

Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Salem District, Oregon

Vault Toilet Installation at the Fall Creek Trailhead
DOI-BLM-ORWA-S050-2016-0003-DNA

A. Background and Description of the Proposed Action

The purpose of this document is to determine whether existing environmental analysis in the Alsea Falls Recreation Area Management Plan Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2013-0001-EA) (EA) is adequate for the proposed project. The EA analyzed several actions to improve recreation and visitor experiences within the Alsea Falls Recreation Area. This area included the day-use area, campground, and trails across the byway. The management plan and decision included a number of components including campground expansion, restoration work, day use area modifications, and an overhaul of the trail system, focused around Fall Creek. The decision included an implementation schedule that prioritized actions over the next several years. The first five years of implementation included a number of actions related to the trail system.

The project will consist of installing a vault toilet at the Fall Creek trailhead parking area as analyzed in the EA. The project is expected to take up to one week to complete. To minimize impacts to visitors, construction will occur before the campground opens May 1. Paved access roads and gravel parking areas will be utilized to reduce the amount of disturbance. The majority of work will try to take place during a period of no rain to minimize any soil disturbance. The footprint of the new vault toilet will be approximately 21 feet by 14 feet. The vault toilet is expected to last at least 30 years and will comply with American Disability Act requirements for accessibility.

A map of the trailhead's location and a photo of the parking area are included at the end of this document.

Location: T. 14 S., R. 7 W., Sections 25, Willamette Meridian, Benton County, Oregon.

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans

The analysis documented in EA is site-specific and supplements analyses found in the *Salem District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement*, September 1994 (RMP/FEIS). The project was designed under the *Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*, May 1995 (RMP) and related documents which direct and provide the legal framework for management of BLM lands within the Salem District. All of these documents may be reviewed at the Salem District office.

This project conforms to the Salem District Resource Management Plan/Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as amended by the 2001 *Record of Decision and Standards and*

Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (2001 ROD), as amended.

The project is in conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

- Manage scenic, natural, and cultural resources to enhance visitor recreation experiences and satisfy public land users (RMP p. 41).
- Retain and maintain existing recreation developments consistent with other management actions/directions for Late-Successional Reserves and Riparian Reserves (RMP p. 42).

C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

Applicable NEPA Documents:

- Alsea Falls Recreation Area Management Plan Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2013-0001-EA) – October 2012

Other NEPA documents and other related documents that are relevant to the proposed action include:

- Salem District RMP – May 1995

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?

Yes, the proposed action was directly analyzed and would be completed as described and analyzed in the Alsea Falls Recreation Area Management Plan Environmental Assessment (pp. 29).

“Trailhead Parking Improvements and New Construction

The first phase of trailhead improvements would address the Fall Creek trailhead, off the 14- 7-25 road. The current trailhead is poorly signed and subject to rutting during the wet season. The existing site would require removal of debris, leveling and grading, and defining parking. An area appropriate for approximately seven to ten vehicles would be developed. Bulletin boards or kiosks would be installed to provide a trail system map, other pertinent user information, and house a fee tube. A restroom would be provided at the trailhead.”

Parking expansion at the Fall Creek trailhead occurred in 2015. This action would install a vault toilet in a portion of the expanded parking area, as indicated on the photo included in this document.

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

The EA analyzed the No Action and the Proposed Action alternatives. No other reasonable
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alternatives to achieving the purpose and need were identified by the Interdisciplinary Teams or the public. No new environmental concerns, interests, resource values, or circumstances have arisen since the EAs were published that would require the development of additional alternatives. A full description of the alternatives can be found in Chapter 2 of the EA (pp. 13-32).

3. Is the existing analysis adequate and are the conclusions adequate in light of any new information or circumstances? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?

Yes, the existing analysis is adequate. There is no new significant information or circumstances relative to the analysis in the EA or the current action. I find that this DNA is consistent with the original EA prepared for this project. Installing a vault toilet will not cause impacts or effects that were not analyzed in the EA.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the current proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

The EA analyzed direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the proposed action on affected resources (recreation, vegetation, air quality, soils, fuels, water and riparian, wildlife, fisheries, and visual resources). The project will adhere to best management practices and project design features in the EA to minimize the effects to the aforementioned resources. There are no substantial changes from those addressed in the analyses to the present.

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

Public involvement for the EA has been adequate. The BLM sent scoping letters in 2010 to 86 federal, state, and municipal government agencies, nearby landowners, tribal authorities, and interested parties. The BLM received 30 comments during this period.

The EA and FONSI were made available for a 30 day public review on October 9, 2012. The BLM received 13 comment letters on the EA. Comments were generally favorable for the plan and the proposed activities.

As described in the 2013 Decision Record (DR), the Alsea Falls Management Plan project employed a robust public participation strategy. Multiple open houses were held in 2010. Similarly, an open house was held in 2012 when the EA was released for public comment.

Since the 2013 DR was released, there has been close public involvement and coordination with the mountain bike community. This user group has donated over thousands of hours of volunteer time to support the trail development. User groups have demonstrated support for this action.

