

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

**Categorical Exclusion Review**

**I. Background**

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

**Categorical Exclusion Number:** DOI-BLM-ORWA-S040-2016-0019-CX

**Date:** March 31, 2016

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Bermstyle, LLC/Bikeskills (Bermstyle) Mountain Bicycle Coaching Special Recreation Permit (SRP)

**Location of Proposed Action:** Sandy Ridge Trailhead- T. 2 S., R. 6 E., Sections 13, 14, and 23, Willamette Meridian, Clackamas County

**Land Use Allocation(s):** General Forest Management, Congressionally Reserved

**Description of the Proposed Action:**

The BLM Cascades Field Office has received a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) request to utilize the Sandy Ridge Trail System for mountain bicycle skills classes during calendar year 2016. Bermstyle will conduct up to 7 skills sessions for 2016. The sessions will consist of 3-12 participants with 1-2 coaches. Participants will meet at the Sandy Ridge Trailhead parking area and proceed to the lower trails and open areas within the trail system. Participants must be comfortable on single track trails in order to attend the sessions. More advanced participants may utilize the Hide and Seek trail for additional coaching.

Participants in the coaching sessions will be required to sign a waiver prior to starting the sessions. All participants are required to wear helmets and recommended to wear protective pads and eyewear as well. Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certified coaches will be present with first aid kits.

The coaching sessions will take place for the entire day on the dates approved by the Cascades Field Office Outdoor Recreation Planner. Bermstyle will contact the Cascades Field Office Outdoor Recreation Planner a minimum of two weeks prior to any requested date for coaching sessions. The SRP will allow for up to seven, single day only, coaching sessions per calendar year. Bermstyle will adhere to the below stipulations for the SRP. This CX, Decision Record, and SRP will be in effect until the end of the calendar year 2016.

**Stipulations**

**1. Risks, Hazards, Safety**

- In case of human death or wildfire, involving the permitted operation, the County Sheriff shall be notified immediately, and the BLM shall be notified immediately after the Sheriff is notified.
- Bermstyle shall notify the BLM of any accidents involving the permitted operation which

result in loss of consciousness, injury disabling individuals in excess of 24 hours, requiring medical treatment or search and rescue, or property damage in excess of \$100, and shall submit a detailed written report to the BLM within 10 days from the date of the accident. Other accidents shall be reported in the "Post Use Report".

## **2. Indemnification**

- Bermstyle shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the United States and/or its agencies and representatives from any and all demands, claims, or liabilities of every nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, damages to property, injuries to or death of persons, arising directly or indirectly from, or in any way connected with the authorized use and occupancy of the lands authorized for use under this permit.
- Insurance: Coverage shall be obtained for the permitted operations in the minimum liability coverage amounts of:
  - \$ 500,000 for any one occurrence;
  - \$ 1,000,000 per annual aggregate;
- A certificate of insurance shall be submitted, stating the limits of coverage, identifying the "United States Government" as additional insured, and that the insurer will give BLM thirty (30) days notice prior to cancellation or modification of such insurance.

## **3. Limitations**

- This permit authorizes only temporary use in connection with the operations, during the period and in the area identified.
- Reassignment or Transfer: This permit may not be reassigned or transferred by Bermstyle for any reason whatsoever.
- Use of Non-Public lands: This permit does not authorize use of non-BLM land (i.e. private, city, county, state, or other federal land).
- Access to Public Lands: The BLM does not guarantee legal access to public lands unless legal access for the general public is available. Where legal public access is not available, Bermstyle is responsible for obtaining permission from the landowner(s) to travel through or use private lands.

## **4. Non-Exclusive Use**

- Bermstyle, employees and clients shall not interfere with other valid uses of public land, including but not limited to grazing, mining, and other recreational uses by the general public or other permitted commercial operations.
- Roads, trails and trailheads, river access or campsites commonly in public use shall not be blocked or enclosed by Bermstyle.
- This SRP does not guarantee Bermstyle's sole use of public land areas, nor does it grant the exclusive use of any area.
- Public lands will generally remain available on a first-come, first served basis to other commercial and private recreational users. Nothing herein implies that the first permittee in any area has been granted exclusive use, or priority use.

