

Categorical Exclusion Review
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

North Fork Owyhee Wilderness Area Kiosk Permit

CE No.: DOI-BLM-ID-B030-2010-0020A-CX

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: IDI-36826

Purpose and Need for Action: On March 30, 2009, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 was signed into law. The act designated over 500,000 acres of public land as wilderness in Owyhee County. The 1964 Wilderness Act states "...these [areas] shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people... and so as to provide... for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness." BLM is proposing to install kiosks at several locations outside of the Big Jacks, Little Jacks, North Fork Owyhee, Bruneau-Jarbidge Rivers, and Owyhee River Wilderness areas to provide visitor information regarding these wilderness areas.

Description of Proposed Action: An interpretive kiosk for the North Fork Owyhee Wilderness Area will be installed along a main access road on land administered by the Idaho Department of Lands to provide information about the safe and appropriate use of the wilderness area. The kiosk would be placed outside of any rights-of-way, in a previously disturbed area where vehicles can safely and easily pull out. A permit for a 10' x 10' site would be acquired from the Idaho Department of Lands for the installation and maintenance of the kiosk.

Project Location: The kiosk would be located on State land at the junction of two major roads that lead toward the northern boundary of the wilderness. The kiosk would be placed on a 10' x 10' site in previously disturbed ground at the road intersection. As shown on the attached map, the proposed site is located in the SE¹/₄SE¹/₄ of Section 28, T. 8 S., R. 4 W., Boise Meridian, Owyhee County, Idaho, N. 45°39' W., a distance of 1,242 feet from the southeast corner of Section 28.

(Applicant (if any): Bureau of Land Management

Part I – Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is in conformance with the 1999 Owyhee RMP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):

Objective RECT 4: Provide for high quality recreational opportunities and experiences at developed and undeveloped suites by maintaining amenities...and by providing new recreation sites for the public's enjoyment, with emphasis on roaded natural and semi-primitive motorized settings.

Management Action 2: Construct additional recreation sites as public use levels increase:

- North Fork Owyhee Backcountry trailheads
- Other sites as may be appropriate

Remarks: The interpretive kiosk would provide valuable information for individuals proposing to recreate in the North Fork Owyhee Wilderness Area, and as such, meets the objectives of the Owyhee RMP.

Part II – NEPA Review

- A. Categorical Exclusion Review: This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9 G.(4).
- B. Category description: Placement of recreational, special designation, or information signs, visitor registers, kiosks, and portable sanitation devices.
- C. Exceptions Review (Departmental List of Extraordinary Circumstances Review): Review the 12 exceptions which apply to individual actions within categorical exclusion. Environmental documents (EA or EIS) must be prepared for any actions involving these exceptions.

List of Exceptions

1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Yes No Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ *Maile Adler* 5/14/10

Comments/Explanation: Based upon previous permits we have acquired for similar projects, we anticipate no significant impact to public health or safety. In fact, the kiosk sign contains information specifically intended to increase the safety of individuals who use the wilderness area, including emergency contact numbers, Leave No Trace principles, and location maps.

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; or ecologically significant or critical areas, or is not in compliance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.

Yes No Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ *Maile Adler* 5/14/10

Comments/Explanation: There would be no significant effects to the above resources as the subject area has been highly impacted for decades by vehicles. None of the referenced resources occur in the subject area.

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

Yes No Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ *Maile Adler* 5/14/10

Comments/Explanation: The potential impacts from the proposed action are negligible and are not controversial.

The action would not affect alternative uses of available resources.		
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Maile Adler</i> 5/14/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> Permits of this kind have been acquired from the State in the past for these kinds of activities with negligible environmental effects or risks.		
5. Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Maile Adler</i> 5/14/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> This proposal does not represent a decision in principle, nor is it linked to any known future actions.		
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Maile Adler</i> 5/14/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> This action is not associated with any other actions being considered in the area.		
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.		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Brian McCabe</i> 7/8/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> A cultural clearance was completed, with no listed properties or sites eligible for listing being identified.		
8. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date for Plants: /s/ <i>Beth Corbin</i> 6/7/10 Specialist Signature/Date for Wildlife: /s/ <i>Jason Sutter</i> 6/3/10 Specialist Signature/Date for Aquatics: /s/ <i>Jason Sutter</i> 6/3/10
Plants <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> No T&E or sensitive plants or their habitat exist in the project area.		
Wildlife <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> No T&E or sensitive animals or their habitat exist in the project area.		
Aquatics <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> No wetland or riparian areas occur in the affected area.		
9. Violate a Federal, State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Maile Adler</i> 5/14/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> This action will not violate any known law, regulation, policy, or other requirement.		
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Maile Adler</i> 5/14/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> There will be no adverse effect on any populations.		
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).		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Brian McCabe</i> 7/8/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> A cultural clearance identified no Indian sacred sites.		
12. 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 Executive Order 13112).		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specialist Signature/Date: /s/ <i>Lonnie Huter</i> 7/9/10
<i>Comments/Explanation:</i> Since the kiosk will be installed in a previously disturbed area, the proposed use would have no more influence on the introduction or spread of these plants than that which is already occurring as a result of the past vehicle traffic.		

