

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SALEM DISTRICT**

Categorical Exclusion Review

I. Background

BLM Office: Cascades Resource Area **Lease/Serial/Case File No:** N/A

Categorical Exclusion Number: DOI-BLM-OR-S040-2016-0004-CX

Date: December 15, 2015

Proposed Action Title/Type: Larch Mountain Vault Restroom Removal and Marmot Dam Vault Restroom Installation

Location of Proposed Action: Larch Mountain Environmental Education Site- T. 1 S., R. 5 E., Section 3; Marmot Dam- T. 2 S., R. 5 E., Section 13, Willamette Meridian, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties

Land Use Allocation(s): General Forest Management, Riparian Reserve

Description of Proposed Action:

In August 2008, the BLM Salem District Office (BLM) completed the Sandy River Basin Integrated Management Plan Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (SRBIMP) (EA# OR080-08-16). Within the SRBIMP, the Marmot Dam site (comprised of lands reverted back to the BLM after the Marmot Dam was decommissioned) was analyzed as a new recreation site. In order to meet the needs of increased recreational use and the objectives/goals under the SRBIMP, the BLM is proposing to remove the vault toilet at the Larch Mountain Scientific Environmental Education Research Area (Larch Mountain) and install it at the Marmot Dam site (see attached map).

In order to meet the management objectives at Larch Mountain, the BLM installed a 1,000 gallon, 8'6" x 16'8" vault toilet at the trailhead in 1995. Recently, a decrease in visitor use and an increase in maintenance needs at Larch Mountain have prompted the BLM to consider moving the vault toilet to a new location at Marmot Dam. Currently there is no toilet or portable toilet at the Marmot Dam location for recreationists who use the area. The vault toilet removal would meet the needs of the increased recreational use at Marmot Dam and the goals/objectives of the SRBIMP.

The vault toilet at Larch Mountain will be removed using a truck, trailer, and excavator. Upon removal of the tank, approximately five cubic yards of sand and gravel will be used to fill the hole which will be recompacted to six inches below grade. Topsoil will be used to fill the remainder of the hole. The hole will be filled with local gravel and compacted to prevent a weak area in the ground where a depression could be created if the soil and gravel settled improperly. The vault toilet will be loaded onto the truck and trailer using the excavator and transported 35 miles from Larch Mountain to Marmot Dam on the SE Larch Mountain, SE Loudon, SE Gordon Creek, and SE Bull Run Roads.

During the removal the Larch Mountain trailhead will be closed for approximately one week. The vault toilet will be removed in the winter when recreation use is lower, reducing the impacts on recreational access to the trailhead. The portable toilet located at the trailhead will also be removed during this time. No new permanent or temporary toilet will be placed at the trailhead. A news release and online notice will be sent out to notify the public of all removal dates and closures at the trailhead.

The vault toilet will then be placed at a previously disturbed site within the Marmot Dam area. This will provide the best access for visitors using the Marmot Dam area and the least amount of resource impacts during use. The attached Best Management Practices will be adhered to during implementation. The vault toilet installation will require 5 cubic yards of soil to be removed for the 1,000 gallon tank and gravel to be re-graded for the 145 square foot base of the vault toilet. The 5 cubic yards of soil removed will be used onsite as rubble fill, subsoil, or another identified use. The vault toilet will be installed in the winter to reduce recreation impacts to the public utilizing the area by walking onsite from the Marmot Dam access gate. The vault toilet is expected to remain at the site for approximately 20 years. A news release and online notice will be sent out to notify the public of all installation dates at Marmot Dam, including a notice when installation is complete.

II. Land Use Plan Conformance:

Land Use Plan Name: *Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (1995 RMP)*

Date Approved: March 1995

Date Amended: January 2001 by the *Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and Other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines*, dated January 2001 (SM/ROD) with subsequent Annual Species Reviews. These actions comply with the SM/ROD as described above and utilize the December 2003 species list. This list incorporates species changes and removals made as a result of the 2001, 2002, and 2003 Annual Species Reviews (ASR) with the exception of the red tree vole. Red tree vole in the mesic zone remains Survey and Manage Category C as defined in the SM/ROD.

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions):
1995 RMP p.41

- Provide a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities that contribute to meeting projected recreation demand within the planning area.
- Manage scenic, natural, and cultural resources to enhance visitor recreation experiences and satisfy public land users.

III. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 43 CFR Part 46, Section 46.210 (f): “Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects).”

A. Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review

Table 1: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)		
Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
<p>(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The proposed action will follow established rules concerning health and safety.</p>		No
<p>(b) 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, floodplains, national monuments, migratory birds, other ecologically significant or critical areas?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action will not affect unique geographic characteristics or resources because all activities will be confined to previously disturbed areas. No unique geographical characteristics area within the project area will be affected by the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action will not affect drinking aquifers, wetlands, or floodplains. The Proposed Action will not impact cultural or historic resources since no new ground disturbance will take place under the Proposed Action.</p>		No
<p>(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2) (E)]?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The effects of this Proposed Action are not controversial and there are no unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.</p>		No
<p>(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> Activities described in the Proposed Action are not unique or unusual. The BLM has experience implementing similar actions in similar areas without highly controversial, highly uncertain, or unique or unknown risks.</p>		No
<p>(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> : Implementation of the Proposed Action does not set a precedent for future actions that may have significant effects, nor does it represent a decision in principle about a future consideration. See (d), above.</p>		No
<p>(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> There are no cumulative effects associated with the Proposed Action; therefore there are no significant cumulative effects as a result of these actions. The BLM has conducted this type of activity in the past with no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effects.</p>		No

Table 1: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)		
Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
<p>(g) 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?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The proposed action has no significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places since all activities are proposed in previously disturbed areas.</p>		No
<p>(h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action has no significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts to designated Critical Habitat for these species.</p>		No
<p>(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action will follow all known Federal, State, or local or Tribal laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.</p>		No
<p>(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The proposed action will not to have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations. No effects on population will occur.</p>		No
<p>(k) 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)?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action will have no effect on access or use of sacred sites since the area for removal and installation of the vault toilet are previously disturbed. The Proposed Action will not take place in any known sacred sites located within Salem District BLM land.</p>		No
<p>(l) 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)?</p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The proposed action will not contribute introduce or spread noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area. The proposed action will also not help promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of such species. Past actions of this type within this area have no documented results of new introduction, have not altered the continued existence of, and have not caused a significant spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive plant species.</p>		No

CX#: DOI-BLM-OR-S0X0-2016-0004-CX

Project: Vault Toilet Removal/Installation CX and Decision Record

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. District personnel have reviewed the proposed action, and none of the 12 extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR Part 46, Section 46.215 (see Table 1, above) apply to the proposed action.

There is no potential for significant impacts for the following reasons:

- The proposed action and associated design features comply with the 1995 RMP, and have the same or similar effects as the actions described in 43 CFR Part 46, Section 46.210 (f).
- None of the 12 extraordinary circumstances apply to the proposed action.

IV. Signature:

Specialist Review and Concurrence: None required or

Review Required	Review Not Required	Resource	Name	Initial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aquatic/Fisheries	Bruce Zoellick	BZ 12/22/15
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Botany	Terry Kennell	TK 12/31/15
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	Heather Ulrich	HU 5/10/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology	Patrick Howe	PH 12/22/15
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEPA Compliance	Whitney Wirthlin	WW 5/16/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NRSA	Belle Vemaris	BV 5/16/16
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Timber Resources		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Engineering		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Invasive/Non-Native	Heidi Christensen	HC 12/15
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Silviculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	Traci Meredith	TM 1/9/2015
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Realty		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife	Cordin Murphy	CM 2/18/2015

Contact Person: For additional information concerning this CX review; contact Whitney Wirthlin, Planning and Environmental Specialist, Cascades Resource Area, BLM Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Rd SE, Salem, Oregon, 97306, (503) 375-5612.

Authorized Official:

John Huston
Field Manager, Cascades Resource Area

Date: 5/17/16

CX#: DOI-BLM-OR-S040-2016-0004-CX

Project: Vault Toilet Removal/Installation CX and Decision Record

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SALEM DISTRICT, CASCADES RESOURCE AREA
Decision Record**

Decision and Rationale on Action

Based on my review of the attached categorical exclusion review (CX# DOI-BLM-OR-S040-2016-0004-CX), I have determined that the Proposed Action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, and that no further environmental analysis is required for the following reasons:

- The Proposed Action complies with the 1995 RMP, and has the same or similar effects as the actions described in 43 CFR Part 46, Section 46.210 (f).
- None of the 12 extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR Part 46, Section 46.215 (see CX Table 1) apply to the Proposed Action.

It is my decision to authorize the implementation of the Larch Mountain vault toilet removal and subsequent Marmot Dam vault toilet installation, as described in the Proposed Action of the attached Categorical Exclusion documentation.

Implementation Date

This project will be implemented after May 16, 2016, with preferred completion prior to the opening of the Marmot Dam area for recreation Memorial Day weekend 2016.



