

Worksheet

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

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Note: This worksheet is to be completed consistent with the policies stated in the Instruction Memorandum entitled “Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Adequacy” transmitting this worksheet and the “Guidelines for Using the DNA Worksheet” located at the end of the worksheet. (*Note: The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM’s internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision.*)

A. BLM Office: Klamath Falls Resource Area, Lakeview District

Lease/Serial/Case File No. OR-014-DNA-02-01

Proposed Action Title/Type: Lower Spencer Creek Road Treatments

Location of Proposed Action:

The proposed actions would occur in the northern portion of the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed EA analysis area (the portion of the analysis area that is within the Spencer Creek watershed).

T 38 S, R 6 E, sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35
T 39 S, R 6 E, sections 4, 5, 6

Also see attached map.

Description of the Proposed Action:

This document presents the program of work for road management actions within the northern portion of the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed analysis area for fiscal years 2002 and 2003. Additional road management actions may occur in the future.

The objectives of the proposed action are to reduce open road densities and improve water quality in Spencer Creek and Miners Creek.

The following descriptions define the scope of the proposed treatments. The proposed action generally follows these definitions, but there are some minor modifications due to specific conditions on the ground.

- “Decommission” means that the road would be closed to motor vehicles on a long-term basis, but may be used again in the future. The road would be prepared to avoid future maintenance needs and would be left in an “erosion-resistant” condition by establishing cross drains and removing road fill from stream channels and potentially unstable areas. Ditch-relief culverts would generally not be removed. The road would be barricaded. Slash would be placed on the road surface or small diameter (< 6” DBH) trees would be felled onto the road. Although the road bed would not be ripped and conifers would not be planted, some seeding of herbaceous species could occur.

- “Full decommission” means that the road would not be open to motor vehicles in the future. The road would be barricaded. Slash would be placed on the road surface or small diameter (< 6” DBH) trees would be felled onto the road. The road surface could be ripped, and some minor recontouring could occur. Ditch-relief culverts would be removed and trees, shrubs, or grass could be planted on the road surface.
- “Obliterate” means that the natural contours of the land would be restored. This action would be similar to “full decommissioning,” except that more extensive recontouring would occur.
- “Improve” means that the road could be resurfaced, drainage features could be enhanced, or both.

The proposed action would:

- Decommission up to 9 miles of road on BLM and UST land.
- Fully decommission up to 5 miles of road on BLM and UST land.
- Obliterate up to 1 mile of road on BLM-administered land.
- Construct up to 0.5 miles of new road on BLM-administered land to maintain access into areas where roads within riparian areas would be fully decommissioned or obliterated.
- Improve up to 2 miles of road on BLM-administered land.
- Additionally, existing gates that are in poor condition will be repaired or replaced.

See the attached map for the location and type of proposed actions.

Applicant (if any): N/A

B. Conformance with one or more of the following Land Use Plans (LUPs) and/or Related Subordinate Implementation Plans:

Name/Date of Plans: Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) ROD/Standards and Guidelines (1994); Klamath Falls Resource Area ROD/RMP (1995)

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

XX **The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions) and, if applicable, implementation plan decisions:**

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) is described in the Northwest Forest Plan. The ACS provides management direction to “reduce existing system and non-system road mileage within key watersheds (NFP ROD page B-19).” Additionally, the NFP states that watershed restoration “should focus on removing and upgrading roads (NFP ROD page B-33).”

The KFRA ROD/RMP is tiered to the Northwest Forest Plan. The KFRA ROD/RMP discusses road management objectives and management direction on pages 71-73. This discussion specifically mentions the use of a variety of types of road closures (administrative use, permanent closure, obliteration) and of road improvements to meet management objectives.

As Spencer Creek is a Tier 1 key watershed, it is clear that the proposed action is consistent with the NFP and the KFRA ROD/RMP.

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

The proposed action is addressed on pages 5, 12, 25, and 26 of the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed Environmental Assessment (OR014-96-02) (1996) and in the Spencer Creek Watershed Analysis (1995, pages 3-6, 4-145 to 4-148, 4-153, and 5-43 to 5-44).

