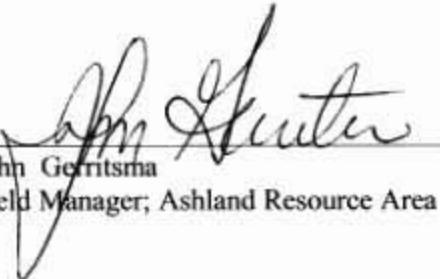
The proposed action has been reviewed against the twelve criteria listed above for an exception to a categorical exclusion and does not fall under any exception as identified in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2. The project qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9 H (1).

Dennis Byrd                      Outdoor Recreation Planner                      April 29, 2009  
Prepared by    Title    Date

Kristi Mastrofini                      Environmental Coordinator                      May 14, 2009  
Reviewed/Edited by    Title    Date

**DECISION**

Based on the NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW above, I have determined that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, H(1) involves no significant impact to the human environment and that no further environmental analysis is required.

  
John Gerritsma  
Field Manager, Ashland Resource Area

5/22/09  
Date

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF DECISION**

This decision is effective upon signing by the authorized officer and shall remain in effect pending an appeal (43 CFR Part 2931.8 (b)).