

Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Salem District, Oregon
Marys Peak Resource Area

Parker Creek Bridge Project
DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2014-0002-DNA

Salem District Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Restoration Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-OR-S000-2012-0001-EA

Upper and Lower Alsea River Watershed Fish Passage Restoration Environmental Assessment
OR-080-08-15

A. Background and Description of the Proposed Action

The BLM analyzed restoration projects in the Salem District Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) (Aquatic Restoration EA) (EA# DOI-BLM-OR-S000-2012-0001) in 2012 and specifically analyzed the need for restoration work at the Parker Creek crossing in the Upper and Lower Alsea Fish Passage Restoration EA (Fish Passage EA) (EA # OR080-08-15) in 2008.

The purpose of this Proposed Action is to use aquatic and riparian restoration activities identified in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (2008) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (2007) Biological Opinions (NMFS:2008/03506; USFWS: 13420-2007-F-0055) for Programmatic Consultation on Fish Habitat Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington, CY2007-CY2012 (ARBO) to improve aquatic and riparian habitat on BLM-administered lands and non-BLM-administered lands. Project activities considered in the EA include:

- Large Wood, Boulder, and Gravel Placement
- Reconnection of Existing Side Channels and Alcoves
- Streambank Restoration
- Fish Passage Culvert and Bridge Projects
- Head-cut Stabilization and Associated Fish Passage
- Riparian vegetation treatments
- Road Treatments

Specifically, the BLM is proposing to build a bridge at the Parker Creek crossing. The existing culvert at the Parker Creek crossing is undersized for meeting 100 year flow events, is increasingly at risk of failure due to age and deterioration, and is currently blocking fish passage. The BLM had originally considered replacing the existing culvert with a new, larger culvert. The Marys Peak Fish Biologist and Hydrologist determined the bank full width of the stream to be 33 feet. Using factors of 1.3 times bank full width, any design must accommodate a 43 foot stream width. No culverts are available that can span this width, so a

bridge was recommended for this site. With fill slopes to the road, a 70-foot bridge will be required. The road will be closed due to construction for approximately six weeks in the summer of 2014, between July 1 and August 31.

The Parker Creek Bridge project is consistent with the activities analyzed to meet the Purpose and Need of the project.

Location: T. 13 S., R. 8 W., Sections 1, 12, Willamette Meridian, within the Upper Alsea River fifth field watershed in Lincoln County, Oregon. See location map at the end of this DNA.

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

The analysis documented in the EA is site-specific and supplements analyses found in the *Salem District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement*, September 1994 (RMP/FEIS). The Parker Creek Bridge project is authorized under the *Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*, May 1995 (1995 RMP) and related documents which direct and provide the legal framework for management of BLM lands within the Salem District. All of these documents may be reviewed at the Salem District office.

The Parker Creek Bridge project conforms to the Salem District Resource Management Plan/Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended by the 2001 *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* (2001 ROD).

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

- Design and implement fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities in a manner that contributes to attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. (RMP p. 27).
- Rehabilitate streams and other waters to enhance natural populations or anadromous and resident fish. Rehabilitation measures may include, but not be limited to fish passage improvements; instream structures using boulders and log placement to create spawning and rearing habitat; placement of fine and course materials for overwintering habitat; and establishment or release of riparian coniferous trees. (RMP pp. 27-28).
- Provide and maintain fish passage at all road crossings of existing and potential fish-bearing streams (RMP p. 63).

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

Applicable NEPA Documents:

- Salem District Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Restoration EA (DOI-BLM-OR-S000-2012-0001-EA) – March 22, 2012.
- Salem District Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Restoration Decision Record – March 22, 2012.
- Upper and Lower Alsea River Watershed Fish Passage Restoration EA (OR-080-08-15) – November 2008
- Upper and Lower Alsea River Watershed Fish Passage Restoration Decision Record – February 2009.

Other NEPA documents and other related documents relevant to the proposed action:

- Salem District RMP/EIS – November 1994 and Record of Decision – May 1995
- South Fork Alsea Watershed Analysis – 1995
- Salem District Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Restoration project file
- Upper and Lower Alsea River Watershed Fish Passage Restoration project file

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 action would be completed as described and analyzed in the Aquatic Restoration EA (pp. 13-17). Bridge construction is analyzed in the Aquatic Restoration EA. The action is consistent with the purpose and need identified in the Fish Passage EA for the crossing.