Other documentation relevant to the proposed action includes the Western Oregon Transportation Management Plan (1996), the Weyerhauser Watershed Analysis (1994), the Spencer Creek Road Inventory Interim Results and Progress Report (2002), and the 1998 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality 303(d) list.

The BLM is authorized through Section 124 of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act of 1997 (known as the “Wyden Amendment”) to enter into watershed restoration and enhancement agreements that restore and maintain fish, wildlife, and other biotic resources on private land to benefit these resources on public land within the watershed. The intent of this project is to partner with US Timberlands to reduce road densities and sediment delivery to Spencer Creek and its tributaries.

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 set of proposed actions is substantially the same as the project design features discussed on pages 25 and 26 of the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed EA. Additionally, the proposed action would help reduce open road densities to 1.5 miles per square mile (KFRA RMP page 71).

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?

Yes. Within several sections of the KFRA RMP/EIS and the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed EA, the current proposed action is addressed with respect to environmental concerns, interests and resource values.

3. Is the existing analysis adequate and are the conclusions adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (including, for example, riparian proper functioning condition [PFC] reports; rangeland health standards assessments; Unified Watershed Assessment categorizations; inventory and monitoring data; most recent Fish and Wildlife Service lists of threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species; most recent BLM lists of sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?

Yes. A road inventory for the entire Spencer Creek watershed was completed in 2001. The data from the road inventory suggests that the extent and condition of the road network is contributing to runoff and sediment generation. Some of the roads that will be decommissioned, obliterated, or improved in the proposed action are near streams; currently, runoff and sediment from these roads is delivered to streams. The proposed action would improve watershed conditions by reducing the impact of these and other roads.

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

Yes. Both the KFRA ROD/RMP and the Lower Spencer Creek EA are relatively recent NEPA documents.

5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document sufficiently analyze site-specific impacts related to the current proposed action?

Yes. The Lower Spencer Creek Watershed EA analyzed the effects of the proposed action on a range of resources.

6. Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

Yes. Both the KFRA ROD/RMP and the Lower Spencer Creek EA addressed the cumulative impacts of reducing the length of the open road network.

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

Yes. The proposed action would affect a relatively minor portion of the road network within the area included within the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed EA.

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Resource(s)</u> <u>Represented</u>
Mike Turaski	Hydrologist	Hydrology, Riparian
Brian McCarty	Civil Engineer	Engineering
Mike Bechdolt	Forester	Forestry
Gayle Sitter	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife
Greg Reddell	Forester	Silviculture
Joe Foran	Fuels Mgmt. Specialist	Fuels, Fire
Scott Senter	Recreation Planner	Recreation

F. Mitigation Measures:

The mitigation measures identified in the 11/18/1997 Record of Decision for the Lower Spencer Creek Watershed EA will be incorporated as appropriate/necessary. The Best Management Practices described in the KFRA ROD/RMP (pages D-13 to D-21) will be implemented.

Required cultural, botany, and survey and manage surveys will be completed prior to any ground disturbance.

All cultural resources will be marked in the field prior to the start of the project and all project activities shall avoid disturbance to these resources. If project activities result in the discovery of new cultural resources, all ground disturbing activities shall cease and the KFRA Archeologist shall be notified. Resumption of activities in that area will be allowed only after all mitigation fieldwork has been conducted.

The use of subsoiling or ripping equipment will be done in a manner that minimizes the potential for damage to the root systems of live trees. The extent and/or depth of soil ripping might be limited in certain areas, in order to (1) prevent accidental mortality of trees, (2) prevent unnecessary soil disturbance, and/or (3) to prevent mortality of established shrubs and grasses.

All vehicles and equipment will be cleaned off prior to operating on BLM lands. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.

Noxious weeds in the immediate area of operations shall be mowed to ground level prior to the start of project activities.

All equipment and vehicles operating off of main roads shall be cleaned off prior to leaving the job site when the job site includes noxious weed populations. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.

