

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

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)  
Salem District, Oregon  
Tillamook Field Office

**2014 UPPER NESTUCCA OHV RIDING AREA SPECIAL RECREATION EVENTS**  
DOI-BLM-OR-S060-2014-0013-DNA

- A. **Location of Proposed Action:** T.3S, R.6W, sections 16, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 21, and 32; and T.3S, R.7W, sections 34, 35, and 36; and T.4S, R.7W, sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 21, and 22 Willamette Meridian, Yamhill and Tillamook Counties.

**Description of the Proposed Action:**

The proposed action is to authorize up to two off-highway vehicle trail events in the Upper Nestucca OHV Riding Area following the authority of special recreation permits on trails authorized for use by the BLM Responsible Official (Tillamook Field Manager). Events will not be timed and be limited to 75 participants each. The events would occur after August 6 to reduce potential disturbance impacts to marbled murrelets that may occur in nearby unsurveyed habitat.

- B. **Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans:**

LUP Name: *Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*, dated May, 1995 (ROD/RMP) and *Salem District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement*, dated September 1994 (PRMP/FEIS).

This action also conforms with the following documents:

- *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl and Standard and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*, dated April, 1994;
- *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey & Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (S&M ROD*, January 2001);
- *Revised Recovery Plan for the Northern Spotted Owl (Strix occidentalis caurina)*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. June 28, 2011 (Spotted Owl Recovery Plan).

The proposed action is in conformance with the Salem District Record of Decision and Resource & Management Plan (RMP), dated May 1995 as amended. The objectives for Recreation resources include the following (pg. 41):

- Provide a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities that contribute to

meeting projected recreation demand within the planning area.

- Manage off-highway vehicle use on BLM-administered lands to protect natural resources, promote visitor safety, and minimize conflicts among various users.

**C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

**Applicable NEPA Documents:**

- *Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System Environmental Assessment* (EA# OR-086-97-05), Revision July 1997, Salem District, Tillamook Resource Area, which shall be referred to as the Nestucca Riding Area EA.
- *The Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System Decision Record and Finding of No Significant Impact*, March 1998, Salem District, Tillamook Resource Area.

**Other Related Documents:**

- *Biological Assessment for the Completion of the Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System*, Bureau of Land Management, Salem District, Biological Assessment (March 26, 1998).
- *Formal consultation on the completion of the Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System* [FWS reference: 1-7-98-F-190], U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Biological Opinion (June 11, 1998).
- *Section 7 Consultation for Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System, that May Affect Oregon Coast Coho Salmon within the Nestucca River Watershed, and Upper Willamette River Steelhead and Upper Willamette River Chinook Salmon within the Willamina Creek Watershed, Oregon*, National Marine Fisheries Service, Biological Opinion (August 4, 1999).

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

1. **Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?**

Yes. The Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System EA considered special motorcycle events using the trail system. The EA estimated the number of participants would range from 50 to 150, depending on the type of event and other factors.

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, resource values, and circumstances?**

Yes. The Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System EA analyzed seven alternatives, which was appropriate given the purpose and need for this project. Alternative A was the Proposed Action, was designed to (1) build approximately 17 additional miles of trail, (2) approve a set of criteria for location and construction, (3) provide for special motorcycle events, (4) take steps to close undesignated trails, and (5) implement periodical monitoring for use. Alternative B was the No Action alternative. Alternative C considered adding an additional 21 miles of motorized trail in the future; Alternative D considered a permit system with seasonal restrictions; Alternative E considered a net reduction in eventual total mileage with a loop system; Alternative F considered a phase out of OHV trails from the Late-Successional Reserve; and Alternative G was similar to the proposed action but would avoid trail

construction within riparian reserves. The Selected Alternative included elements of Alternatives A, D, E, and G.

No new environmental concerns, interests, resource values or circumstances have been revealed since the EA was published in 1997 that would indicate a need for a new environmental assessment.

