

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

Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) Worksheet

Filly Thinning

DOI-BLM-ID-C010-2015-0012-DNA

A. Description of the Proposed Action

The BLM would conduct vegetation thinning on approximately 21 acres of public land located 8 miles northeast of Harrison Idaho. Hand cut and pile all understory vegetation (alive or dead) up to 9" Diameter at Breast Height (DBH); stumps and stobs created from severing will be less than 6 inches in height. In areas where trees greater than 9" DBH do not exist, favor the best leave tree using 16 X 16 foot spacing. Favor ponderosa pine, western larch, western white pine, and then Douglas fir tree species respectively. Cut all tree species including mountain maple and understory vegetation 9" Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) under drip line of existing old growth trees.

Leave all aspen, birch, and cottonwood species regardless of size class. Pile all slash between 0.25 and 7 inches in diameter. Slash less than 0.25 inch in diameter or greater than 7 inches in diameter shall be left on the ground to decompose.

B. Location

T. 48N, R. 3W, Sections 23 and 24, 8 miles northeast of Harrison, Idaho (Kootenai County)

C. 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 Management Plan (RMP), approved June 2007. It is consistent with the following decisions from the RMP:

Action VF-1.2.2, Action FW-2.1.3, Action FW-2.2.4, Action FW-2.2.6, Objective WF-1.5, Actions WF-1.5.2 and WF-1.5.3 and Objective WF-1.6.

D. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documents

The following NEPA document(s) covers the proposed action:
Filly Project Environmental Assessment, ID-410-2009-EA-3773 (May 2009)

E. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. *Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?*

Documentation of answer and explanation: The new proposed action is similar to the original proposed action analyzed in the EA. The new proposed action would treat a 21-acre footprint within the original thinning footprint. This proposed action would increase the maximum diameter of trees to be thinned by 3 inches (from 6 inches to 9 inches) in order to better meet the original purpose and need. The overstory would remain intact.

2. *Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?*

Documentation of answer and explanation: The EA analyzed the proposed action plus one action alternative as well as the no action. This new proposed action is very similar to the original proposed action and would not warrant a new alternative to be analyzed.

3. *Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?*

There is no new botanical or wildlife information or circumstance that invalidates the existing analysis. Based on the most recent Idaho BLM Special Status Plants List (2014), no threatened, endangered, or other rare plant species occur at the project site.

The recently updated BLM-sensitive species list contains an additional fish species that is found in the Coeur d'Alene River watershed, the cedar sculpin, *Cottus schitsuumsh*. This fish is newly discovered and was not included in the original analysis. However, the EA did analyze impacts on other fish species, including westslope cutthroat trout, which is also a BLM sensitive species. Environmental effects would be no different for the cedar sculpin than for westslope cutthroat trout, therefore the previous analysis is adequate.

4. *Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?*

Documentation of answer and explanation: Yes, the effects would be similar, both quantitatively and qualitatively to those analyzed in the EA.

5. *Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?*

Documentation of answer and explanation: Public involvement associated with the EA adequately covered this proposed action, as there are only slight modifications to the diameter of material to be cut on a portion of the original footprint. No issues or concerns were raised to warrant additional public involvement.

F. Persons/Agencies Consulted

During the initial project scoping (2008-2009) the following individuals or agencies were consulted:

Corey Inouye – Redhorse Mountain Ranch Manager
Kootenai County Wildland Urban Interface Committee –includes representatives from Kootenai County Office of Emergency Management, Local Fire Departments, Coeur d’Alene Tribal Representatives, Idaho Department of Lands, US Forest Service, Kootenai County Planning, Panhandle Area Council, University of Idaho Extension Office and City of Coeur d’Alene.

G. Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM’s compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

/s/

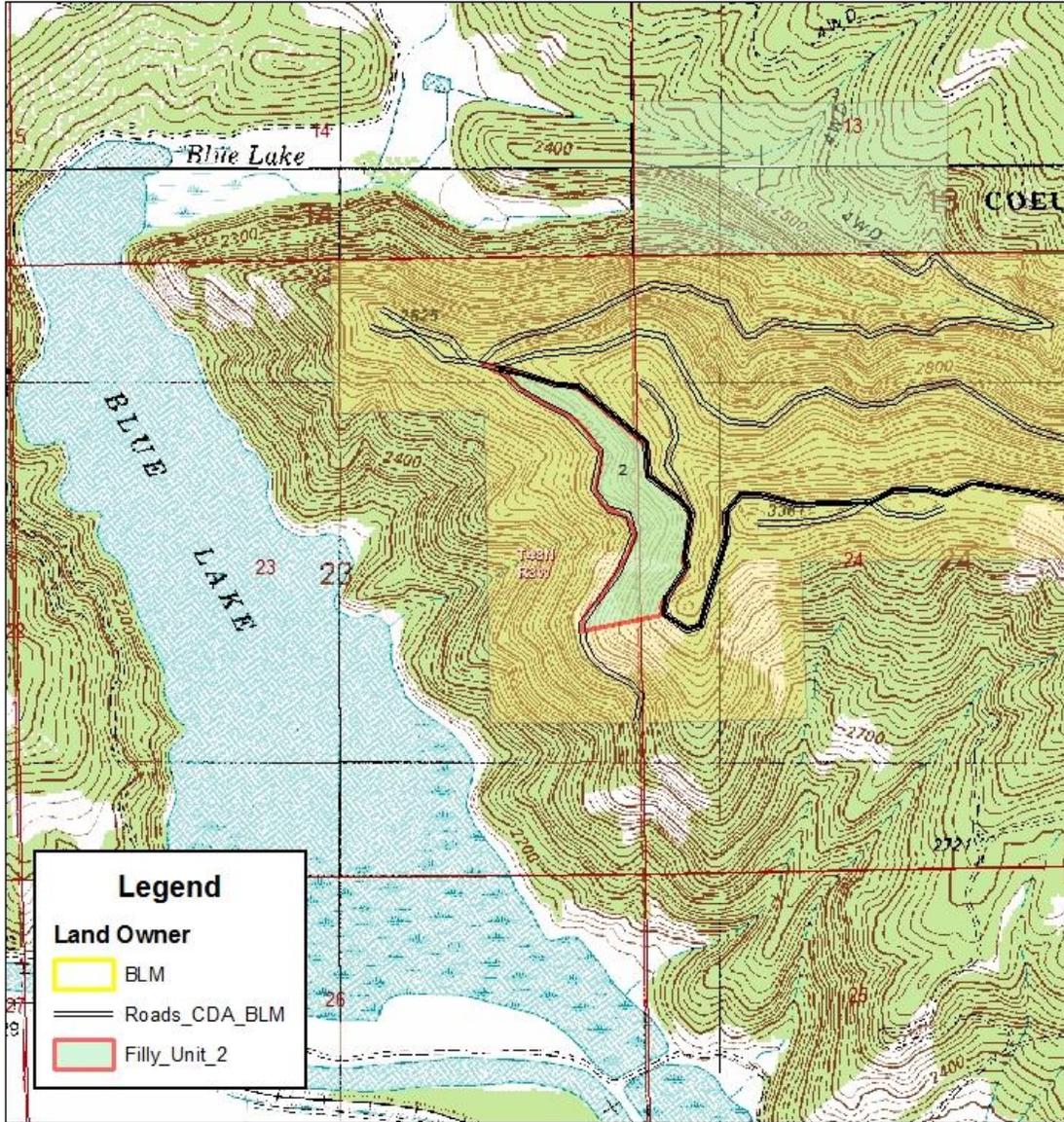
Kurt Pavlat
Field Manager

7/6/15

Date

Filly Project Area

Coeur d'Alene Field Office BLM



The surface management status ("land ownership") should be used as a general guide only. Official land records, located at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other offices, should be checked for up-to-date information concerning any specific tract of land.

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed. The following cannot be made Section 508 compliant. For help with its data or information, please contact the BLM Idaho State Office Webmaster at 208-373-4000.

1:14,708

Map Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N

Map Created: 7/1/2015