

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Idaho Falls District – Salmon Field Office  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

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**CX Number:** DOI-BLM-ID-I040-2013-0010-CX

**Title of Action:** Disco Hill Trail Run

**Preparer:** Liz Townley, Outdoor Recreation Planner

**Date of Preparation:** July, 2013

**PROPOSED ACTION:**

The Bureau of Land Management Salmon Field Office received a request from Bonnie Torgenson to hold a competitive road and trail running event in the Discovery Hill Area. The Discovery Hill Trailhead would be used as the staging area and the race start and finish line. The race course would be between 3 and 10 miles depending on age and ability and would be located on existing roads and trails within the permitted area (see map, Appendix A). If the race exceeds 50 participants additional outhouses would be required. The event would be limited to 100 participants and 175 spectators. The race would be an annual event held between the dates of September 1 to November 1 and would be valid for 10 years. The permittee would notify the BLM of the race date and course six weeks in advance of the event.

As per H-2930-1, the permittees would have to obtain event insurance and comply with all standard SRP stipulations (Appendix C) in addition to the follow stipulations that arose as a result of the scoping process:

1. A parking plan would be developed and approved by the BLM within 4 weeks of the event.
2. The permittee would address the potential user/safety conflict with the hunting season through signage, flagging, outreach, etc.
3. Racers shoes, clothing, and official race vehicles must be weed free.

On site monitoring of special recreation permits occur at random to ensure that stipulations are being met.

**CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION:** The public was notified of the proposed project through the electronic BLM E-Planning Database in June of 2013. This web-based database allows interested persons to read about upcoming projects on line. The Salmon-Challis National Forest and Idaho Fish and Game were were consulted on May 17<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposed action. Comments received are reflected in the proposed action and stipulations.

**FINDING OR RECOMMENDATION:** The proposed action is categorically excluded as outlined in 516 DM 11.9 (H)(1): *Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use, or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging areas acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.*

None of the extraordinary circumstances listed in the Departmental NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46.215) apply.

LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE STATEMENT: The proposed action is in conformance with the Lemhi Resource Management Plan April 1987, as amended (2001) because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Allowable Uses (Pg 38.): Any valid use, occupancy, or development of the public lands that conforms to the RMP will be considered. Those uses, including rights-of-way, leases, and permits will be subject to environmental review.

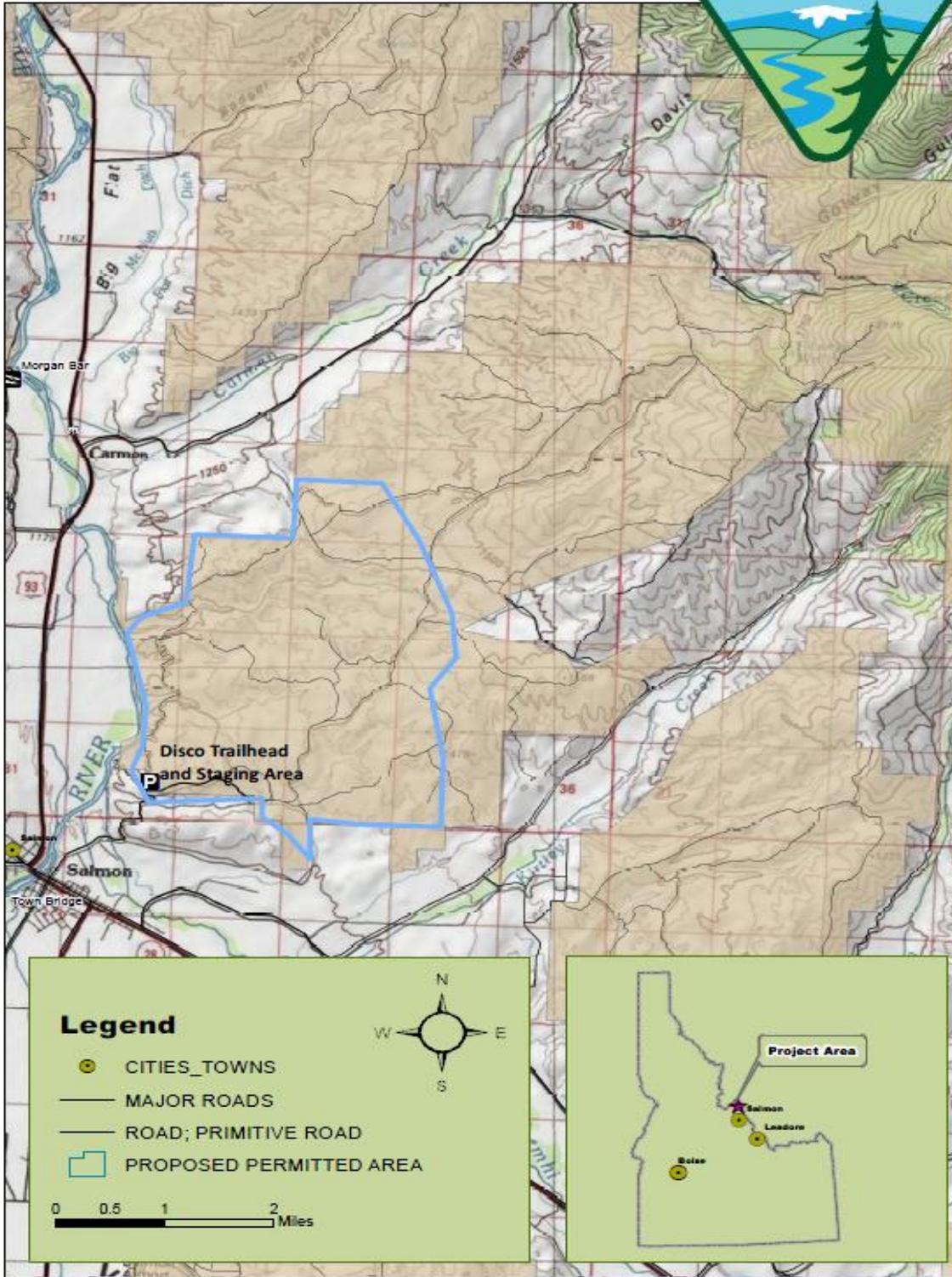
Recreation Opportunities (Pg 54.): A broad range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided for all segments of the public, depending on demand.

