



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Coos Bay District Office

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1791/2860 (ORC030)

Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2016-0006-CX

June 23, 2016

Dear Concerned Citizen:

The BLM, Coos Bay District, has prepared the Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan CX (DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2016-0006-CX).

We have posted the Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan CX on the BLM NEPA Register website at <http://1.usa.gov/28JG2pk>.

Please note that the Oregon and Washington BLM Districts began posting all NEPA-related documents to the BLM NEPA Register on October 1, 2015; Coos Bay District BLM documents published *prior* to October 1, 2015 remain posted at the BLM's Historic Listing website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/plans-search.php>.

Sincerely,

/s/ Todd D. Buchholz

Todd D. Buchholz

Umpqua Field Manager

**United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Coos Bay District**

Categorical Exclusion Review (CX)

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2016-0006-CX

Date: June 20, 2016

A. Project

Name: Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan

BLM Office: Umpqua Field Office

Location: The site is located approximately 18.5 aerial miles southeast of the town of Florence, OR. It is specifically located in the NWNW of section 23, T. 19 S., R. 09 W., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Oregon at approximately 43° 54' 43.9" North latitude and 123° 44' 19.8" West longitude. The elevation at the Roman Nose Communications Site is approximately 4,950 feet above mean sea level.

Description of the Proposed Action: Demand for new communication sites continues to be active in the United States including carrier requests to locate cellular facilities on public lands in the western states. This demand is due to advances in communication technology, strong consumer interest, and a 1983 Federal Communication Commission (FCC) decree establishing wireless carrier coverage requirements.

Roman Nose is a communication site administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Umpqua Field Office. It is an established site with characteristics desired by cellular carriers, microwave, wireless internet service, and other communication providers. The communication site serves Oregon Highway 38 and surrounding rural communities.

Current BLM program guidance for resource management planning specifies that every planning document shall contain determinations relevant to communication sites. The Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan, approved in 1995, does not discuss specific details needed for proper management of the communication site. Therefore, in order to supplement the land use planning document, this Site Management Plan has been prepared to address specific issues encountered on Roman Nose. Approved lessees or right-of-way holders with facilities currently located on Roman Nose are listed in Appendix B of the Site Management Plan. Additional tenants or customers may be accommodated within the confines of existing authorized communication facilities as long as such additions are in compliance with the terms and conditions of authorized leases or right-of-way grants and with the supplemental direction contained in this site plan. Requests for new communication site facilities may be authorized at the discretion of the BLM Authorized Officer through the issuance of new communications use leases, or in some cases, by the issuance of additional right-of-way grants.

This Communication Site Management Plan has been developed to document and evaluate the existing communication site and facilities located on Roman Nose. The plan also provides an outline for orderly future development of the site in conformance with the Umpqua Field Office's current land use planning document, the Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan (RMP).

The Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan provides applicable guidance and adds current policy and technical standards for better management of the Roman Nose Communication Site. This plan governs development and management of Roman Nose and will be modified in the future as needs and conditions warrant. Any future uses must be designed, installed, operated, and maintained to be compatible and not interfere with the senior uses as defined in Appendix B of the Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan.

The Roman Nose Communication Site Management Plan will be used by BLM officials administering communication uses at Roman Nose, existing lessees, holders, and applicants desiring a lease, grant, or an amendment to an existing lease or ROW grant. This plan would be incorporated into all future new leases issued for the Roman Nose Communication Site. This plan will also be included as a part of all existing leases and renewed leases or right-of-way grants as the terms of those authorizations allow. Provisions of the site plan are enforced through the terms and conditions of the right-of-way or lease authorization. Each lessee is expected to incorporate mandatory BLM lease and site plan requirements into any subsequent agreements with the lessee's tenants and customers. The lessee is also responsible for enforcement of said requirements involving the lessee's tenants and customers.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance Review

The BLM developed this project to conform and be consistent with the—

- *Coos Bay District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP) (USDI 1995);*
- *the Record of Decision for the Management of Habitat for Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA and USDI 1994); and*
- *the Record of Decision for the Management of Port-Orford-cedar in Southwest Oregon (USDA and USDI 2004).*

The analyses supporting these decisions tier to the—

- *Final Coos Bay District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (USDI 1994);*
- *the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA and USDI 1994); and*
- *the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Management of Port-Orford-cedar in Southwest Oregon (USDA and USDI 2004).*

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

1995 Resource Management Plan (RMP) Objectives:

Continue to make BLM-administered lands available for needed rights-of-way where consistent with local comprehensive plans, Oregon statewide planning goals and rules, and the exclusion and avoidance areas identified in this PRMP (p. 65).