## **5. Conduct and Manners**

- Bermstyle is at all times responsible for the actions of themselves, their employees, and clients in connection with the authorized operations, and shall not cause a public disturbance or engage in activities which create a hazard or nuisance.

## **6. Modification or Amendment**

- The BLM reserves the right to alter the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the SRP at any time upon notice for reasons such as changes in law, policy or administrative procedure, to prevent use conflicts, to protect public safety, or to prevent resource damage.
- Bermstyle shall request amendment or modification of the permit to provide for changes in: use areas or a site, season of use, services provided, fee structure, or any other changes in operations.
- The BLM may restrict use or close sites or areas on public land, or require relocation of use sites or areas to prevent use conflicts, protect public safety, or prevent resource damage.

## **7. Use Reports**

- A Post Use Report shall be submitted annually by September 1 as well as within 30 days of the last day of use authorized, on a form provided by the BLM or an approved equivalent. The post use report shall indicate accurately the total number of clients served during the term of the Permit, total staff and total use, total receipts, and total deductions claimed, and describe any accidents or injuries that occurred, and management problems or concerns.
- Late submission of use reports may be cause for action against the permittee, including probation, suspension, and/or revocation, and criminal penalties.

## **8. Signing and Advertising**

- Signs or advertising devices on public land require advance approval on the location, design, size, shape or color, and message.
- All advertising shall be accurate and not misrepresent in any way the services or accommodations provided, or the area authorized for use. Brochures and other advertising materials shall include the following disclosure: "Use of Public Lands under Permit by the Bureau of Land Management".

## **9. Resource Protection**

- Aesthetics: Bermstyle shall protect the scenic and aesthetic values of the public lands used in the operations, and maintain premises on permitted grounds and areas to acceptable standards of repair, orderliness, and cleanliness. After use, insofar as practical, the area shall be left in a natural state.
- Sanitation: Bermstyle will follow Leave No Trace guidelines for disposal of human waste and utilize sanitary facilities where available.
- Trash Disposal: All trash generated by Bermstyle operation shall be packed out of public land. No trash or litter shall be allowed to accumulate on the grounds. Trash shall not be buried on public land.
- Vegetation Damage/Removal: All operations shall be conducted in a manner which prevents damage to or loss of vegetation cover. Cutting or clearing of standing trees, alive or dead, or clearing and cutting of shrub/groundcover for any reason shall require specific advance authorization.
- Protection of Public Property: Signs, equipment, markers, fences, and livestock watering facilities or any other property found on public land shall not be damaged, destroyed, defaced, removed, or disturbed.
- Cultural Resources: Archeological and historical values including, but not limited to, petroglyphs, ruins, historic structures, and artifacts shall not be damaged, destroyed,

removed or disturbed. Any hidden cultural values uncovered through authorized operations shall be left in place, and the Area Manager shall be notified of their discovery.

- **Facility Construction:** Construction of permanent facilities or improvements of any kind, including but not limited to roads, trails or structures, is not approved by this permit and shall require separate authorization.

#### 10. Performance Evaluation

- The BLM shall conduct periodic inspections and performance evaluations of the Bermstyle's operations and compliance with the terms, conditions and stipulations of the Permit.
- This permitted activity must conform to both the stipulations of use and the established operating plan.
- **Violations and Penalties:** Any violation of the permit terms, conditions, and stipulations may be subject to penalties prescribed in 43 CFR 8372.0-7, which may include fines up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment up to 12 months. Additionally, any such violation may result in permit revocation, suspension or probation. Violations may also be cause for the BLM to deny approval of a Permit or Operating Authorization for subsequent years. If a permit is canceled or suspended, permit applications will not be approved for any person connected to or affiliated with the operation under a canceled or suspended permit.