Road and Culvert Projects (Aquatic Restoration EA pp. 15, 21)

“Remove or replace existing road-stream crossing structures-culverts and bridges-that restrict fish passage with stream simulation structures to restore up- and downstream passage for all life stages of native fish.”

Fish Passage – Culvert and Bridge Replacements (Aquatic Restoration EA pp. 15, 21)

“Replacement of existing road-stream crossing structures on fish-bearing streams that do not restrict fish passage may occur. This category includes projects where minor realignment of the culvert and stream channel is needed to restore the stream course to its original location. Structure types include closed-bottomed culverts, open-bottomed arch culverts, and bridges. Grade control structures are permitted above or below the culvert or bridge. Bridge piers and abutments will not occur in the bankfull width.”

Purpose of the Action (Fish Passage EA p. 8)

“Improve habitat conditions for coho salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout and assist in restoring and improving ecological health of watersheds and aquatic systems by replacing failing culverts and improving fish passage.”

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?

The EAs analyzed the No Action and the Proposed Action alternatives. No other reasonable alternatives to achieving the purpose and need were identified by the Interdisciplinary Teams or the public. No new environmental concerns, interests, resource values, or circumstances have arisen since the EAs were published that would require the development of additional alternatives. A full description of the alternatives can be found in Chapter 2 of the Aquatic Restoration EA (pp. 12-17) and the Fish Passage EA (pp. 9-11).

3. Is the existing analysis adequate and are the conclusions adequate in light of any new information or circumstances? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?

Yes. The existing analysis and conclusions are adequate. There is no new significant information or circumstances relative to the analysis in the EAs or the current action. The analysis and conclusions in the EAs are appropriate and adequate.

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

Yes. The methodology and analytical approach continue to be appropriate. There are no changes in resource conditions since the EAs were published that would render the data or analysis insufficient.

5. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the current proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

The EAs analyzed direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the proposed action on affected resources (fisheries/aquatic habitat, water quality, botany, invasive plants, and wildlife). There are no substantial changes from those addressed in the analyses to the present.

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

Public involvement for the EAs has been adequate. For the Aquatic Restoration EA, the BLM sent scoping letters in 2011 to 41 potentially affected and or interested individuals, groups, and agencies. One comment in support of the EA was received. The EA and FONSI were made available for a 15 day public review on March 6, 2012. No comments were received on the EA.

For the Fish Passage EA, the BLM sent a scoping letters in 2008 to 21 potentially affected and or interested individuals, groups, and agencies. One supportive response was received during the scoping period. The EA and FONSI were made available for a 30 day public review on November 20, 2008. No comments were received on the EA.

Consultation

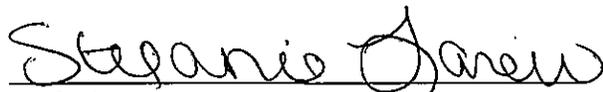
Wildlife: Consultation for aquatic restoration projects covered under this DNA has been completed under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Programmatic Consultation for Aquatic Habitat Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington (ARBO #13420-2007-F-0055) issued on June 14, 2007. On July 1, 2013 the US Fish and Wildlife Service completed a new consultation on Aquatic Habitat Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington (ARBO II #01EOFW00-2013-F-0090). This proposed action is in compliance with ARBO II since it is consistent with the project design features and it would not exceed the incidental take allocation for any listed wildlife species.

Fish: The Endangered Species Act listed threatened fish, OC coho salmon, are more than 4 miles downstream of the project area. Essential Fish Habitat for Chinook and coho salmon is more than 4 miles downstream of the project area. No effects to listed fish species or EFH would occur. No consultation is warranted.

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis

Name	Specialty
James Elvin	Engineer
Ron Exeter	Botanist
Scott Hopkins	Wildlife Biologist
Stefanie Larew	NEPA Coordinator
Scott Snedaker	Fish Biologist
Steve Wegner	Hydrologist and Soil Scientist

Prepared and Reviewed By



Stefanie Larew
NEPA Coordinator

4-10-14

Date

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 fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.



