

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

A. Background

BLM Office: Prineville Field Office

NEPA Log #: DOI - BLM - OR – P060 - 2012 - 0039 - CX

Proposed Action Title: Race Across Oregon Events SRP

Location:

- Lower Deschutes Access Road: T3&4, R14E. Within one mile SE of Maupin, OR.

Description of the Proposed Action: The proposed action is to approve a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) for Race Across Oregon, LLC to host two time trial bicycle events.

The SRP would allow two competitive time trial bicycle rides on approximately 8 miles of the paved access road between Maupin City Park and Highway 216. The riders would have staggered start times set at one minute apart. The event organizer expects about 60 riders for each event.

The Deschutes River Valley Time Trial event would be scheduled on the weekend of April 28-29, but the BLM access road would only be utilized on April 28. The riders would start a loop from the Imperial River Company in Maupin beginning at 9 AM, riding Highway 197 North to Highway 216 East and then upstream along the Lower Deschutes Access Road to the finish line at Imperial River Company.

The Ring of Fire event would be scheduled on the weekend of September 7-8. Riders would begin on September 7 at 7 PM and on September 8 at 10AM.

In addition to the bicycles, occasional vehicles would drive the route for safety and equipment checks. The Race Director and Chief Official, George Thomas is certified in First Aid, CPR and Basic Life Support.

Riders would follow State law and any race stipulations set by the organizer or BLM.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Lower Deschutes River Management Plan

Date approved (ROD): February, 1993

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:

- *All commercial outfitters and guides will be required to obtain a Special Recreation Use Permit. The system will be administered by BLM. (Page 44)*

- *The BLM, along with other managing agencies, will continue to coordinate permit requirements and regulatory controls including development and implementation of a uniform and consolidated system of the issuance, administration and enforcement of permits in the entire planning area. (Page 44)*

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, Effective Date June 21, 2005., H. Recreation Management., (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 CX cannot be used for commercial boating permits along Wild and Scenic Rivers. This CX cannot be used for the establishment or issuance of Special Recreation Permits for "Special Area" management (43 CFR 2932.5)

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. The cultural, T&E plant and T&E animal specialists have indicated they expect no unacceptable impacts to resources.

D. Signature

I considered many social and environmental effects to the land and social experience by allowing this Special Recreation Permit activity. The following mitigation measures must be followed to minimize any effects.

- **Social Experience and Crowding:** This would be mitigated with the staggered start time of 1 rider per minute. The time of year for both events is outside of the peak use season.
- **Natural Resource Concerns:** All natural resource concerns will be mitigated by restricting all activity to the paved access road.

Authorizing official: Molly Brown
Molly Brown, Deschutes Resource Area Field Manager

4/19/12
Date

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this review, contact: Jim Beaupre, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Prineville Field Office, 3050 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Telephone: (541) 416-6776. Email: jbeaupre@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: The race organizer is certified in Basic Life Support and riders will follow state law and race safety protocols, therefore there is no significant impact on public health 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 event location is on a paved road and no wilderness values have been identified. Although, this activity does traverse a portion of the Wild and Scenic River boundary riders would remain on the paved road and no impacts are expected.			
2.3	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		X
Rationale: There are no known controversial environmental effects and this action does not involve 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: There is no evidence that this action has potentially significant environmental effects. The action does not include any unique or unknown environmental risks.			
2.5	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
Rationale: Authorizing a Special Recreation Permit does not set any precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. Special Recreation Permits are issued at the manager's discretion and could be revoked for violations of the permit.			
2.6	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
Rationale: Similar past activities had no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effect			
2.7	Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the		X

National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		
Rationale: The project area does not include any property listed or eligible for 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 scope of the proposed action would not affect any Endangered or Threatened Species or have significant impacts or result in the loss of critical habitat.		
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 conforms to the direction given for the management of public lands in the Prineville District which complies with all applicable laws, such as the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and others.		
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
Rationale: The proposed action has no adverse effect on any low income or minority population.		
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: No sacred sites exist on the access road		
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: The proposed activity would not measurably change the rate of introduction, continued existence or spread of noxious weeds or invasive species. Riders would remain on the paved road.		

Race Across Oregon Special Recreation Permit

DOI-BLM-OR-P060-2012-0039-CX



Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Prineville District
3050 NE Third Street
Prineville, Oregon 97754
Phone: 541-416-6700



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

Legend

-  Lower Deschutes Access Road
-  Highways
-  Roads
-  Bureau of Land Management Private

0 0.5 1 Miles



MXD: P:\prigis_projects\recreation\Special_Recreation_Permits\Individual_SRP\Race_Across_Oregon_SRP\Mxd.mxd

Last Modified Date: 4/19/12 12:00 PM

