

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SALEM DISTRICT
MARYS PEAK FIELD OFFICE
Categorical Exclusion Review**

A. Background

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

Categorical Exclusion Number: DOI-BLM-ORWA-S050-2016-0009-CX **Date:** 5/5/2016

Proposed Action Title/Type: Bicycle Demonstration Special Recreation Permit (SRP)

Location of Proposed Action: Alsea Falls' Fall Creek Trailhead. T.14S., R.7W., Section 26

Land Use Allocation(s): Late Successional Reserve (LSR), Riparian Reserves (RR) and Matrix

Description of Proposed Action: The BLM Marys Peak Field Office has received a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) request from Life Cycle Bike Shop to utilize Fall Creek Trailhead parking area to hold free public bicycle demonstrations during the calendar year 2016.

The permittee will park a trailer containing various bicycles in a parking spot within the designated parking area that they will reserve prior to the event. The bicycles will be available for anyone who would like to test them on the designated trail system. The permittee will also be available to complete minor repairs and provide specifics about the bicycles on an as-needed basis. Anyone who tests a bicycle from the permittee will be required to sign a waiver prior to testing. A sweep will be provided to ensure the participants on the trail system are safe and free of injury. The permittee will be setup on site for the entire day at the trailhead on the dates approved by the Outdoor Recreation Planner.

An Operational Plan, including the dates and times, number of bikes, and format for each demo will be submitted prior to a SRP being issued. The permittee will contact the Outdoor Recreation Planner a minimum of two weeks prior to any requested date for demonstration activities. The SRP will allow for up to five, single day only, bicycle demos per calendar year for each permittee. Promotion for the event will only occur through area bike shops.

This CX, Decision Record, and SRP will be in effect until the end of the calendar year 2016. The Proposed Action would not create any new ground disturbance or generate any noise levels that would result in adverse effects to species listed under the endangered species act.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

The proposed action is in conformance with the 1995 Salem District Resource Management Plan (RMP p. 41), which directs the following:

- Provide for a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities that contribute to meeting projected demand within the planning area.
- Continue to provide non-motorized recreation opportunities and create additional opportunities where consistent with other management objectives.
- Support locally sponsored tourism initiatives and community economic strategies by providing recreation projects and programs with both short- and long-term benefits.

C. 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), which allows for issuing Special Recreation Permits for day-use “that impacts no more than three staging area acres; and/ or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.”

Table 1. Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review

Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
<p>2.1/ Have significant impacts on public health or safety?</p> <p>Rationale: All proposed activities follow established rules concerning health and safety.</p>		No
<p>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, floodplains, national monuments, migratory birds, other ecologically significant or critical areas?</p> <p>Rationale: No unique geographical characteristics are within the project area or affected by this project.</p>		No
<p>2.3/ Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2) (E)]?</p> <p>Rationale: Based on experience, this type of activity has no predicted environmental effects from the proposed action that may be considered highly controversial nor are there any unresolved conflicts concerning alternatives uses.</p>		No
<p>2.4/ Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?</p> <p>Rationale: Experience from this type of activity has shown no highly uncertain, potentially significant, unique or unknown environmental risks.</p>		No
<p>2.5/ Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?</p> <p>Rationale: Similar actions have taken place throughout the district with no evidence suggesting that this type of project will establish a precedent or decision for future action. Each special recreation permit is processed according to BLM regulations which review past performance, states stipulations on issuing a permit, mitigation</p>		No

Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
measures, safety measures to be taken, and record keeping.		
2.6/ Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?		No
<p>Rationale: The BLM has conducted this type of activity in the past with no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effects.</p>		
2.7/ 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?		No
<p>Rationale: No listed or eligible properties exist in the project area.</p>		
2.8/ 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?		No
<p>Rationale:</p> <p>Fisheries: ESA listed threatened Oregon Coastal (OC) Coho salmon are known to be present up to Alsea Falls. Designated Critical Habitat extends to the falls. Bicycles travel on existing roads and designated trails. No aquatic habitat will be disturbed by the proposed activities. No effects to OC Coho or designated Critical Habitat will occur.</p> <p>Wildlife: Bicycles will travel along existing roads and designated trails. No adjacent suitable habitat will be disturbed by the increased activities – no effect.</p> <p>Botany/Fungi: Travel is restricted to existing roads and designated trails. There are no known T&E or bureau special status botanical or fungal species known from along or adjacent to the project route.</p>		
2.9/ Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		No
<p>Rationale: Road and trail usage follows all known Federal, State, local, Tribal laws, or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.</p>		
2.10/ Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		No
<p>Rationale: The proposed action is not anticipated to have disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations.</p>		
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 (Executive Order 13007)?		No
<p>Rationale: The proposed route should not limit access or adversely affect the physical integrity of ceremonial or sacred Indian sites on Federal lands.</p>		
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		No

Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
<p>introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?</p> <p>Rationale: Since the event occurs primarily on existing roads and designated trails, there are few opportunities for disturbing mineral soil or otherwise creating habitat for noxious weed species. The risk rating for any adverse impacts from the spread of noxious weeds through the implementation of this project is low.</p>		

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 (Table 1, above) apply.

Project Design Features (Stipulations for Permittee):

I. FALL CREEK TRAIL SYSTEM DEMONSTRATION EVENTS

- A. The permittee must receive approval from the BLM before conducting a demo event. Requests need to be received no later than 14 days prior to a proposed event date.
 - (1) Approval for demo event dates will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - (2) This permit authorizes up to five demo events during the calendar year for each assigned site.
 - (3) The \$210 assigned site fee must be paid for each site prior to their use.
- B. Issuance of an SRP does not grant the permittee vehicular access on any gated roads.
- C. The permittee will not require a fee or purchase of merchandise as a condition of bicycle use.
- D. Food and refreshments may be provided at no charge.

II. RISKS, HAZARDS AND SAFETY

- A. 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.

III. CONDUCT AND MANNERS

- A. The permittee is at all times responsible for the actions of himself, his 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.

IV. RESOURCE PROTECTION

- A. Aesthetics: Permittee 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.
- B. Sanitation: Permittee will follow Leave No Trace guidelines for disposal of human waste and utilize sanitary facilities where available.
- C. Trash Disposal: All trash generated by the permitted operation shall be packed out of

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Decision Record

Based on the attached Categorical Exclusion Documentation DOI-BLM-ORWA-S050-2016-0009-CX, I have determined that the proposed action, bicycle demonstration events at the Fall Creek trailhead, involves no significant impacts to the human environment and requires no further environmental analysis.

It is my decision to implement the bicycle demonstration SRP as described in the attached Categorical Exclusion.

Contact Person: For additional information concerning this CX review; contact Paul Tigan, Field Manager, Salem District Office Bureau of Land Management, 1717 Fabry Rd. SE Salem, Oregon at (503) 315-5968.

Authorized Official: _____/s/ Paul Tigan_____ Date: _____ 5/5/2016 _____
Paul Tigan
Marys Peak Field Manager