/s/ Elizabeth Townley 10/1/2013  
Preparer signature and date

/s/ Linda Price 10/22/2013  
NEPA Reviewer signature and date

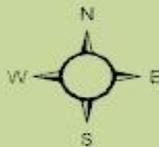
APPENDIX A

# Disco Hill Trail Run SRP



## Legend

- CITIES\_TOWNS
- MAJOR ROADS
- ROAD; PRIMITIVE ROAD
- PROPOSED PERMITTED AREA



0 0.5 1 2 Miles



## APPENDIX B

### Extraordinary Circumstances Requiring the Preparation of an EA or EIS

The action described in categorical exclusion (CX) # DOI-BLM-ID-1040-2013-0010-CX has been reviewed to determine if any of the following extraordinary circumstances listed below apply, as listed in the Departmental NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46.215).

DM #	Extraordinary Circumstance
2.1	Have significant impacts on public health or safety
2.2	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 (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.
2.3	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].
2.4	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
2.5	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
2.6	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
2.7	Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.
2.8	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.
2.9	Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
2.10	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).
2.11	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).
2.12	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of

DM #	Extraordinary Circumstance
	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 Executive Order 13112).

## APPENDIX C

### A. General Stipulations:

- 1) Permittees and their clients will not damage, destroy, disturb, or remove Native American or other cultural properties and heritage resources. These resources are protected under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. The Act provides civil and criminal penalties for individuals who would damage archaeological sites and/or collect artifacts. Any cultural or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by any person working on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer.
- 2) All Permittees agree to make all relevant permit books and support records available to the BLM or other Federal Agencies authorized to review BLM's permitting activities. All such Permittee records will be furnished upon request as outlined in 43 CFR 8372.5.
- 3) Issuance of a Special Use Permit by BLM does not establish nor imply recognition of any claimed historical use rights by an operator or the public. Public lands will be available to users on a first come, first served basis. Unless an allocation system is implemented for an area, other commercial users and private individuals alike may use all public lands.
- 4) Permittees are responsible for all actions of their employees and customer on both public and private lands.
- 5) BLM has no authority to permit or regulate recreation use of non BLM lands (i.e., private, state, U.S. Forest Service, etc.) unless provided for by agreement.
- 6) Permittees and their clients will not interfere with other valid existing uses occurring on public lands such as livestock grazing and other recreational uses.
- 7) No one shall intentionally or wantonly destroy, deface, remove, or disturb any public building, sign equipment, marker, or other government property, cultural site, historic structure, natural feature of land, vegetation or wildlife except as legally taken.
- 8) The authorized officer of BLM reserves the right to close various sites and/or areas of public lands to prevent resource damage and use conflicts, and to promote visitor safety.
- 9) No language in any permit will be construed as a license for the Permittee and/or his/her

clients to use areas on the public lands which are otherwise restricted or closed (e.g., off road vehicle closures, special designations, etc).

10) Failure to meet the terms and conditions of any Special Recreation Permit may result in suspension, cancelation or revocation. The BLM may also refuse to issue a permit to the holder of a permit so cancelled in subsequent years.

11) Permittee shall not enclose or block roads or trails open to public use.

12) This permit may be terminated or canceled in the event that no use is reported for two consecutive boating seasons/years.

#### B. Sanitation and Aesthetics

1) Permittees shall guard the purity of streams and living waters. No waste or byproducts shall be discharged if they contain any substances in concentrations that would result in substantial harm to fish and wildlife, or to human water supplies, including live streams, lakes and reservoirs.

2) All garbage and rubbish of any kind will be packed out.

3) The Permittee shall protect the scenic and aesthetic values of any area under permit and the adjacent land, insofar as practical while exercising privileges granted during the permitted operation.

