

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

A. Background

BLM Office: Prineville Field Office

NEPA Log #: DOI - BLM - OR – P-060 - 2010 - 0053 - CX

Project/Lease/Serial/Case File #: 4225,4192,0306,4269,4185

Proposed Action Title: Salt Creek Spring Reconstruction

Location: Project area is within the Salt Creek Allotment #5140 located about 19 miles SE of Prineville, Oregon. Map attached.

Description of the Proposed Action: The proposed action is reconstruction of 5 springs. The reconstruction of springs includes replacement of 500 gallon aluminum water troughs, pipe, and spring box. The proposed action includes construction of a 4 strand wire fence with a smooth bottom wire for wildlife. The fence will be approximately 600 ft minimum (150 ft per side x 4 sides) around each spring box with at least a 20' space between the fence and the edge of the water. There will also be repairs to existing spring box fences. The top 4-6" of soil and vegetation will be carefully moved as work at each spring box occurs. Once work commences the 4-6" of topsoil and vegetation will be placed so that the root systems of the plants are oriented as originally found, roots placed against the mineral soil. Additionally, it is proposed that a mix of native seed is broadcasted by hand over each spring site once work has been completed.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Upper Deschutes Resource Management Plan Date approved (ROD):
September, 2005

The proposed action is in conformance with the above plan, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following land use plan decisions, objectives, terms, or conditions:

Operations and Maintenance Actions pg 159, "Such activities could include, but are not limited to, routine maintenance of existing roads, ditches, culverts, water control structures, recreations facilities, pipelines, waterholes, fences, cattleguards, seedings, fish and wildlife structures, signs and other similar facilities and projects".

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 2, Appendix 1, 516 DM 11.9, _1.7

A (1.7) Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects).

J (9) Construction of small protective enclosures, including those to protect reservoirs and springs and those to protect small study areas. DOI-BLM-OR-P-060-2010-0053-CX. 516 DM 11.9 Effective Date August 14, 2007

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 apply. See attached CX Extraordinary Circumstances Documentation checklist.

D. Signature

I considered the above Proposed Action, land use plan, compliance with 516 DM 11.9D (1.7), and the lack of extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment information provided. Based on this review, there is no potential for significant impacts so further NEPA analysis is not needed.

Authorizing official:

Molly Brown, Deschutes Field Manager



3/8/11
Date

Contact Person

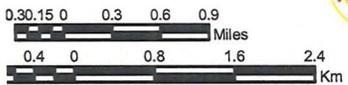
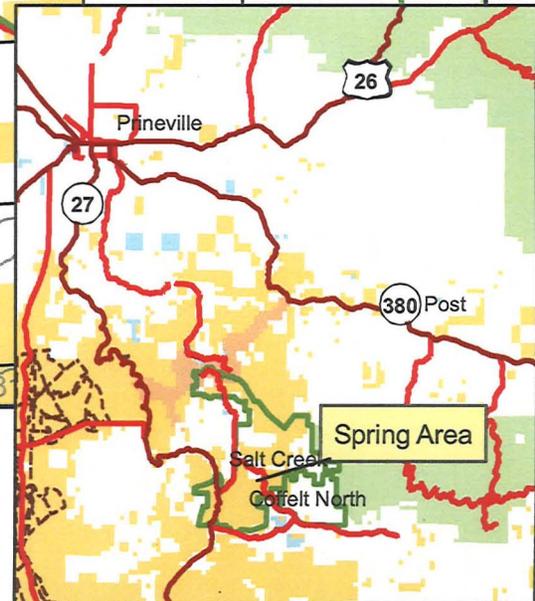
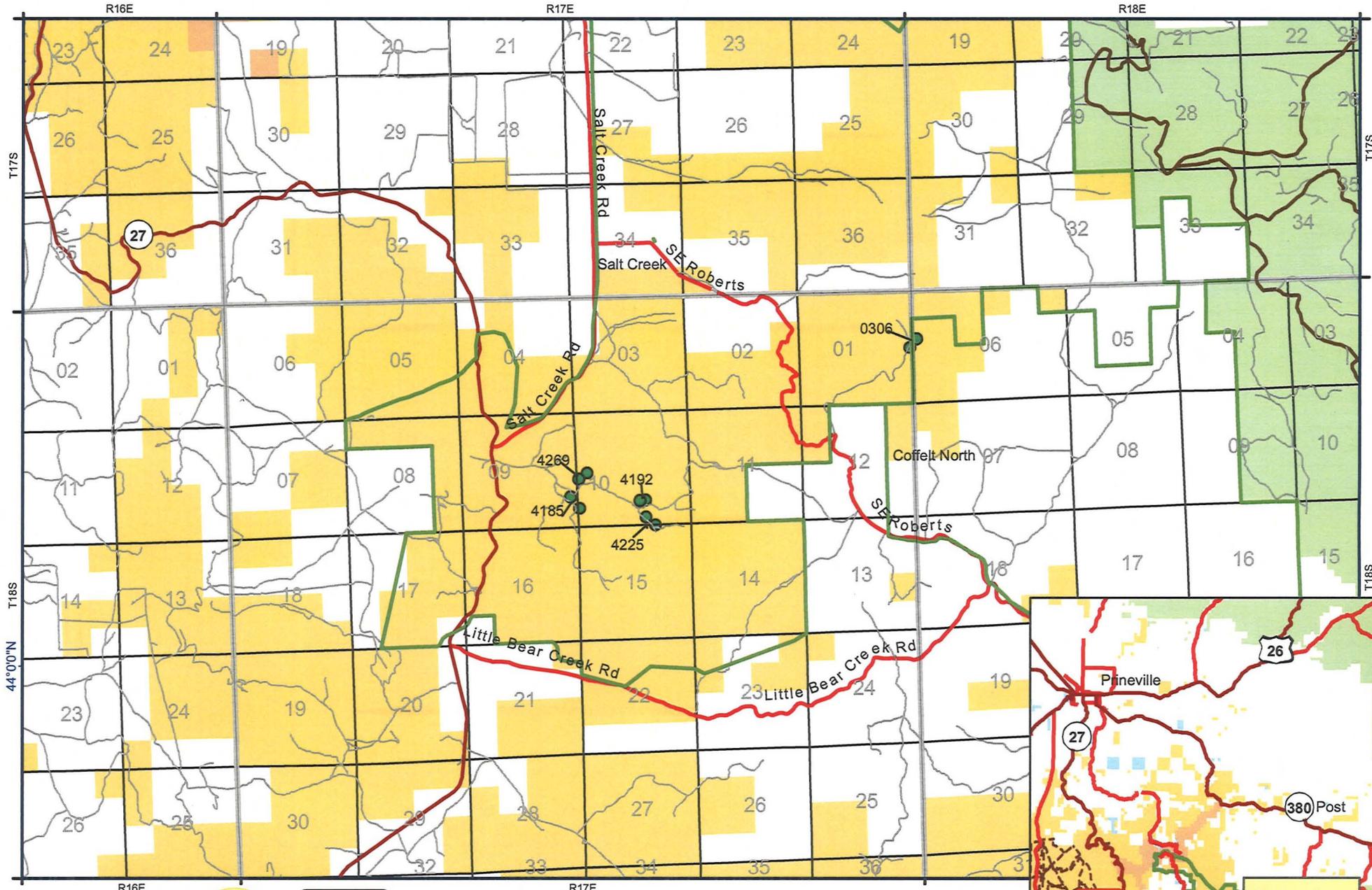
For additional information concerning this review, contact: Emily Hurd, Rangeland Management Specialist Prineville Field Office, 3050 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754, telephone (541) 416-6789, Emily_Hurd@blm.gov

CX EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES DOCUMENTATION		YES	NO
The proposed categorical exclusion action will:			
2.1	Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		x
Rationale: Spring reconstruction has not been associated with having significant impacts on public health or safety, as of yet.			
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: A Wilderness Inventory Maintenance was conducted on public lands surrounding the proposed project. No wilderness character was found. The proposed project is consistent with Visual Resource Management Class IV objectives. A cultural resource inventory was conducted for the proposed spring developments and no resources were identified within the area of potential effect. Should any new resources be discovered during implementation, work would stop and the archaeologist would be contacted. Project activities would resume when the issues are resolved and, or consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office has been completed.			
2.3	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		x
Rationale: No known conflicts exist.			
2.4	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		x
Rationale: No known environmental risks or effects due to reconstruction of springs.			
2.5	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		x
Rationale: Spring reconstruction and development have occurred numerous times in the past and therefore no new precedent will be established.			

2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		x
Rationale: The proposed action does not change the already existing uses in the planning area. The proposed action provides no new effect.		
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: There were no known impacts, from spring reconstruction in the Salt Creek Allotment, to properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.		
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 proposed action will have no effects.		
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		x
Rationale: The proposed action does not violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		x
Rationale: The proposed action would have no measurable effect on 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: The proposed action does not limit access to or the ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or cause significant adverse affect on the physical integrity of such sacred sites		
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

<p>Rationale: The proposed action would not measurably change the rate of introduction, continued existence or spread of noxious weeds or invasive species. Livestock entering public lands have the potential to transport some viable undesirable seed via hide or gut; however, the possibility of introducing undesirable plants, not already in the area, is minimal. A broadcast of native seed mix by hand is planned for each spring site.</p>		

Salt Creek



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of this data for individual or aggregate use with other data.

1:75,000

Legend	
	Allotments
	Springs
	Arterial Road
	Highway
	Local Road