I certify that none of the Departmental exceptions (Extraordinary Circumstances) listed in the above Part II (516 DM 2, Appendix 2) apply to this action; therefore, this categorical exclusion is appropriate for this situation.

Remarks:

Authorizing Official: /s/ David Wolf

Date: 8/5/10

Name: David Wolf

Title: Associate District Manager

Part III – Decision

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures either identified below or with the stipulation(s) described above.

Mitigation Measures/Other Remarks: None needed.

Remarks:

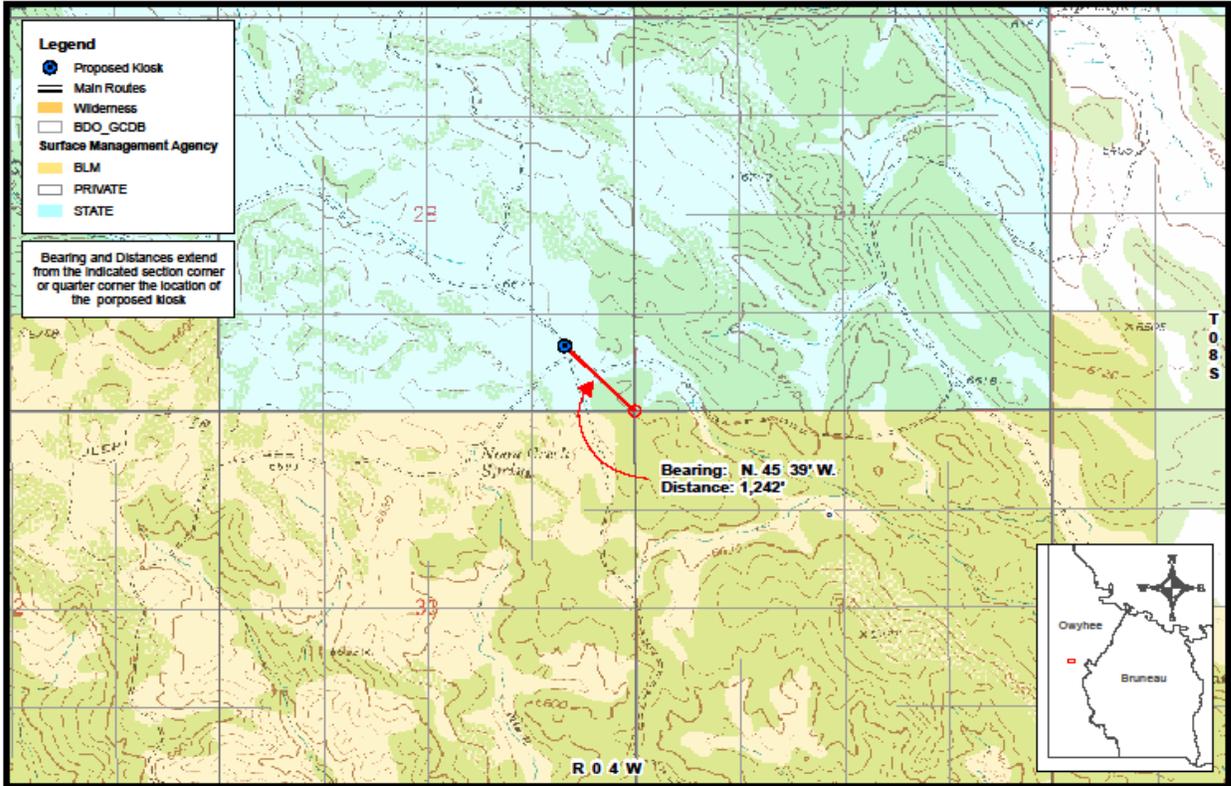
Authorizing Official: /s/ David Wolf

Date: 8/5/10

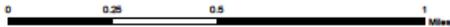
Name: David Wolf

Title: Associate District Manager

State of Idaho - Kiosk Easement



The sources of the data are from Idaho-BLM Corporate Data, and the USGS. 7/28/2010



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