John Huston
Field Manager, Cascades Resource Area

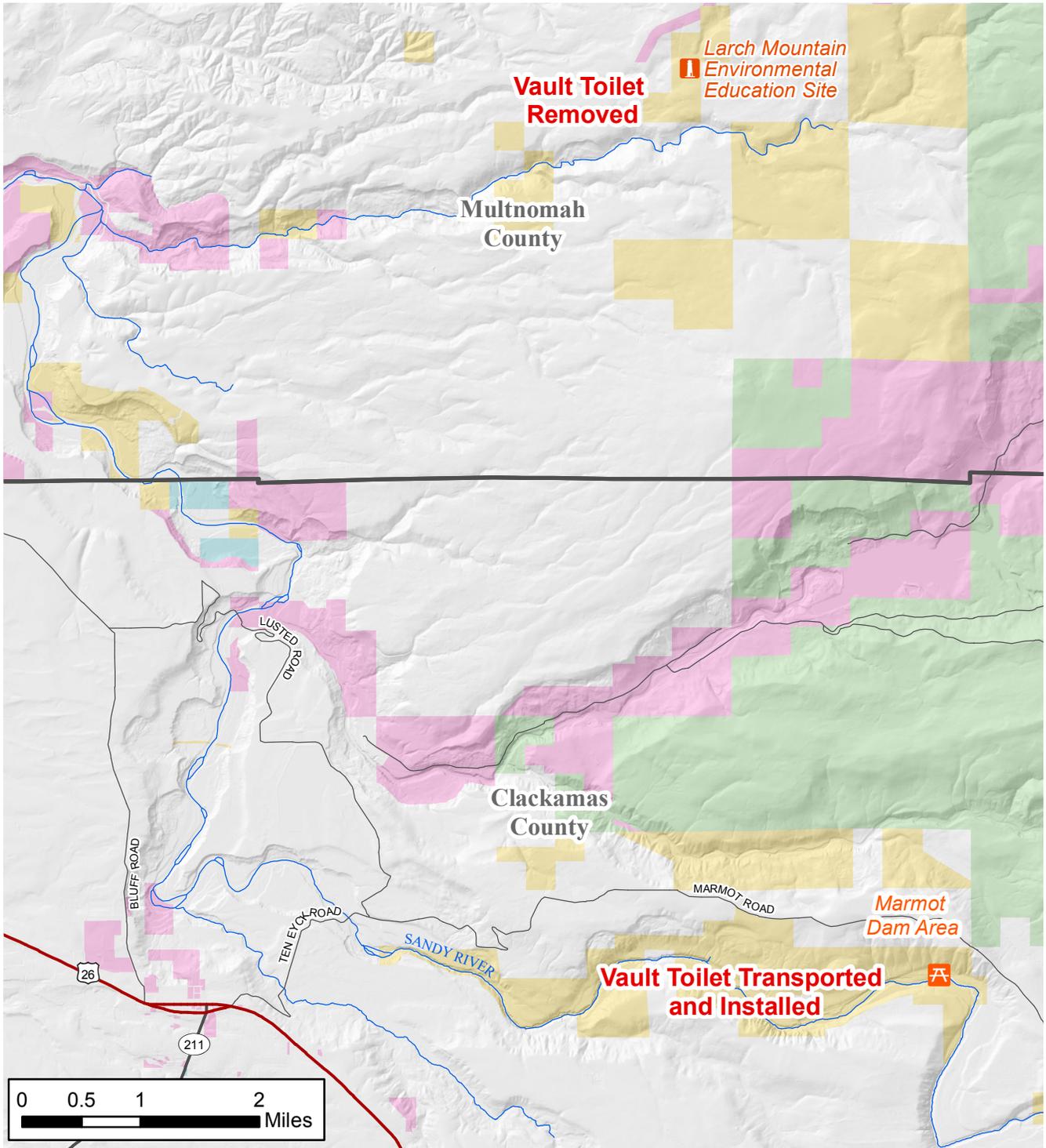
5/17/16

Date

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this decision, contact Whitney Wirthlin, Planning and Environmental Specialist, Cascades Resource Area, BLM Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Rd SE, Salem, Oregon, 97306, (503) 375-5612.

Larch Mountain Restroom Removal and Marmot Dam Restroom Installation



- US Highway or Interstate
- State Highway
- Major Access Road
- ▲ Campground Area
- ⚠ Day-Use Area
- ♿ Nature Study Area
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Local Government
- U.S. Forest Service



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