

**Worksheet**  
**Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**  
U.S Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

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**A. Background**

**BLM Office:** Prineville DO                      **NEPA Log #:** DOI-BLM-OR-P040-2011-0053-DNA

**Project/Lease/Serial/Case File #:** N/A

**Location:** 16 miles Southeast of Dayville in the vicinity of Murderer's Creek, Central Oregon Resource Area of Prineville District BLM, T15S, R27E - S 22, 27, 38 & 34

**Proposed Action Title:** Cougar Mountain Wildfire Fence Replacement

**Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures:**

Repair/rebuild two and one-half miles of fence used to control livestock movements between grazing allotments. Design is a four wire fence with BLM recommended wildlife specifications for wire, post, and stay spacing.

**B. Land Use Plan Conformance**

**Land Use Plan Name:** John Day RMP

**Date approved (ROD):** 1985

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

“Improve and maintain vegetative condition to benefit livestock and wildlife. Maintain all existing improvements and continue existing activity plans. In allotments where potential exists for resource improvement, implement management systems and/or range improvements. Coordinate livestock use in riparian zones in order to protect water quality and enhance anadromous and other sport fisheries. Allocate additional competitive forage to livestock before wildlife wherever present big game population objectives are exceeded;” (ROD, John Day RMP, p. 12).

**C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and related documents that cover the proposed action**

**The following NEPA documents (EA, DEIS, FEIS) cover the proposed action:**

No. OR-056-06-067 Removal, Replacement, Reconstruction of Existing Fences – Oct. 2, 2006

**The following other documentation is relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report):**

BLM Post-Fire Recovery Plan – Cougar Mountain, 10/19/2010.

## **D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Yes, the proposed action of replacing/rebuilding fence to control livestock is the same as the actions analyzed in the Prineville District's Removal, Replacement, and Reconstruction of Existing Fences EA #OR-050-06-067 (District Fence EA). In addition, the Proposed Action included moving the replacement fence if an old fence is located along a circuitous route and building the new fence on a more direct route could reduce the net mileage (and cost); or an existing fence does not follow land ownership or allotment boundaries. By building the replacement fence consistent with recognized boundaries, potential land tenure issues could be resolved (p. 4 of EA#OR-050-06-067). The proposed action is located within the same geographic area previously analyzed in the listed NEPA documents.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?**

Yes, the District Fence EA addressed the appropriate range of alternatives given the proposed action, and current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values. The District Fence EA included a No Action Alternative and a various components for the Proposed Action which included: removal, reconstruction, and replacement of fences. The District Fence EA included mitigation measures and analyzed the effects to the following resources: soil, vegetation, watershed, riparian, water quality, wetland areas, fish and wildlife, special management areas, historic and archaeological resources, fire and fuels, recreation, visual quality, livestock grazing, human safety, and critical elements.

**3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, and updated lists of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?**

Yes, the existing analysis is still valid and there is new information related to Wilderness Characteristics. "The Prineville BLM District has completed a 'Lands with Wilderness Characteristics' update for public lands in the Wylie Gulch area. On October 31, 2007, it was determined that subunit A of the Wylie Gulch Inventory Unit (OR-054-32), does not possess wilderness character. The current Proposed Action will not impact wilderness character."

**4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Yes, the same effects that would result from the proposed action were analyzed in the District Fence EA (p.6-10) under Soil/Vegetation/Watershed/Riparian/Water Quality/Wetland Areas, Fish and Wildlife, Special Management Areas (SMAs), Historic/Archaeological Resources, Fire and Fuels, Recreation, Visual Quality, Livestock Grazing and Human Safety. Cumulative effects of the new proposed action would be similar to those listed on page 10 of the District Fence EA.

**5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Yes, the list of “interested publics” is updated on a regular basis and many of the individuals and organizations on the current “interested publics” list are the same as those on the mailing list for the planning and NEPA documents listed. A final copy of this DNA will be posted on the Prineville District’s internet page for public review. A printed copy of this document would be available on request.

**E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff consulted**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource/Agency</u>
Kristy Swartz/Justin Rodgers	ID Team Leader	BLM
Sarah Canham	Botany/Weeds	BLM
John Zancanella	Heritage Resources	BLM
Monte Kuk	Wildlife	BLM
Justin Rodgers	Range	BLM
Jimmy Eisner	Fisheries	BLM
Gavin Hoban	Wilderness/WSA’s/Recreation	BLM
Teal Purrington	NEPA	BLM
Michelle McSwain	AFM, Central Oregon RA	BLM

Note: Refer to the EA/EIS for a complete list of the team members participating in the preparation of the original environmental analysis or planning documents.

**Conclusion**

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

**Signature**

Responsible official:  5.7.12  
H.F. "Chip" Faver, Field Manager, CORA Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program specific regulations.

**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this review, contact: Justin Rodgers, Team Leader, Prineville Field Office, 3050 NE 3rd Street, Prineville, OR 97754, telephone (541) 416-6749, jrodgers@blm.gov.