C: Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 43 CFR 46.210 (i):

Policies, directives, regulations, and guidelines: that are of an administrative, financial, legal, technical, or procedural nature; or whose environmental effects are too broad, speculative, or conjectural to lend themselves to meaningful analysis and will later be subject to the NEPA process, either collectively or case-by-case.

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 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

This is an existing site-specific communication site management plan and administrative in nature, and no new surface disturbance is authorized.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because an interdisciplinary team of resource specialists reviewed the proposed action and no extraordinary circumstances described under 43 CFR § 46.215 apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Reviewed by:	Initials	Date
(1) Health & Safety Hazardous Materials	Hazardous Materials Coordinator	<i>JJ</i>	6/20/2016
(2) Unique Resources	Port-Orford-cedar Coordinator	<i>CN</i>	6/21/2016
(3) Controversial Effects	NEPA Coordinator	<i>HMP</i>	6/20/2016
(4) Risks	NEPA Coordinator	<i>HMP</i>	6/20/2016
(5) Precedent	NEPA Coordinator	<i>HMP</i>	6/20/2016
(6) Cumulative	NEPA Coordinator	<i>HMP</i>	6/20/2016
(7) Cultural & Historic	Archaeologist	<i>TDB</i>	6/22/2016
(8) T& E Species	Wildlife Biologist	<i>JMS</i>	6/20/2016
	Fisheries Biologist	<i>JEF</i>	6/20/2016
	Botanist	<i>JLS</i>	6/22/2016
(9) Violate Laws	NEPA Coordinator	<i>HMP</i>	6/20/2016
(10) Environmental Justice	Environmental Justice Coordinator	<i>TDB</i>	6/22/2016
(11) Native American	District Native American Coordinator	<i>TDB</i>	6/22/2016
(12) Noxious Weeds	Noxious Weed Coordinator	<i>CN</i>	6/21/2016

A summary of the extraordinary circumstances is listed below. The action must have a significant or a disproportional adverse effect on the listed categories to warrant further analysis and environmental review.

THE PROPOSED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ACTION WILL:	YES	NO
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. Wastes would be handled in accordance with state and federal laws. The communication site management plan would not increase the risk of public health or safety in the project area.</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 principle drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. No rights are conveyed by this CX.</p> <p>Historic or cultural resources, park/recreation/refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild/scenic rivers, national natural landmarks, sole or principle drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, national monuments, migratory birds, and other ecologically significant or critical areas are not present.</p> <p>With respect to Port-Orford-cedar root disease, the project area is outside of the natural range of Port-Orford-cedar (POC) and POC trees are not present within proposed project areas.</p>		
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102 (2)(E)]		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. No rights are conveyed by this CX.</p>		
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. No rights are conveyed by this CX. No effects would be expected beyond what is currently occurring.</p>		
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X

THE PROPOSED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ACTION WILL:	YES	NO
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. No rights are conveyed by this CX. The BLM's proposed action in this CX does not establish a precedent or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</p>		
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. No rights are conveyed by this CX. The proposal in this CX would not have a direct relationship to other actions causing cumulatively significant effects on vegetation, soils, hydrology, recreation, visual resources, wildlife habitat, land use, or public access.</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.		X
<p>Rationale: No historic properties are located within the project area. No new surface disturbance is authorized under this CX.</p>		
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Threatened or Endangered Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. No rights are conveyed beyond those granted by this CX. The communication site management plan would not contribute to impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Threatened or Endangered Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.</p>		
2.9 Violate a Federal, State, Local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
<p>Rationale: The project does not violate any known federal, state, or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of vegetation, soils, hydrologic resources, recreation areas and values, visual resources, wildlife habitats, land uses, or public access.</p>		
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
<p>Rationale: No low income or minority populations occur in the project area. No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX.</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).		X

THE PROPOSED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ACTION WILL:	YES	NO
<p>Rationale: No sacred sites or site types of interest, based on previous review, were identified in the project area. This project would not act to limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners.</p>		
<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 introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).</p>		X
<p>Rationale: No new facilities or disturbances are proposed under this CX. The communication site management plan would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area. No additional actions would be authorized under this CX that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.</p>		

D. Signatures

Realty Review:

Realty Specialist: /s/ *Joanne K. Miller*

Date: 6/22/2016

Authorizing Official:

Field Manager: /s/ *Todd D. Buchholz*

Date: 6/22/2016

E. Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Heather Partipilo at Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District, 1300 Airport Way, North Bend, Oregon 97459, (541) 751-0100, or email at BLM_OR_CB_Mail@blm.gov, Attn: Heather Partipilo.

F. Vicinity Map