## II. Land Use Plan Conformance

**Land Use Plan Name:** *Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*

**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.
- Support locally sponsored tourism initiatives and community economic strategies by providing recreation projects and programs with both short and long-term benefits.

## III. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 H (1): "Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/ or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized

in a land use plan.”

**A. Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review**

<b>Table 1: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)</b>		
<b>Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<p><b>(a) Have significant impacts on public health or safety?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action will have no significant impacts on public health or safety. Bermstyle will implement safety measures and adhere to the above listed stipulations in order to protect public health and safety.</p>		No
<p><b>(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?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action does not propose any new surface disturbance and will utilize the existing Sandy Ridge Trail System. The Proposed Action would not affect unique geographic characteristics or resources because no new surface disturbance will take place. No unique geographical characteristics areas within the project area would be affected by the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action would not affect drinking aquifers, wetlands, or floodplains. The Proposed Action would not impact cultural or historic.</p>		No
<p><b>(c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2) (E)]?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The effects of this Proposed Action are not environmentally controversial and there are no unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. SRPs have been issued in the past for similar activities and will continue to occur in the future.</p>		No
<p><b>(d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action is 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><b>(e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?</b></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><b>(f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?</b></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

<b>Table 1: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)</b>		
<b>Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<p><b>(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?</b></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. There are no listed or eligible to be listed properties within the existing trails of the Sandy Ridge Trail System.</p>		No
<p><b>(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?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action does not propose any new surface disturbance or generate any noise levels that would result in adverse effects to species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species. 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><b>(i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?</b></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><b>(j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action will not have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations since the Sandy Ridge Trail system is open to the public free of charge. No effects on population will occur.</p>		No
<p><b>(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)?</b></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> The Proposed Action will have no effect on access or use of sacred sites because it will not take place in any known sacred sites located within Salem District BLM land.</p>		No
<p><b>(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)?</b></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

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Project: Bermstyle Bicycle Coaching SRP CX and DR

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:

- Bermstyle will adhere to the stipulations listed above for public health and safety and resource protection.
- The Proposed Action complies with the 1995 RMP and have the same or similar effects as the actions described in 516 DM 11.9 H (1).
- None of the 12 extraordinary circumstances apply to the Proposed Action.

