

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Coeur d'Alene Field Office  
3815 Schreiber Way  
Coeur d'Alene, ID

## **Categorical Exclusion Documentation**

Folsom Creek Culvert Replacement

DOI-BLM-ID-CO10-2015-0017-CX



## **1. Description of the Proposed Action**

The BLM proposes to replace an undersized 36-inch diameter culvert that conveys Folsom Creek under the Blue Creek Landing Road, near Coeur d'Alene, ID. From the landing road culvert Folsom Creek flows about 800 feet across a meadow to its confluence with Blue Creek. The new culvert would be a 48-inch-diameter pipe with a mitered inlet.

The Blue Creek Landing Road is unpaved and provides access to a BLM day use recreation site on Lake Coeur d'Alene. The existing culvert and road are located on BLM-managed land, though both are located within an easement maintained by the Eastside Highway District.

The existing culvert is prone to plugging at all runoff events exceeding about a 1.5-year recurrence interval, which results in frequent overtopping and scouring of the road surface. Folsom Creek is a heavily-impacted intermittent stream with a large sediment load due to upstream development and road encroachment. The project would involve installation of a larger, better aligned culvert with a mitered inlet to increase capacity and reduce the potential for culvert plugging. This would reduce road-related sediment impacts to water quality in Blue Creek as well as maintenance costs for the Eastside Highway District.

### **Location**

Kootenai County, Idaho, Boise Meridian  
T. 50 N., R. 3 W., Section 36

### **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:

List applicable RMP decisions:

Goal WA-1 - Maintain, improve or restore water quality to sustain designated beneficial uses on public lands.

Objective WA-1.3- Manage streams to maintain or restore designated beneficial use support status and, where feasible, achieve delisting of Clean Water Act 303(d) stream segments

Action WA -1.3.1- Cooperate with adjacent landowners, agencies, tribes, individuals, communities and municipalities to meet beneficial use criteria.

## **2. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with 516 DM 11.9. G. (2) Installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, water bars, gates, or cattle guards on/or adjacent to roads and trails identified in any land use or transportation plan, or eligible for incorporation in such plan.

Application of this categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix C, exist.

/s/

10/20/15

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Kurt Pavlat  
Field Manager

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Date

**Extraordinary Circumstances Review**  
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*The BLM has reviewed the proposed action to determine if any of the following extraordinary circumstances apply, as listed in the Departmental NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46.215).*

Extraordinary Circumstances	Applies
<p><b>2.1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> There will a minor improvement to public safety from reduced frequency of road washouts. CMS/9/15/15</p>	No
<p><b>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 (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> No adverse impacts to these resources would occur. Minor beneficial impacts to floodplains of Blue Creek would result from decreased sediment loading. CMS 9/15/15</p>	No
<p><b>2.3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> There would be no controversial environmental effects or unresolved conflicts anticipated from the proposed project. CMS 9/15/15</p>	No
<p><b>2.4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> There would be a reduction in adverse sediment delivery to Blue Creek from the proposed culvert replacement. CMS 9/15/15</p>	No
<p><b>2.5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> The proposed action does not set precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions. CMS 9/15/15</p>	No
<p><b>2.6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> The proposed action has no relationship with other actions. CMS 9/15/15</p>	No
<p><b>2.7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the Bureau or office.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i></p>	No
<p><b>2.8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of</b></p>	No

Extraordinary Circumstances	Applies
<p><b>Endangered or Threatened Species or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> There are no Federally protected terrestrial wildlife species within the project area, and there is no designated critical habitat for terrestrial wildlife species within the project area. –Carrie Hugo 09-29/15</p>	
<p><b>2.9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i></p>	No
<p><b>2.10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898).</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i></p>	No
<p><b>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 (EO 13007).</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i> None known in this area. <i>David Sisson, 12/23/13</i></p>	No
<p><b>2.12. 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 EO 13112).</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i></p>	No

**Project Location Map**