Road graders used for road construction or maintenance would grade towards any known noxious weed infestations. If no good turn around area exists within one half mile that would allow the operator to grade towards the noxious weed infestation, then the operator would leave the material that is being moved within the boundaries of the noxious weed infestation.

KFRA botanists will ensure that road cinder is free of noxious weeds before cinder is collected (for future "recycling") from roads that are to be fully decommissioned or obliterated.

CONCLUSION

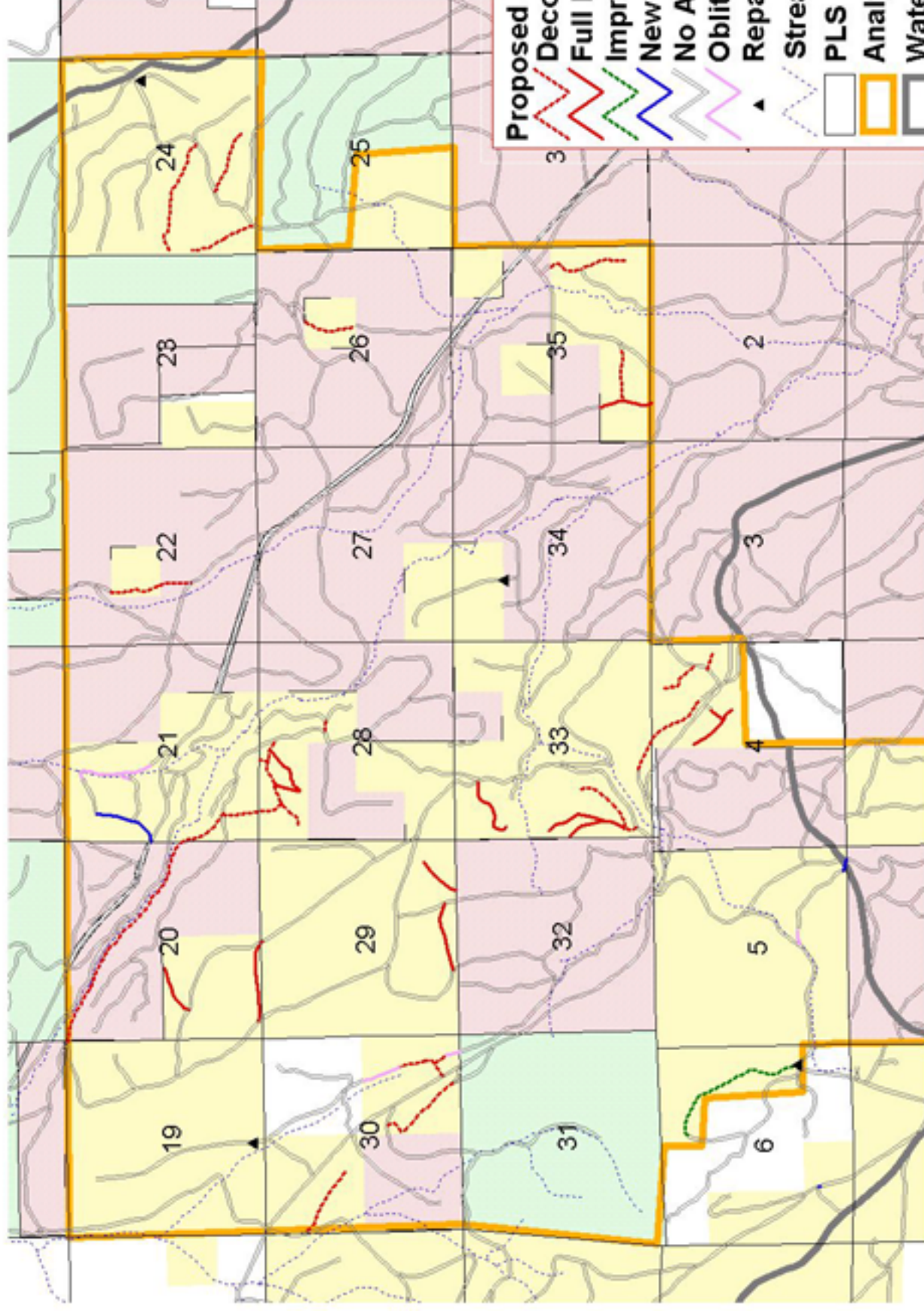
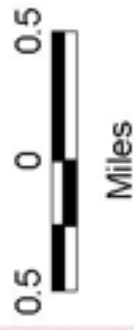
Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Note: If one or more of the criteria are not met, a conclusion of conformance and/or NEPA adequacy cannot be made and this box cannot be checked.

