

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Coeur d'Alene District, Idaho

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation**  
**Oregon State University Field Camp**

**Office:** Cottonwood Field Office

**NEPA Register No.** BLM-ID-C020-2012-0011-CX

**Subject Code/Case File No.:** 8100

**Location:** Idaho County, Idaho; Bug Slope – Salmon River  
Boise Meridian, T. 30 N., R. 1 W, Section 25

**Description of the Proposed Action**

Oregon State University (OSU) proposes to use an area on Bug Slope for a field camp annually from about mid-June through mid-August over the next four years. The OSU field camp is associated with archeological fieldwork elsewhere on BLM under an existing assistance agreement to determine site characteristics, chronological placement, geomorphic setting, and overall data potential. The field camp will host about 25 people for an 8 week period. Water will be transported to the site. Placement and use of portable toilets will be required and grey water will be disposed of off-site. There will be no open fires and all cooking will be done with portable stoves. Vehicles will be parked on site. The grass in and around the camp will be cut to reduce fire risk. The campsite will not be used during the period of previously authorized grazing use. The existing barbed wire gate will be kept closed at all times and will be replaced with a Powder River style gate if necessary. After each year's camp annual rye grass seed will be distributed in areas where there was the most use.

**Land Use Plan Conformance**

This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the Cottonwood Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved December 21, 2009. The proposal is associated with and consistent with the following decision(s) from the RMP:

**Action CR-1.3.1**—" ... Information needed to better allocate resource use categories includes site characteristics, chronological placement, geomorphic relationships, and overall data potential. Methodology to collect such information may include but not be limited to detailed photography, intensive mapping, excavations, geomorphic analysis, and other forms of analyses." [Page 35]

**Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

The proposed action is excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with the BLM categorical exclusion (CX) established in 516 DM 11.9 J(4) for "Use of small sites for temporary field work camps where the sites will be restored to their natural or original condition within the same work season." Application of this CX is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 exist.

**Conclusion**

In reviewing the proposed action, I considered that it would meet the needs of the public for collecting information, and that the use of the public lands for the field camp incorporates measures common for

this type of authorization. The use has little or no impacts on natural resources, and therefore does not warrant further review through an EA or EIS.

**Decision**

It is my decision to proceed with permitting use of the area for a field camp to Oregon State University.

Authorizing Official:     /signed by/      
Will Runnoe, Field Manager

Date:     5/18/2012    

**Contact:** For additional information, contact David Sisson, Archeologist, 208-962-3782.

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation -- Extraordinary Circumstances Review**  
**Oregon State University Field Camp**

NEPA Register No: DOI- BLM-ID-C020-2012-0011-CX

CX Reference No: 516 DM 11.9 J(4)

<i>The following must be answered negatively before the CX may be approved</i> (43 CFR 46.215)	<b>No</b>	<b>Reviewer</b>
<i>Will this project</i> have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?	<b>X</b>	<b>DS</b>
<i>Will this project</i> adversely affect such unique geographic characteristics as:		
historic or cultural resources;	<b>X</b>	<b>DS</b>
park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers;	<b>X</b>	<b>JO</b>
sole or principal drinking water aquifers;	<b>X</b>	<b>CAJ</b>
prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988);	<b>X</b>	<b>CAJ</b>
or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department of the Interior's National Register of Natural Landmarks?	<b>X</b>	<b>DS</b>
<i>Will this project</i> have highly controversial environmental effects (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	<b>X</b>	<b>LW</b>
<i>Will this project</i> have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	<b>X</b>	<b>LW</b>
<i>Will this project</i> establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	<b>X</b>	<b>LW</b>
<i>Will this project</i> be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?	<b>X</b>	<b>DS</b>
<i>Will this project</i> have adverse affects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?	<b>X</b>	<b>DS</b>
<i>Will this project</i> have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Threatened or Endangered Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	<b>X</b>	<b>CAJ</b>
<i>Will this project</i> threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	<b>X</b>	<b>LW</b>
<i>Will this project</i> have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations? (Executive Order 12898 -- Environmental Justice)	<b>X</b>	<b>LW</b>
<i>Will this project</i> limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites? (Executive Order 13007 – Sacred Sites)	<b>X</b>	<b>DS</b>
<i>Will this project</i> contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species? (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, Executive Order 13112)	<b>X</b>	<b>LD</b>

**Reviewers and Comments: DOI- BLM-ID-C020-2012-0011-CX**

<b>Specialist</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Date</b>
Archeologist	David Sisson	Project Lead: NEPA Project created and scoping initiated	1/18/2012
Archeologist	David Sisson	Cultural survey/NHPA section 106 consultation - Coordination with Idaho SHPO	1/24/2012
Archeologist	David Sisson	Tribal Coordination - Letter sent to Nez Perce Tribe	1/18/2012
Archeologist	David Sisson	Letter to Kent Rad, Grazing Lessee, requested input on project	2/3/2012
Rangeland Mgmt. Spec.	Dean Huibregtse	Met with Kent Rad, no issues identified with the proposal	2/28/2012
Realty Specialist	Jeff Cartwright	Informed adjacent apiary site permit holder of proposal to seek input from him.	3/12/2012
Natural Resource Spec.	Lynn Danly	Weed Risk rating is low. Project is currently in a weed control site and will be inventoried post project for establishment of new invaders which will be treated if found. Prevention measures are part of proposal.	4/06/2012
Biologist	Craig Johnson	<i>"No effect"</i> determination was made for ESA-listed plants. A <i>"no effect"</i> determination is concluded for Northern Idaho ground squirrel and lynx. A <i>"no effect"</i> determination is concluded for ESA-listed fish and designated critical habitat. <i>"No impact"</i> to proposed, candidate, and sensitive species.	4/19/2012
NEPA Coordinator	Lorrie West	LUP Conformance & applicable CX confirmation	5/17/2012