Rich Hatfield
Marys Peak Field Manager

4-12-14

Date

Map 1. Location Map for the Parker Creek Bridge Project

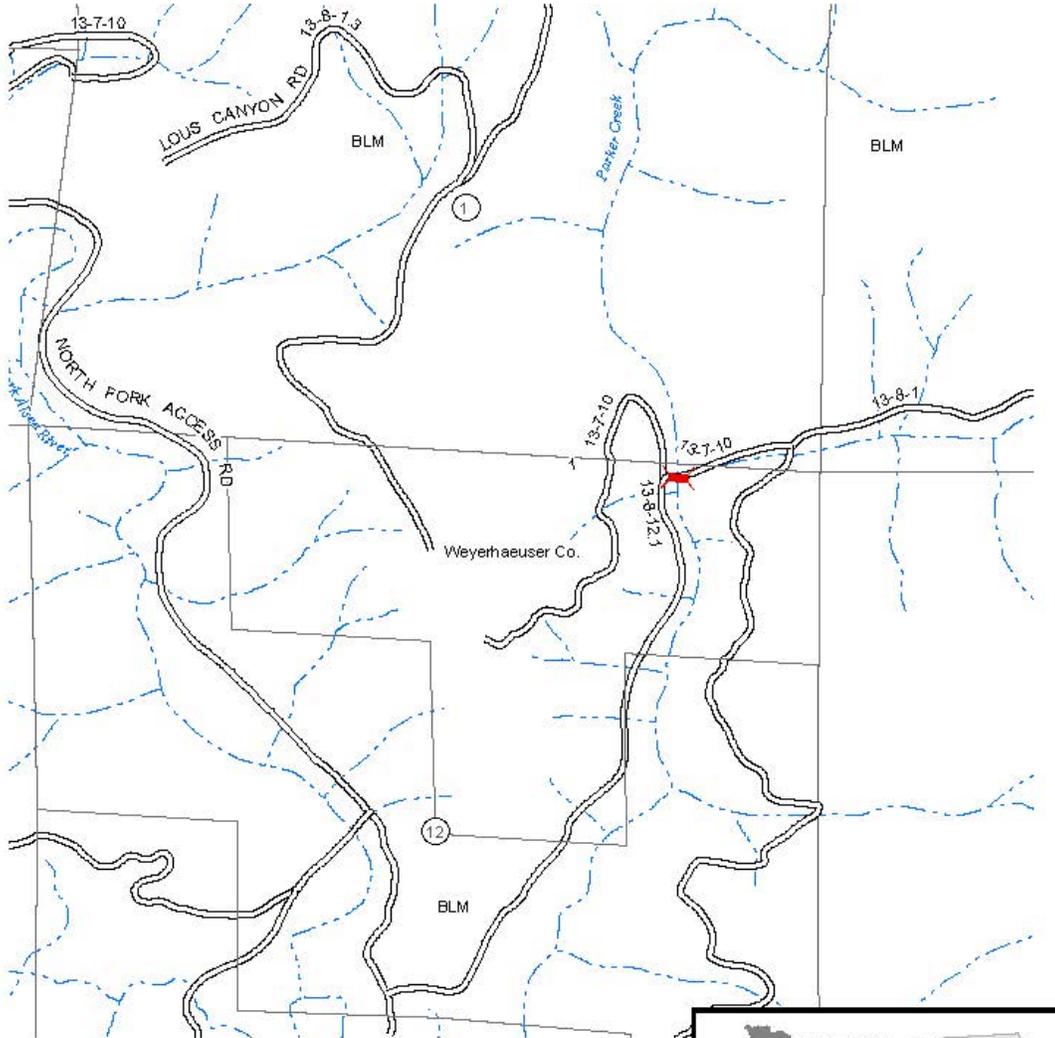


United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Parker Creek Bridge Project

T. 13 S., R. 8 W., Sections 1 & 12, W.M.

SALEM DISTRICT - OREGON



-  Parker Creek Bridge location
-  Existing Road
-  Stream



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