RECORD OF PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION

CX Log #: OR-014-CX-03-15  Lease or Serial #: NA
Project Name: Dixie Plantation Pruning
Applicant:  Location: 41S-05E-15
Address:  County: Klamath County
BLM Office: Lakeview District, Klamath Falls Field Office  Phone #: 541-883-6916

Description of the Proposed Action: The project is a 40 year old pine plantation of approximately 160 acres. On 110 trees per acre, all limbs below 9' in height would be cut flush with the main stem. Purpose is to reduce the occurrence of knots, and improve the future value of wood products from the plantation. Cutting would be done by a crew using hand saws. Half the area would be pruned in 2003, the rest in 2004. (This area was also slashbusted two years ago).

PLAN CONFORMANCE

The above project has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with one or more of the following BLM plans or NEPA analyses (reference appropriate section/pages of the plan):


Reviewer: Kathy Lindsey  Date: 9/30/03

IDENTIFICATION OF EXCLUSION CATEGORY

The proposed action has been identified as a categorical exclusion under
Bureau of Land Management Categorical Exclusions (516 DM 6, Appendix 5)/C-4.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further analysis or documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM2, Appendix 1, 1.12. The application of this categorical exclusion is appropriate, as there are no extra ordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action would not create adverse environmental effects or trigger any of the following exceptions (516 DM 2, Appendix 2; IM No. OR-2002-130).

Will the proposed action:

Yes  No  Exception

( ) (X)  1. Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?

( ) (X)  2. Have significant, adverse effects on unique geographic characteristics or features, or on special designation areas such as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; or prime farmlands? This also includes ecologically significant or critical areas,
such as significant caves, ACECs, National Monuments, WSAs, RNAs, and those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks.

3. Have highly controversial environmental effects (40 CFR 1508.14)?

4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks?

5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?

6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but significant cumulative environmental effects? This includes connected actions on private lands (40 CFR 1508.7 and 1508.25(a)).

7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? This includes Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, or historic properties.

8. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed as Federally Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species? This includes impacts on BLM-designated sensitive species or their habitat. When a Federally listed species or its habitat is encountered, a Biological Evaluation (BE) shall document the effect on the species. The responsible official may proceed with the proposed action without preparing a NEPA document when the BE demonstrates either 1) a “no effect” determination or 2) a “may effect, not likely to adversely effect” determination.

9. Fail to comply with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (water resource development projects only)?

10. Violate a Federal, State, Local, or Tribal law, regulation or policy imposed for the protection of the environment, where non-Federal requirements are consistent with Federal requirements?

11. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E)) not already decided in an approved land use plan?

12. Have a disproportionate significant adverse impacts on low income or minority populations; Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice)?

13. Restrict access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites; Executive Order 13007 (Indian Sacred Sites)?

14. Have significant adverse effect on Indian Trust Resources?

15. Contribute to the introduction, existence, or spread of: Federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act); or invasive non-native species; Executive Order 13112 (Invasive Species)?

16. Have a direct or indirect adverse impact on energy development, production, supply, and/or distribution; Executive Order 13212 (Actions to Expedite Energy-Related Projects)?
DOCUMENTATION OF RECOMMENDED MITIGATION

For any item checked "Yes" identify the mitigating measures proposed. If no mitigating measures are identified that can prevent the potential adverse impacts, the conditions for a categorical exclusion cannot be met.

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<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Can Be Mitigated</th>
<th>Cannot Be Mitigated</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures</th>
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SURVEYS AND CONSULTATION

Surveys and/or consultation may be needed for special status plants and animals, for cultural resources, and other resources as necessary: (Initial and Date appropriate fields)

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<th>Surveys:</th>
<th>1) are completed</th>
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<th>3) are not needed</th>
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(SS = Special Status)

Remarks:

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS and CX DETERMINATION

The proposed action has been reviewed against the criteria for an exception to a categorical exclusion (listed above) as identified in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, and does not fall under any exception. The proposed action would not create adverse environmental impacts or require the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS) and is therefore, categorically excluded from NEPA documentation.

Prepared By:                   
(Name)/(Title)                  
9/30/03

Reviewed By:                   
Kathy Lindsey / Writer-Editor  
(Name)/(Title)                  
9/30/03

Approved By:                   
(Name)/(Title)                  
7/20/03