

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

Categorical Exclusion Documentation

North Idaho College Signs

Office: Coeur d'Alene, Field Office

NEPA Register No. DOI-BLM-ID-C010-2013-0001-CX

Project Name: NIC Signs

Case File No.: IDI-37440

Location: Kootenai County, Idaho; within the abandoned BNRR corridor.

Boise Meridian, T. 50 N., R. 4 W., section 14 tract 44.

Description of the Proposed Action

Northern Idaho College has submitted an application to install 3 monument signs within the abandoned BNRR corridor. Two at the corner of River Ave & NW Blvd (one on each side of River Ave.) and a V-shaped sign slightly west of Hubbard St, where the retaining wall is located. Retaining wall would be removed and the hill would be sloped. None of the trees will be removed and signs currently located within the corridor would be removed.

Land Use Plan Conformance

In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), this proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the Coeur d'Alene Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved June 2007. It is consistent with the following land and realty decisions from the RMP, page 58:

Goal LR-1- Meet the public needs for use authorizations such as rights-of-way, leases, and permits when such needs are consistent with other resources values.

Objective LR-1.1- Issue use authorizations consistent with other resource values.

Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, CX No. 12, which is for "Grants of right-of-way wholly within the boundaries of other compatibly developed rights-of-way". Application of this categorical exclusion 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 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, exist.

In reviewing the proposed action, and based on the information contained in the project file, there is no potential for significant effects.

Signature

Authorizing Official: /s/ Kurt Pavlat
Kurt Pavlat, Field Manager

Date: November 30, 2012

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Janna Paronto, Realty Specialist at (208) 769-5037.

Extraordinary Circumstances Review
NIC Signs – IDI-37440

NEPA Register No: DOI-BLM-ID-C010-2013-00001-CX

CX Reference: 516 DM 11.9, CX E. 12.

The BLM has reviewed the proposed action to determine if any of the following extraordinary circumstances exist, as listed in the Departmental NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46.215).

(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: Janna Paronto

/s/ Date: November 29, 2012

(b) Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation --Historic or cultural resources:

Specialist Name, Title: David Sisson, Archeologist

/s/ Date: November 12, 2012

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation – Park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks, monuments, or other ecologically significant or critical areas (ACEC or RNA):

Specialist Name, Title: Kurt Pindel, Recreation Planner

/s/ Date: November 12, 2012

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation – Drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains:

Specialist Name, Title: Mike Stevenson, Hydrologist

/s/ Date: November 12, 2012

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation – Migratory birds:

Specialist Name, Title: Carrie Hugo, Wildlife Biologist

/s/ Date: November 28, 2012

(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: Janna Paronto, Realty Specialist

/s/ Date: November 29, 2012

(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: Janna Paronto, Realty Specialist /s/ *Date:* November 29, 2012

(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: Janna Paronto, Realty Specialist /s/ *Date:* November 29, 2012

(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: Janna Paronto, Realty Specialist /s/ *Date:* November 29, 2012

(g) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: David Sisson, Archeologist /s/ *Date:* November 26, 2012

(h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation – Plants:

Specialist Name, Title: LeAnn Abell, Botanist /s/ *Date:* November 9, 2012

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation – Wildlife:

Specialist Name, Title: Carrie Hugo, Wildlife Biologist /s/ *Date:* November 28, 2012

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation – Fish:

Specialist Name, Title: Cindy Weston, Fisheries Biologist /s/ *Date:* November 26, 2012

(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: David Sisson, Archeologist /s/ *Date:* November 26, 2012

(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898).

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: Janna Paronto, Realty Specialist /s/ *Date:* November 29, 2012

(k) 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 (EO 13007).

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation:

Specialist Name, Title: David Sisson, Archeologist /s/ *Date:* November 26, 2012

(l) 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 and EO 13112).

Yes ___ No X

Comments/Explanation: There are no weed issues regarding the proposed action. The signs will be located in an urban, landscaped area where ongoing grounds-keeping and maintenance will occur. While there are noxious weeds in adjacent areas including spotted knapweed, meadow hawkweed, and common tansy, these species are unlikely to successfully invade the project area.

Specialist Name, Title: Doug Evans, NRCS

/s/ *Date:* November 29, 2012