3. **Is the existing analysis adequate and are the conclusions adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (including, for example, riparian proper functioning condition [PFC] reports; Unified Watershed Assessment categorizations; inventory and monitoring data; most recent Fish and Wildlife Service lists of threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species; most recent BLM lists of sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?**

Yes. New information or circumstances have arisen since the EA was published in 1997, but none that would affect the adequacy of the analysis. The pertinent changes are:

- There have been changes in the Survey and Manage program and Aquatic Conservation Strategy implementation since the EA was released. These changes have not affected the adequacy of the analysis.
- Critical Habitat for the Oregon Coast Coho was designated on February 11, 2008. This designation did not change the effects analysis for coho. The proposed riding events are consistent with the proposed action in the Biological Opinion for the Section 7 Consultation covering these events.
- In June of 2011 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued the Revised Recovery Plan for the Northern Spotted Owl. The revised recovery plan did not address motorized recreation therefore the proposed action is not inconsistent with the recovery plan.
- In 2012, Northern Spotted Owl Critical Habitat was re-designated but it did not change the status of critical habitat within the Upper Nestucca OHV riding area.
- On October 28, 2008, the USFWS initiated a status review of the red tree vole, including an evaluation of the North Oregon Coast population and the red tree vole throughout its range. On October 13, 2011, after review of the best available scientific and commercial information, the USFWS determined that ESA listing of the North Oregon Coast population of the red tree vole as a distinct population segment (DPS) was warranted. However, they also determined the development of a proposed listing rule was precluded by higher priority actions to amend the lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. Upon publication of the 12-month petition finding, the USFWS has added this DPS of the red tree vole to their list of candidate species. Pursuant to BLM's procedures regarding the management of candidate species, the North Oregon Coast population of the red tree vole is being managed as a Sensitive Species under the Bureau's Special Status Species Policy; it is also managed as a Survey and Manage Species. The fact that the North Oregon Coast DPS of the red tree vole has been added to the USFWS candidate species list does not affect the adequacy of the existing NEPA analysis since the project would not affect timber stands which are habitat for red tree voles.

4. **Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?**

Yes, the methodology and analytical approach used for the analysis contained in the EAs continue to be appropriate in respect to the current proposed action. (1) A new recovery plan was introduced for the spotted owl. There are no known owl sites within the trail system. The Oregon Coast Coho Salmon was listed (re-listed) in June 2011, habitat for this species is not directly adjacent to the trails within the Upper Nestucca Motorcycle Trail System, nor would the habitat be affected. (2) There are no changes in resource conditions since the EAs were published in 1997. (3) There are no changes in resource-related plans, policies or programs of other government agencies. (4) There are no new land designations in the Nestucca River watershed or Willamina Creek watersheds. (5) There are no changes in statute, case law or regulation that would affect the implementation of authorized events within the designated trail system.

5. **Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document sufficiently analyze site-specific impacts related to the current proposed action?**

Yes. The EA adequately addressed the impacts regarding trail use and the potential of approving special motorcycle events within the designated trail system. Analysis assumed the number of participants for each event would range between 50 and 150 and also considered various types of dispersed recreational use, logging activities and road maintenance activities within the general area of the designated trail system. This proposed action limits the events to two per year and 75 participants for each event.

6. **Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Yes. The cumulative effects considered in the EAs included those from past and reasonably foreseeable future activities including timber harvest on public and private land, road repair and construction which has the potential to deliver sediment to streams, and recreational motorized trail riding not associated with events. Impacts to soils, vegetation, wildlife and fisheries, streams, water quality and aquatic habitat were considered in the cumulative effects analysis. No unanticipated actions or events have occurred in the planning area that would have additional cumulative effects with the authorization of special event permits for off-highway vehicle use.

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

Yes. The public had opportunity for involvement in the scoping phase and the EA public comment phase, as did the regulatory agencies (which also participated on the ID Team).

Also, a description of the proposal was included in the Salem District Bureau of Land Management Project Update, was reviewed by the AMA subcommittee of the Coast Range Province Advisory Committee, and coordination with representatives of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, Applegate Roughriders Motorcycle Club, and the National Marine Fisheries Service occurred at a workshop.

A total of ten letters were received in response to the EA. Addendum 1 of the EA provides the comments and BLM's response to the received comments.

**E. Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Resource Represented</u>
Debra Drake	Team Leader
Matt Walker	Fisheries
Steve Bahe	Wildlife
Kurt Heckerth	Botany
Chris Sween	Soils

**F. Mitigation Measures: List any applicable mitigation measures that were identified, analyzed, and approved in relevant LUPs and existing NEPA document(s). List the specific mitigation measures or identify an attachment that includes those specific mitigation measures. Document that these applicable mitigation measures must be incorporated and implemented.**

This project incorporates possible mitigation measures 1, 5, and 8 of the eight listed on page 32, Appendix 5 of the EA.