**IV. Signature**

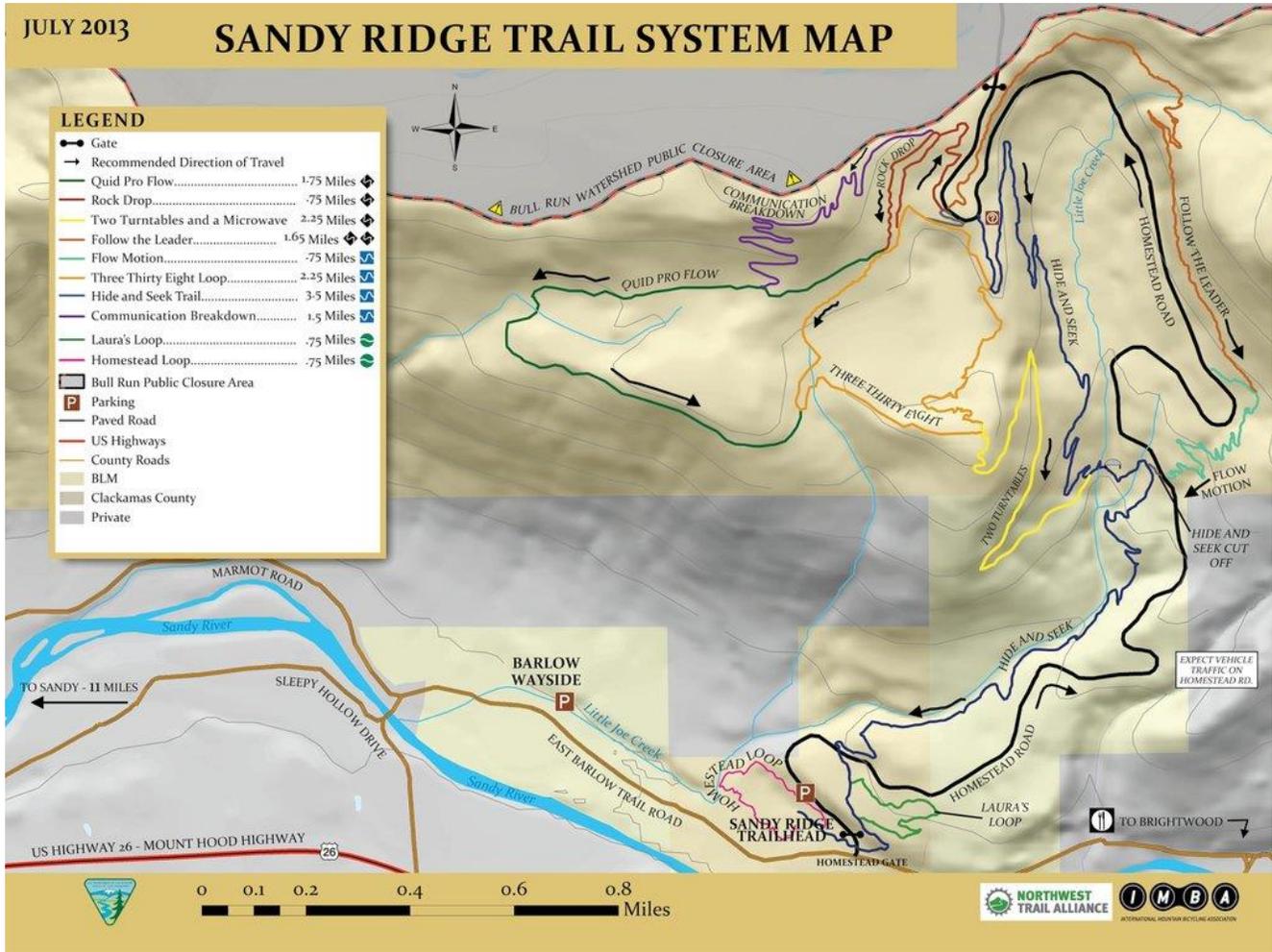
Specialist Review and Concurrence:  None required or

Review Required	Review Not Required	Resource	Name	Initial/Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aquatic/Fisheries		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	Fred Grearover	FG 4/5/2016
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEPA Compliance	Whitney Wirthlin	WW 4/7/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NRSA	Belle Smith	BS 4/7/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Invasive/Non-Native	Heidi Christensen	HC 4/6/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	Debra Drake	DD 4/5/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildlife	Corbin Murphy	CM 04/06/16

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

Authorized Official:   
 John Huston  
 Field Manager, Cascades Field Office

Date: 4/8/16



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Project: Bermstyle Bicycle Coaching SRP CX and DR

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
SALEM DISTRICT, CASCADES FIELD OFFICE**

**Decision Record**

**Decision and Rationale on Action**

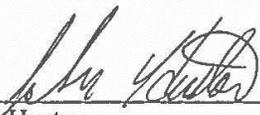
Based on my review of the attached categorical exclusion review (CX# DOI-BLM-ORWA-S040-2016-0019-CX), I have determined that the Proposed Action, implemented under the above listed stipulations, will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, and that no further environmental analysis is required for the following reasons:

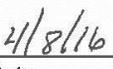
- Bermstyle will adhere to the stipulations listed above for public health and safety and resource protection.
- The Proposed Action complies with the 1995 RMP and have the same or similar effects as the actions described in 516 DM 11.9 H (1).
- None of the 12 extraordinary circumstances described in 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 Bermstyle, LLC Mountain Bicycle Coaching SRP, as described in the Proposed Action of the attached Categorical Exclusion documentation.

**Implementation Date**

This project will be implemented on or after April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 John Huston  
 Field Manager, Cascades Field Office

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**Contact Person**

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