/ Teresa A. Raml /
Signature of the Responsible Official

June 12, 2002
Date

Lower Spencer DNA



- Proposed Actions**
- Decommission (Red dashed line)
 - Full Decommission (Red solid line)
 - Improve (Green dashed line)
 - New Road (Blue dashed line)
 - No Action (Grey dashed line)
 - Obliterate (Purple dashed line)
 - Repair Gates (Black dashed line)
 - Streams (Black dotted line)
 - PLS Sections (White box)
 - Analysis Area (Orange box)
 - Watershed Boundary (Grey box)
- Ownership**
- BLM (Yellow box)
 - USFS (Green box)
 - US Timberlands (Pink box)

Lower Spencer DNA - Proposed Action

Klamath Falls Resource Area Project Proposal Routing Slip for Internal Review

Project Name: LOWER SPENCER ROAD TREATMENTS DNA-DT-D1
 Date Initiated: 5/1/2002

Resource or Staff Responsible	Review Priority	Preliminary Review Date/Initials	Comments Attached/Incorporated	Final Review Date/Initials
Manager: Teri Raml	Last			TR
Branch Chief: Barbara Ditman	Second to Last			
Branch Chief: Larry Frazier	Second to Last	LF 5/20/02	See comments on post-it notes	LF 6/7/02
Branch Chief: Mel Crockett	Second to Last			
Planner/EC: Don Hoffheins, Kathy Lindsey	Third from Last	KL 5/20/02	(covered by other specialists)	KL 5/30/02
Range: Bill Lindsey Range: Dana Eckard	N/A			
Wild Horses: Tonya Pinckney	N/A			
Fire/Air Quality: Joe Foran	JMF	JMF 5/1/02		5/5/02 JMF
Silviculture: Bill Johnson, Gabi Sommerauer	BS	BS 5/13/02	BS 5/29/02	BS 5/29/02
Timber: Mike Bechdolt	MB	MB 5/7/02	see 3 attached comments - structure	MB
Botany/ACEC//Noxious Weeds: Lou Whiteaker		LW 5/6/02	add weed prevention PDFs and/or strips (will email)	LW 5/29/02
Soils: Jannice & Mike Cutler	N/A			
Cultural: Tim Canaday		TC 5/20/02	comments incorporated	TC
Minerals/HazMat: Tom Cottingham	N/A			
Lands/Realty: Linda Younger	N/A			
Recreation/Visuals/Wilderness : Scott Senter		VSS 5/10/02	no comments	VSS 5/29/02
Hydrology/Riparian: Mike Turaski, Andy Hamilton		MRT 5/1/02	no comments VSS	MRT 5/29/02
Wildlife/T&E: Gayle Sitter		GS 5/6/02		GS 5/29/02
Fisheries/T&E: Scott Snedaker	N/A			
W/S Rivers: Grant Weidenbach	N/A			
Engineering: Brian McCarty				BMC
Clearances/Surveys	Needed	Done/Attached	*This document will not sit on your desk for more than 8 hours. Please check on calendar to make sure that the next person will be available to review the document. **Some resource areas may not apply for all projects. If so, just mark "N/A" in "Review Priority" column.	
Cultural	5/20/02 TC Portion of Non-Bum in-kin Sec. 20 needs survey	see map		
Botanical	No 5/6/02			
T&E, BA & or Consultation	No 5/6/02			
R-O-W Permits				