#### C. Fire Protection

1) Permittees may be held responsible for fire suppression costs resulting from wildfire caused by them, individuals under their employment, or customers and participants.

2) Wildfires discovered should be reported immediately to the nearest BLM office. The Permittee is responsible for keeping all customers, participants and employees informed of and compliant with current fire danger restrictions and required precautions that maybe placed into effect by BLM or the State of Idaho.

#### D. Insurance and License Requirements:

1) The Permittee will name the United States Government, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service as additionally insured, solely as respects liability arising from operations of the named insured (Permittee). The minimum insurance requirements are: \$1,000,000.00 per annual aggregate and \$500,000.00 per occurrence. This coverage shall extend to property damage, bodily injury, or death arising out of the Permittee's operations under the permit, including, but not limited to, the occupancy or use of the lands, structures, facilities, or equipment authorized by this permit.

2) The Authorized Officer will be notified at least 30 days prior to termination or

modification of the insurance policy.

- 3) The time period for insurance must match the time period of the permit; for multi year outfitters, the insurance need only be valid during periods of actual use.
- 4) This permit is valid only as long as the Permittee has a current Idaho Outfitters and Guides License, current proof of insurance, and in good standing.

#### E. Risks, Hazards and Safety

- 1) Hazards related to climate, topography and terrain, waters, vegetation and wildlife, and manmade features are found on public lands and present risks which the Permittee assumes. The Permittee shall be responsible for inspecting sites, trails, roads, rivers and other authorized use areas for dangers and hazardous conditions, ensuring awareness by employees and clients of such risks and hazards, and promoting safe practices at all times.
- 2) Adequate first aid and safety equipment shall be provided while performing the permitted activities.
- 3) All guides and employees responsible for clients in the field shall be trained in First Aid and CPR, and hold a valid certification of training from the American Red Cross or its equivalent.
- 4) In case of human death, or wildfire, involving the permitted operation, the Lemhi County Sheriff shall be notified immediately, and the Bureau of Land Management, Salmon Field Office shall be notified immediately after the Sheriff is notified.
- 5) The Permittee shall notify the BLM as soon as possible of any accidents involving the permitted operation which result in loss of consciousness, injuries disabling individuals in excess of 24 hours, and injuries requiring search and rescue response. The Permittee shall submit a detailed written report to the BLM within 10 days from the date of the accident/event.

Salmon Field Office  
Decision Record for the Categorical Exclusion:  
DISCO HILL TRAIL RUN  
DOI-BLM-ID-I040-2013-0010-CX

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**Decision:**

It is my decision to approve and implement the Disco trail Run permit as described below.

The Bureau of Land Management Salmon Field Office received a request from Bonnie Torgenson to hold a competitive road and trail running event in the Discovery Hill Area. The Discovery Hill Trailhead will be used as the staging area and the race start and finish line. The race course will be between 3 and 10 miles depending on age and ability and will be located on existing roads and trails within the permitted area (see map, Appendix A). If the race exceeds 50 participants additional outhouses will be required. The event will be limited to 100 participants and 175 spectators. The race will be an annual event held between the dates of September 1 to November 1 and will be valid for 10 years. The permittee will notify the BLM of the race date and course six weeks in advance of the event.

As per H-2930-1, the permittees will obtain event insurance and comply with all standard SRP stipulations (Appendix C) in addition to the following stipulations that arose as a result of the scoping process:

1. A parking plan must be developed and approved by the BLM within 4 weeks of the event.
2. The permittee will address the potential user/safety conflict with the hunting season through signage, flagging, outreach, etc.
3. Racers shoes, clothing, and official race vehicles must be weed free.

On site monitoring of special recreation permits occur at random to ensure that stipulations are being met.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Salmon Field Office, Lemhi Resource Management Plan 1987, as amended.

**Land Use Plan Conformance**

Land Use Plan Name: Lemhi Resource Management Plan

Date Approved: April 1987, as amended.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Allowable Uses (Pg 38.): Any valid use, occupancy, or development of the public lands that conforms with the RMP will be considered. Those uses, including rights-of-way, leases, and permits will be subject to environmental review.

Recreation Opportunities (Pg 54.): A broad range of outdoor recreation opportunities will continue to be provided for all segments of the public, depending on demand.

**Scoping and Public Involvement:**

The public was notified of the proposed project through the electronic BLM E-Planning Database in June of 2013. This web-based database allows interested persons to read about upcoming projects on line. The Salmon-Challis National Forest and Idaho Fish and Game were consulted on May 17<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposed action. Comments received are reflected in the proposed action and stipulations.

**Rationale For Decision:**

This action meets the qualifications of a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9 H. Recreation: Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.

**Protest and Appeal:**

This is a full force and effect action pursuant to 43 CFR §2931.8(b)

All decisions BLM makes under this part will go into effect immediately and will remain in effect while appeals are pending unless a stay is granted.

The authorized officer's decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed in this office (at the above address) within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error. If no appeal is taken, this decision is final.

Approved By:     /s/ Linda Price      
Linda R. Price  
Salmon Field Manager

    10/22/2013      
Date