

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**  
**Deer Parks Wildlife Mitigation Unit 2014 Projects and Restrictions**  
**Environmental Assessment # DOI-BLM-ID-I010-2014-0008-EA**

Based upon a review of the *Deer Parks Wildlife Mitigation Unit 2014 Projects and Restrictions*, Environmental Assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-ID-I010-2014-0008-EA, I have determined that the proposed action would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity as defined under Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations at 40 CFR 1508.27, therefore an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This finding is based on the context and intensity of impacts as identified in the EA and referenced below.

**Context**

The seven (7) management actions involve increasing wildlife food plots, improving wildlife habitats, making more efficient use of irrigation water, protecting an eroding streambank, and making it easier to enforce public use restrictions within the WMU. These actions affect approximately 75 acres for specific actions, and the management restrictions affect the entire 3054 acres of the entire Deer Parks WMU Complex. These public lands administered by the BLM are in Jefferson and Madison Counties, Idaho. The disclosure of effects in the EA found the actions limited in both scale and potential at the local and regional level.

**Intensity**

The following is based on significance criteria described in 40 CFR 1508.27

*Impacts that may be both beneficial and/or adverse:*

Impacts associated with the actions are discussed in Chapters 3 of the EA. None of the environmental effects are considered to be adversely significant.

*The degree to which the proposed action affects health or safety:*

There are very few known public health or safety issues associated with the actions. Making Butte Slough accessible to motorized watercraft always can present risks to the public recreationist.

*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:*

The status of these unique resources is documented in Table 1 of the EA. Where present and impacted by the actions, the effects are documented in Chapters 3. No adversely significant impacts were identified.

*The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial:*

The actions and associated effects are routine in nature within USDI-BLM. IDFG has already completed public scoping during the Deer Parks WMU Management Plan update, and the public provided ideas for management changes, but little controversy was generated.

*The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks:*

The actions and associated effects are routine in nature within USDI-BLM and no highly uncertain, unique, or unknown risks have been identified.

*The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration:*

The actions are within the scope of current regulations and are not expected to establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration.

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

Chapter 3 of the EA discusses cumulative impacts. No adversely significant cumulative impacts were identified.

*The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant, cultural, or historical resources:*

No adversely significant impacts were identified regarding the listed items.

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

Chapter 3 of the EA describes the effects of the actions on endangered or threatened species.

*Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment:*

The actions do not violate any known laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.

/s/ Jeremy Casterson

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