

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
FOUR RIVERS FIELD OFFICE

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Dolven Right-of-Way Amendment for Road Re-alignment
DOI-BLM-ID-B010-2013-0039-EA

I have reviewed the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (CEQ) for significance (40 CFR 1508.27) and have determined the actions analyzed in EA# DOI-BLM-ID-B010-2013-0039-EA would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This finding was made by considering both the context and intensity of the potential effects, as described in the above EA, using the following factors defining significance:

1) Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.

The environmental assessment considered both beneficial and adverse impacts of the proposed action. Authorizing the proposed amendment to the right-of-way for an existing driveway at this site would help mitigate erosion by reducing the grade of the road. The impacts to the surrounding hillsides would include some minor re-contouring and vegetation restoration to accommodate the proposed re-alignment. Adverse impacts to the surrounding landscape would be temporary and minor in scope. Anticipated long-term results would include natural rolling terrain re-contouring and native vegetation to all disturbed areas apart from the road surface and borrow ditch.

2) The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.

The proposed action would slightly improve the existing driveway to county road standards which would increase the ease for emergency vehicles to access the private residence. There would be no adverse impacts to public health or safety from the proposed action or action alternative.

3) Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

No unique characteristics would be in proximity of the proposed action area; therefore, none would be affected.

4) The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

Amending this access right-of-way to allow for an improved driveway that has a reduced grade would have negligible impact on the human environment and is uncontroversial.

5) The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

The analysis identified no effects on the human environment which would be highly uncertain or involve unknown risks as a result of this action.

6) *The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.*

The action would conform to all federal law, regulations and policy and the BLM regularly evaluates road access rights-of-way across public lands. Amending this right-of-way with terms and conditions that sustain the resources in the area would not set a precedent for future actions that have significant effects. As described in the EA, the action is consistent with decisions and direction established in the 1988 Cascade Resource Management Plan.

7) *Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.*

This EA considered potential cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action and Action Alternatives and concluded that implementation would not cause significant cumulative effects on resources.

8) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific or cultural resources.*

Documented archaeological and historical surveys indicate that the proposed action would cause no loss or destruction of scientific or cultural resources.

9) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.*

Surveys were performed for T&E species and their habitat across the area of the right-of-way. No threatened or endangered species were located or known to inhabit the project area; therefore no adverse effects are anticipated to T&E species.

10) *Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, and local laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.*

The EA has reviewed the relevant environmental resources that would most likely be impacted from the proposed action and action alternatives. The environmental consequences from the proposed action and action alternatives indicate both would pose no threat to the environment or violate Federal, State, and Local laws for the protection of the environment.

/s/ Terry A. Humphrey
Terry A. Humphrey
Four Rivers Field Manager

12/2/2013
Date