

United States
Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eugene District Office
Upper Willamette Resource Area

LANE COUNTY CULVERT REPLACEMENT

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Background:

The BLM, ODFW, and McKenzie Watershed Council identified fish barrier culverts and created a proposed priority list for culvert replacements in Lane County. It was determined that culverts on county roads were the highest priority due in part to their location lower in the McKenzie River sub-watersheds. BLM and McKenzie Watershed Council contracted with a professional engineer to design replacement culverts that would allow fish passage and meet the 100-year design flow criteria.

Proposed Action:

The BLM proposes to cooperate with Lane County in order to facilitate the replacement of identified existing culverts. BLM would transfer funds, as allocated by the Lane County Resource Advisory Committee, for materials and supplies needed for 5 culvert replacement projects. Lane County would remove, replace, or modify the existing culverts with the County providing personnel time and equipment costs.

Three upper Mohawk River locations (T15S R01W Secs 23 and 24) would be replaced in FY2004 and Parsons Creek (T16S R02W Sec 10) and Toms Creek (T16S R02E Sec 34) culverts potentially in FY2005. The 5 culverts identified were determined to be insufficiently sized to handle 100-year stream flow events and were fish passage barriers for most fish life-history stages.

Work would be limited to the existing county rights-of-way with equipment use on the existing road surface. Culvert replacement timing would correspond with ODFW in-water work timing guidelines.

Rationale

The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion as described in the Department Manual (516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4 (G, 2) and does not meet any of the exception criteria. The proposed action is 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 and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*, June 1995. Culvert replacement actions were programmatically consulted upon for effects to Upper Willamette River spring Chinook

salmon (*Biological Assessment for Programmatic USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management Activities Affecting Upper Willamette Steelhead trout and Chinook Salmon within the Willamette Province (above Willamette Falls), Oregon*) and are consist with the re-issuance of incidental take for the Biological Opinion covering the programmatic actions in the Upper Willamette Province (September, 2001) and Essential Fish Habitat consultation (April, 2001).

/s/ Mark D'Aversa 04/13/04
Preparer

/s/ Christie Hardenbrook 04/13/04
Environmental Reviewer

/s/ Emily Rice 04/13/04
Field Manager

AFFECTED RESOURCES:

/s/ Mark D'Aversa 04/13/04
Fishery Biologist

/s/ Paula Larson 04/13/04
Wildlife Biologist

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW
Exception Criteria Review Checklist

Lane County Culvert Replacement CE-04-21

Review the proposed action against each of the ten criteria listed below. If the project meets one or more of the criteria, it is an exception from categorical exclusion and MUST be analyzed in an EA or EIS. To qualify as a Categorical Exclusion the proposed action may not meet any of the criteria. If the criterion does not apply, indicate "Not Applicable." Any mitigation measures (such as contract stipulations or terms and conditions on permits) necessary to ensure that the proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion should be identified at the bottom of the page.

<u>Exception Criteria</u>		<u>Comments</u>
1.	Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety	No
2.	Have adverse effects on unique resources (i.e., parks, recreation, refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, wetlands, floodplains, etc.)	No
3.	Have highly controversial environmental effects	No
4.	Have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks	No
5.	Establish a precedent that could result in significant impacts	No
6.	Be directly related to other actions having cumulatively significant effects	No
7.	Have adverse effects on cultural or historical resources	No
8.	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed as threatened or endangered or have adverse effect on designated critical habitat for these species.	No /s/ MSD 04/13/04 Fish /s/ PL 04/13/04 Wildlife
9.	Require compliance with E.O. 11988 (floodplain management), E.O. 11990 (protection of wetlands), or the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act	No
10.	Threaten to violate Federal, State, Local or Tribal law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment	No
11.	Would not be in compliance with State wide BMP	No
Mitigation measures needed to qualify as CE: None		

Reviewed By: /s/ Christie Hardenbrook

Date: 04/13/04

Above mitigation measures have been adopted and will be implemented.

Area Manager: /s/ Emily Rice

Date: 04/13/04