

United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Coos Bay District

Categorical Exclusion Review (CX)

DOI-BLM-OR-C030-2009-0002-CX

Date: 2/5/09

A. Background

Project: Loon Lake and East Shore Hazard Tree Removal

Location: Township 23 South, Range 10 West, Section 1, Lot 17, WM

Project Description: The purpose of the project is to provide a safe environment for Loon Lake and East Shore Campground visitors. There are six grand fir trees at East Shore Campground that are weakened from *annosus* root rot. In order to keep the disease under control and eliminate all hazards, these trees need to be fallen. There are also two Douglas-fir trees, at Loon Lake Campground, that have started to lean and need to be removed.

The trees will be felled by the end of March, 2009. Logs will be removed from the site by a contractor. Each tree has been tagged and numbered, for easy identification. A portion of the logs will be sold to the contractor to help cover removal costs. The remaining logs will remain on site for wildlife purposes.

The slash will be cleaned up, and any tree-related debris that accumulates on the road. The trees will be felled away from the road and minimal clean up will be needed.

East Shore trees: #81 is 40" DBH, 255 ft. tall: Plan to fall up the hill and remove the first 32 ft.
#72 is 46" DBH, 250 ft. tall: Plan to remove lower 100 ft. to clear recreation area.
#78 is 22" DBH, 165 ft. tall: The lower 50 ft. will be removed to clear the recreation area.
#36 is 28" DBH, 180 ft. tall: The lower 32 ft. of each will be removed to discourage firewood theft.
#37 is 32" DBH, 180 ft. tall: The lower 32 ft. will be removed to discourage firewood theft.
#41 is 16" DBH, 90 ft. tall: The lower 32 ft. will be removed to discourage firewood theft.

Loon Lake trees: #112 is 42" DBH, 245 ft. tall: Remove 110-140 ft, depending upon breakage.
#102 is 44" DBH, 213 ft. tall: Remove 100 ft. to clear recreation area.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance Review This project is tiered to and in conformance with the *Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Revision of the Resource Management Plans of the Western Oregon Bureau of Land Management Districts* (USDI BLM 2008) and its *Record of Decision/Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan* (USDI BLM 2008).

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s) for Administratively Withdrawn Areas:

The management objectives and management direction for areas of critical environmental concern, recreation sites/facilities, and special status species are addressed in the *Resource Programs* section of this resource management plan (pg.31).

Maintain recreational developments, including sites and trails (pg.49).

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 11.9C.(2):

Sale and removal of individual trees or small groups of trees which are dead, diseased, injured, or which constitutes a safety hazard, and where access for the removal requires no more maintenance to the existing road.

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 Appendix 2 apply.

A summary of the extraordinary circumstances is listed below. The action must have a significant or a disproportional adverse effect on the listed categories to warrant further analysis and environmental review.

| <u>Extraordinary Circumstances</u> | <u>Applies (Yes/No)</u> | <u>Comments¹ and Source²</u> | <u>Initials</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| (1) Health & Safety Hazardous Materials | No No | Reviewed by Hazardous Materials Coordinator; | <u>JG</u> | <u>02/09/2009</u> |
| (2) Unique Resources | No | Reviewed by Port-Orford-Cedar Coordinator | <u>MC</u> | <u>2/17/09</u> |
| (3) Controversial Effects | No | | | |
| (4) Risks | No | | | |
| (5) Precedent | No | | | |
| (6) Cumulative | No | | | |
| (7) Cultural & Historic | No | Reviewed by Archaeologist | <u>SPB</u> | <u>2-9-08</u> |
| (8) T & E Species | No | Reviewed by Wildlife Biologists, Fisheries, and Botanist | <u>JTR</u> <u>SA</u> <u>WLS</u> | <u>2/10/09</u> <u>2/9/09</u> <u>2-9-09</u> |
| (9) Violate Laws | No | Hazard trees | <u>EM</u> | <u>2/18/08</u> |
| (10) Environmental Justice | No | Reviewed by Environmental Justice Coordinator | <u>SPB</u> | <u>2-9-08</u> |
| (11) Native American Religious Concerns | No | Reviewed by District Native American Coordinator | <u>SPB</u> | <u>2-9-08</u> |
| (12) Noxious Weeds | No | Reviewed by Noxious Weed Coordinator | <u>MC</u> | <u>2/17/09</u> |

D. Signature

Authorizing Official: _____ Field Manager: Adeline Jensen Date: 2/24/09

E. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact : Janis Lloyd, Loon Lake Park Manager, Coos Bay BLM District, 1300 Airport Ln., North Bend, OR 97459, 541-751-4241.

¹ Indicate applicability if the exception.
² List data source on which exception determination is based.

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Decision Record for Categorical Exclusion DOI-BLM-OR-C030-2009-0002-CX

Decision:

It is my decision to implement removal of the hazard trees at Loon Lake Recreation Area, as described in CX OR12; 516 DM 11.9c.

Decision Rationale:

The proposed action has been reviewed by Resource Area Staff and appropriate project Design Features as specified will be incorporated into the proposal. Based on the NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review, I have determined that the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further analysis is required.

Signature of Authorizing Official:



Field Manager

Date: 2/24/09

Administrative Remedies:

Notice of the forest management decision to be made on the action described in this categorical exclusion will be posted on the District internet website. The action is subject to protest under 43 CFR section 4.450-2. A decision in response to a protest is subject to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals under 43 CFR part 4.