

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. OR090-00-07

KLINE CREEK BRIDGE REPAIR

I. PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

Location: The bridge crossing Esmond Creek and known as Road No. 19-8-16.1. The location is T.19 S., R.8 W., Section 16, SW 1/4.

The proposed action would replace the existing wood crib abutments with concrete abutments. The existing wood abutment has deteriorated from wood rot, thus adversely affecting the bridge load capacity. The existing abutment presents a safety issue that will only increase as the abutment further deteriorates. This project is planned for FY2000.

The proposed action is tiered to and in conformance with the "Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl" (April 1994), the "Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan" (June 1995).

II. PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

A. Proposed Action and Design Features

The proposed action would replace the existing wood crib abutments with concrete abutments. This work would involve removing the bridge off of the wood crib abutments and removing the existing abutments. New concrete abutments will be formed and poured in place. The bridge would then be reset on the new abutments.

1. Construction of the bridge abutments would be limited to periods of dry weather, between July 1st and September 15th.
2. To help minimize the spread of noxious weeds, cleaning of heavy equipment prior to entering BLM land would be required.
3. To help maintain the existing native plant communities, roadsides would not be seeded with non-native species mixtures. If deemed necessary for erosion control, areas would be seeded with an annual (70%) and perennial (30%) rye mixture with strict guidelines

on seed purity (little crop content and no noxious weed content).

4. No equipment would be allowed to enter or cross Esmond Creek. Silt fencing shall be utilized to prevent any sediment from entering the stream.
5. In the event that Special Status or Survey & Manage Species are located during surveys, strategies or mitigation will be developed and implemented according to Federal policies.

B. Alternatives

The no action alternative would be to not replace the bridge abutments.

III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The proposed project is located within a BLM controlled road right-of-way on private land in the SW 1/4 of Section 16, T.19 S., R.8 W.. The area to be impacted is restricted to the existing road right-of-way. The proposed project is located within the Upper Siuslaw Watershed.

Soils

The proposed action is within an existing road prism. Soil resources would not be adversely affected by this action.

Wildlife

The project area is not within 0.25 mile from any habitat considered suitable for any terrestrial species proposed or listed under the Endangered Species Act. No activity centers are located within one mile of the project site.

Aquatic and Riparian Resources and Fisheries

Kline Creek has populations of coho salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout and resident non-salmonids, particularly lamprey and sculpin. Esmond Creek has the same populations as Kline Creek, as well as chinook salmon, shiners and dace. Salmon, steelhead and trout use both Esmond Creek and Kline Creek for rearing, spawning and as a migration route.

Botany

An in-season botanical survey would be conducted in May, 2000, prior to ground disturbing activities.

Because the proposed project area is within the immediate road prism, and thus has a history of past disturbance, it was determined to not contain suitable habitat for Survey and Manage fungal species. Thus, no fall or winter surveys would be conducted specifically for these species.

Threatened, endangered, or special status species

The coho salmon is a federally listed species. Rearing juvenile coho may be present during the proposed work period.

The Kline Creek Bridge crosses the stream at a location where no Douglas-fir trees are within approximately 100 feet or more. If the project does not impact any conifer trees either by directly removing them or disturbing the canopy, then no surveys for red tree voles are necessary. Likewise, if the removal and replacement of the culvert on Kline Creek does not involve "extensive fill" and the fill is stored in a location which is already disturbed (i.e. spur road or landing), then no surveys for survey and manage terrestrial mollusks are required

Cultural Resources

A cultural resource inventory of the project areas has not been completed. The chances of finding cultural resources in the project areas are small. The guidelines of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Bureau of Land Management and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer (December 13, 1994) makes the conclusion "that the chances of finding important historical properties in the area are such that further cultural resource survey prior to project implementation are so minimal that they do not justify the continued expenditure of Federal funds in this effort".

Recreation

The project is in the Coast Range Resource Area's Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). Recreation activities are of a dispersed nature. The bridge repair is also located on private land outside of BLMs recreation management jurisdiction. BLM roads crossing this bridge extend approximately 2 mile before dead ending.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

A. Unaffected Resources

The following resources are either not present or would not be affected by the Proposed Action:

- A. Cultural Resources and Native American Religious Concerns.
2. Wild and Scenic Rivers, Wilderness, or Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.
3. Farmlands
4. Hazardous or Solid Wastes
5. Low income and minority populations.
6. Threatened or endangered species
7. Air Quality and Water Quality (Surface and Ground)
8. Invasive Non-Native Plants
9. Flood plains, Wetlands and Riparian Zones

B. Affected Resources

Aquatic and Riparian Resources and Fisheries

Proposed design features would reduce the potential for sediment to enter the stream. Based upon observation during similar projects, fish in Esmond and Kline Creeks would not be expected to be adversely affected by the proposed action.

Botany

Given the design feature as stated in Item II, para. A (2,3), the Proposed Action would have a minimal adverse impact to the existing plant community.

Cultural Resources

No cultural resources are expected to be affected. The guidelines of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Bureau of Land Management and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer (December 13, 1994) makes the conclusion "that the chances of finding important historical properties in the area are such that further cultural resource survey prior to project implementation are so minimal that they do not justify the continued expenditure of Federal funds in this effort".

Threatened, Endangered, or Special Status Species

Proposed design features will limit the potential for channel disturbance and potential sediment from entering the stream. Based on observations at previous projects of a similar type, any juvenile coho salmon in Esmond or Kline Creek would not be adversely affected by the proposed action.

Regarding terrestrial species listed under the Endangered Species Act; this action would have "No Affect", since no suitable habitat for those species would be modified. Additionally, no activity centers for such species are located within mile of the proposed project.

No habitat for "Survey and Manage" wildlife would be affected by this project.

Recreation

The Proposed Action would affect access by closing two miles of the road system behind the bridge for approximately 1 month.

V. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

A. LIST OF PREPARERS

The following BLM resource specialists have examined the Proposed Action and provided either written or verbal input utilized in this assessment:

Dan Crannell	BLM Wildlife Biologist
Neil Armentrout	BLM Fisheries Biologist
Mike Southard	BLM District Archaeologist
Graham Armstrong	BLM Hydrologist
Saundra Miles	BLM Recreation Planner
Kathy Pendergrass	BLM Botanist
Gary Hoppe	BLM Planner/Environmental Coordinator
Gerald Russell	BLM Civil Engineer
Eric Meyers	BLM Civil Engineer Technician

B. Agencies, groups and individuals consulted

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - The project was determined to have “No Affect” on any listed species, therefore no formal consultation was required.

National Marine Fisheries Service - Based upon discussions with the Level 1 Coast Province Team, this action would be determined to not affect the federally listed coho salmon.

VI. REFERENCES

USDA, Forest Service and USDI, Bureau of Land Management. February 1994. *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*. Washington D.C.

USDA, Forest Service and USDI, Bureau of Land Management. April 1994. *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*. Washington D.C.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management. June 1995. *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*. Eugene District Office, Eugene, Oregon.

USDI, Bureau of Land Management and Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. 1998. Protocol Agreement.

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PRELIMINARY FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Environmental Assessment No. OR090-EA-00-07

PRELIMINARY FONSI:

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the proposed action will not have significant environmental impacts beyond those already addressed in the *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (April 1994) and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (June 1995), with which this EA is in conformance, and does not constitute a major federal action having a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement or a supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.