Consultation

As described in the 2013 DR, consultation was completed for this project for both fish and wildlife. This DNA does not introduce any factors that would trigger a re-consultation.

E. Interdisciplinary Review

Name	Resource
Dan Davis	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Jeff McCusker	Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner
Scott Hopkins	Wildlife
Douglass Fitting	Hydrology and Soils
Ron Exeter	Botany
Stefanie Larew	NEPA Coordinator

Prepared and Reviewed By

/s/ Dan Davis
Dan Davis
Outdoor Recreation Planner

March 1, 2016
Date

CONCLUSION

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

/s/ Paul Tigan
Paul Tigan
Marys Peak Field Manager

March 1, 2016
Date

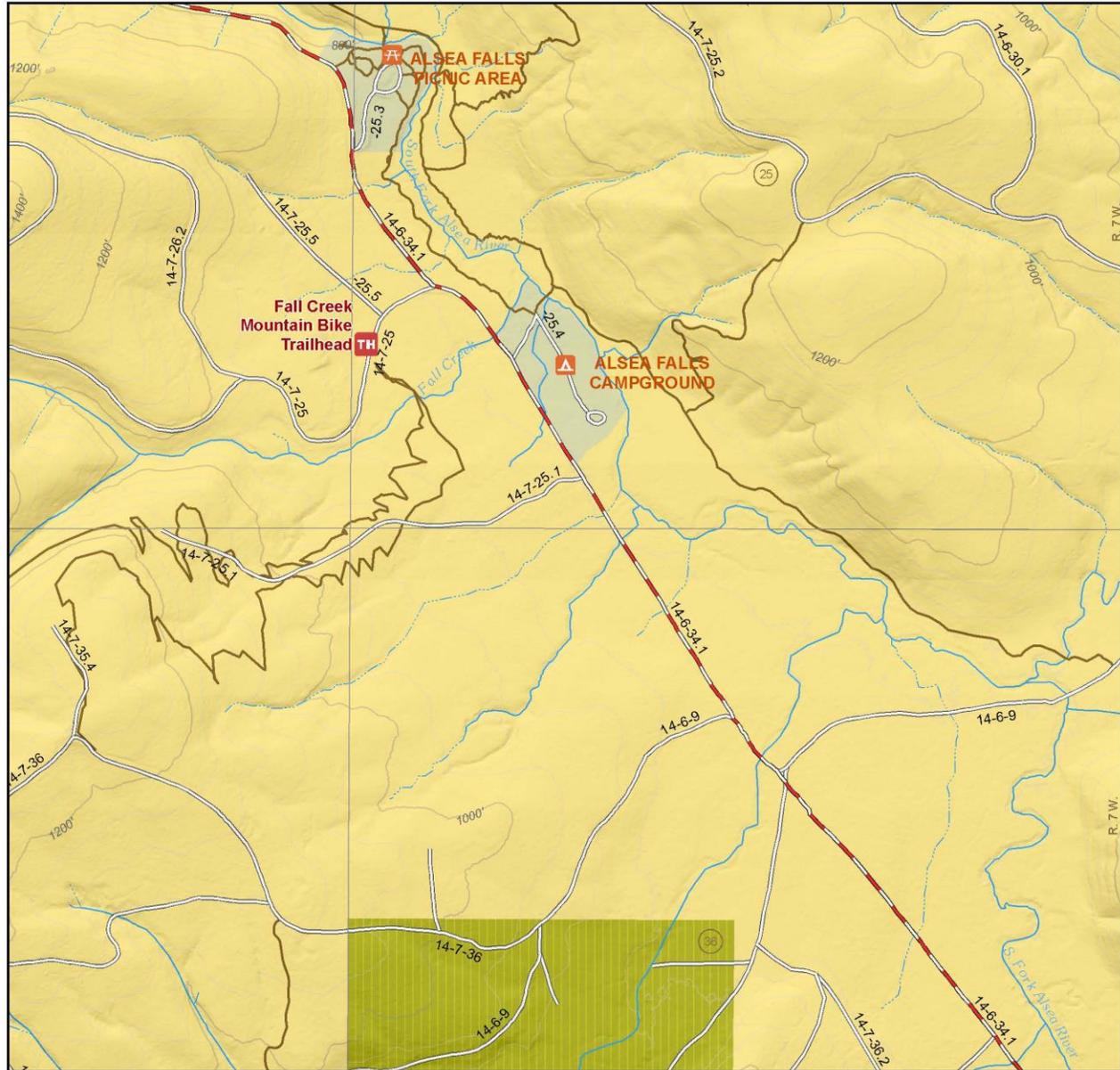


Photo of the parking area at the Fall Creek trailhead. The vault toilet will be installed in the northwest portion of the parking area (lower right of this photo).



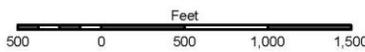
2/24/2016

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MARYS PEAK RESOURCE AREA PROJECT MAP
T14 R7 Section 25, 26, 35, 36, W.M. - SALEM DISTRICT - OREGON



- Fall Creek Trailhead
- Major Access Road
- Minor Road
- Recreation Trails
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- BLM Recreation Site
- Bureau of Land Management
- Weyerhaeuser Co

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