**REVIEWED BY**

  
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Environmental Coordinator

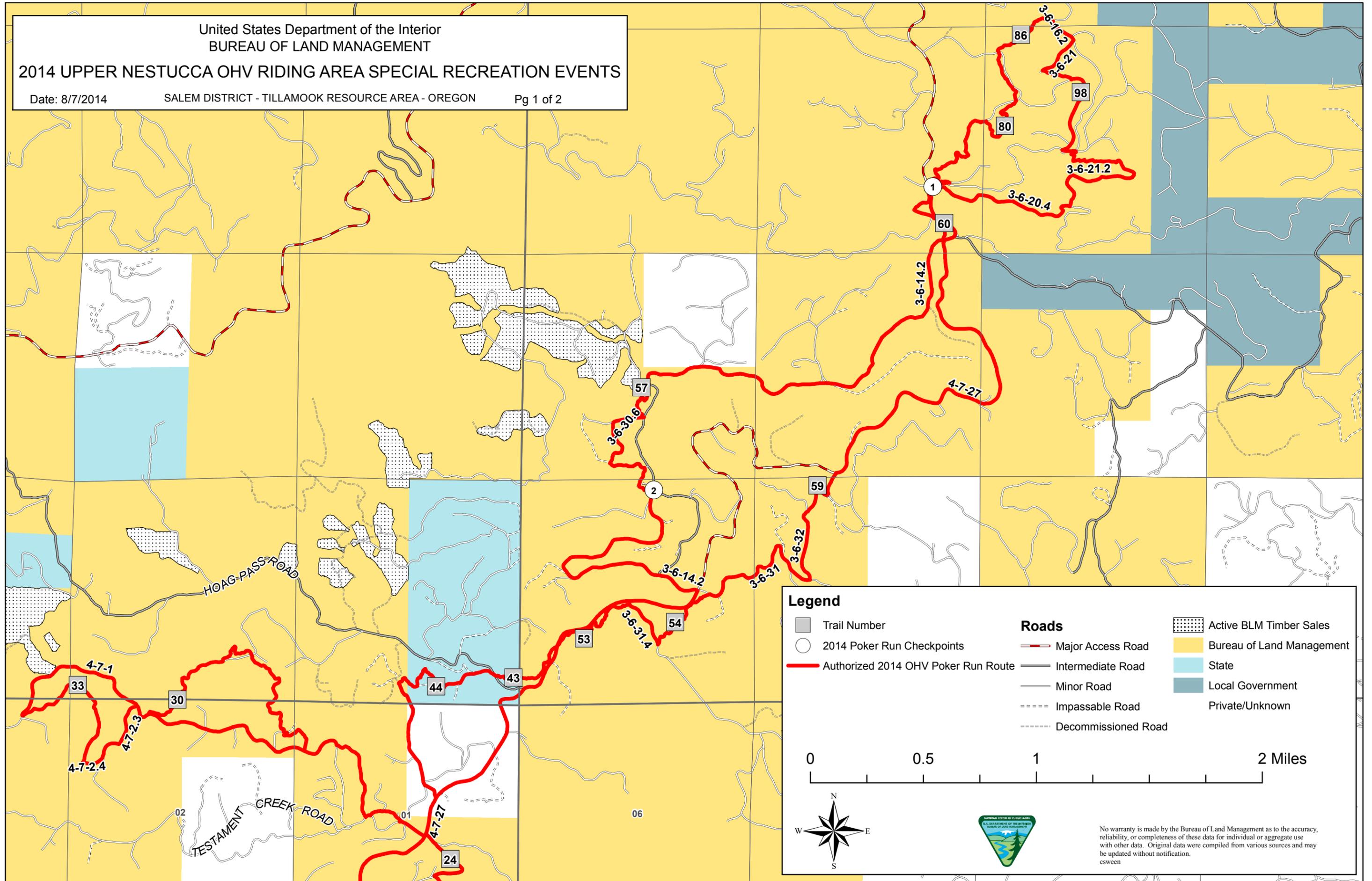
  
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**CONCLUSION**

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

  
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Karen M. Schank  
Tillamook Resource Area Field Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**Legend**

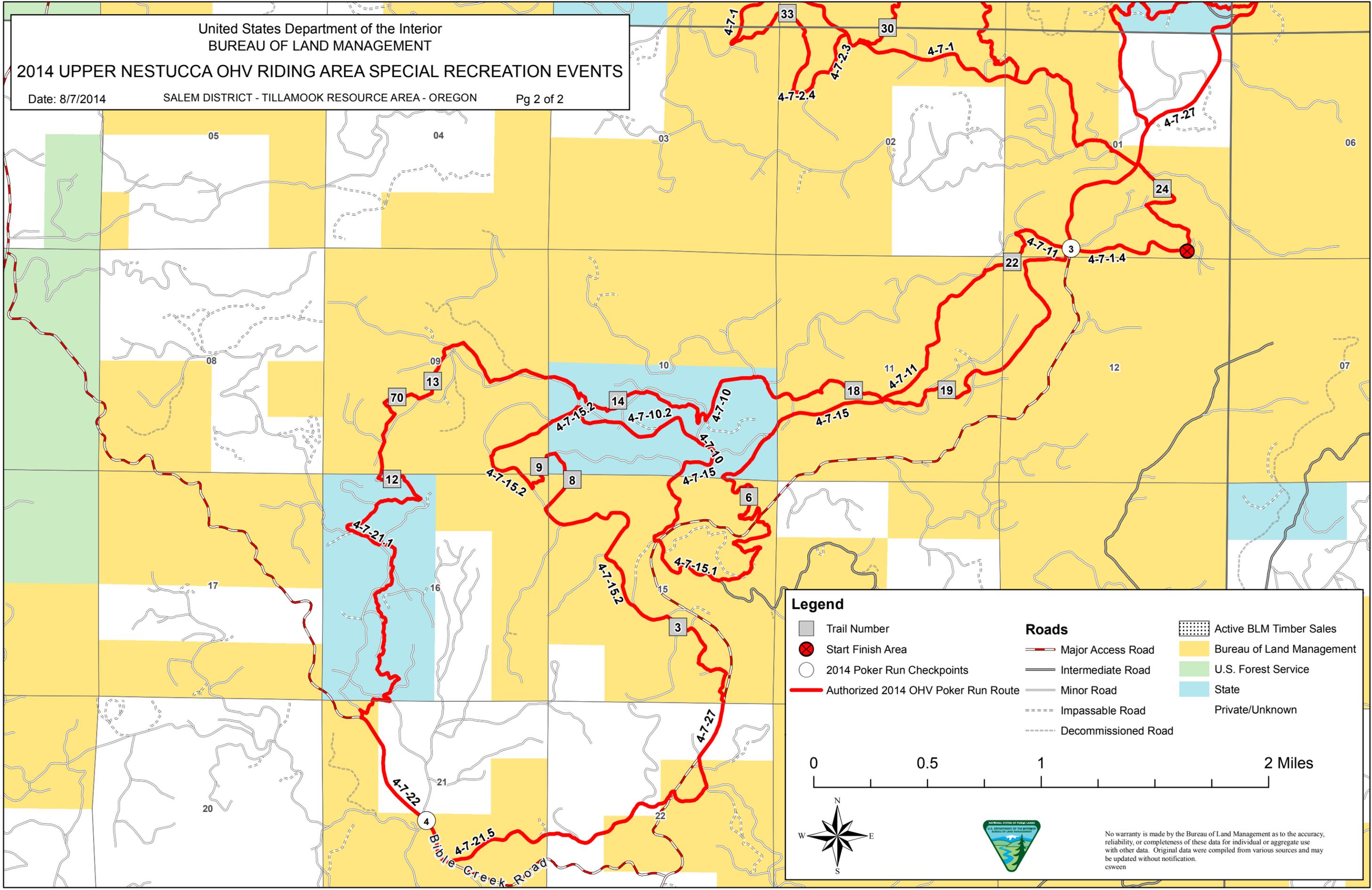
Trail Number	<b>Roads</b>	Active BLM Timber Sales
2014 Poker Run Checkpoints	Major Access Road	Bureau of Land Management
Authorized 2014 OHV Poker Run Route	Intermediate Road	State
	Minor Road	Local Government
	Impassable Road	Private/Unknown
	Decommissioned Road	

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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.  
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**Legend**

- Trail Number
- Start Finish Area
- 2014 Poker Run Checkpoints
- Authorized 2014 OHV Poker Run Route
- Major Access Road
- Intermediate Road
- Minor Road
- Impassable Road
- Decommissioned Road
- Active BLM Timber Sales
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service
- State
- Private/Unknown

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