

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
*Coeur d'Alene Field Office*  
3815 Schreiber Way  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

**Categorical Exclusion Documentation**  
*Blue Creek Disposal and Burn Pit*  
DOI-BLM-ID-C010-2016-0006-CX

**1. Description of the Proposed Action**

BLM Office: LLIDC01000, Coeur d'Alene Field Office

Proposed Action Title/Type: Blue Creek Disposal and Burn Pit

Description of Proposed Action: The Recreation program is in need of a designated brush disposal and burn pit area. Annually, the Recreation program has to dispose of 30-50 yards of brush from its managed developed recreation areas, not including Huckleberry CG on the St. Joe River. Because most of our developed recreation sites are not suitable for direct on site disposal and burning, the program has been hauling brush to a local disposal company in Kootenai County, Cannon Hill Industries located on Seltice Way in Post Falls, ID. Disposing brush with the program's dump trailer, one load to Cannon Hill costs on average \$100.00. The added cost paying for disposing 30-50 yards of brush annually is straining the program's already tight budget. Recreation and the Field Office could be using these funds for more suitable needs.

The proposed plan is to create a designated disposal and burning pit area in the Wallace L. Forest Conservation Area (WFCA) at Blue Creek Bay (see attached maps). The location is ideal. It is located in Kootenai County entirely on BLM, just off a year round maintained county road (Yellowstone Road), has good vegetation screening from the road (hidden so the public can't see it), the site has been previously impacted as a logging staging area from the previous property owners, there's an existing access road (with a culvert for the county road drainage), with a large open area for piling and burning so trees don't get scorched. The location, east of Coeur d'alene, is also favorable for smoke dispersion as prevailing southwesterly winds would carry smoke away from I-90 and populated areas.

The site will be improved for better ingress- egress for a least a full size pick-up towing a 14 ft dump trailer. This would involve grubbing the site of smaller trees, adding base rock and gravel to the road and pit area, while installing a heavy-duty "road closure" gate just off the Yellowstone Road for admin access and use only.

**Location of Proposed Action:** Kootenai County, ID (Wallace L. Forest Conservation Area (WFCA) at Blue Creek Bay). Boise Meridian, Idaho T. 50 N., R. 3 W.

**2. Land Use Plan Conformance**

In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), this proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the Coeur d’Alene Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved June 2007. It is consistent with the following decisions from the RMP:

**Objective RC-1.2** – Manage the Coeur d’Alene Lake SRMA for land- and water-based leisure activities for outdoor sport, relaxation, social group or family affiliation, and personal enrichment or learning through environmental study within accessible natural forested lakeshore settings.

**Action RC-1.2.2** – Recreation facilities will be maintained in good condition (defined as safe, clean appearing, and functional for the intended use level and purpose) at the indicated Maintenance Level (ML)

**3. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with **43 CFR 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).

Application of this categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix C, exist.

**4. Signature**

Authorizing Official:	/s/	7/7/16
	_____	_____
	Kurt Pavlat Field Manager	Date

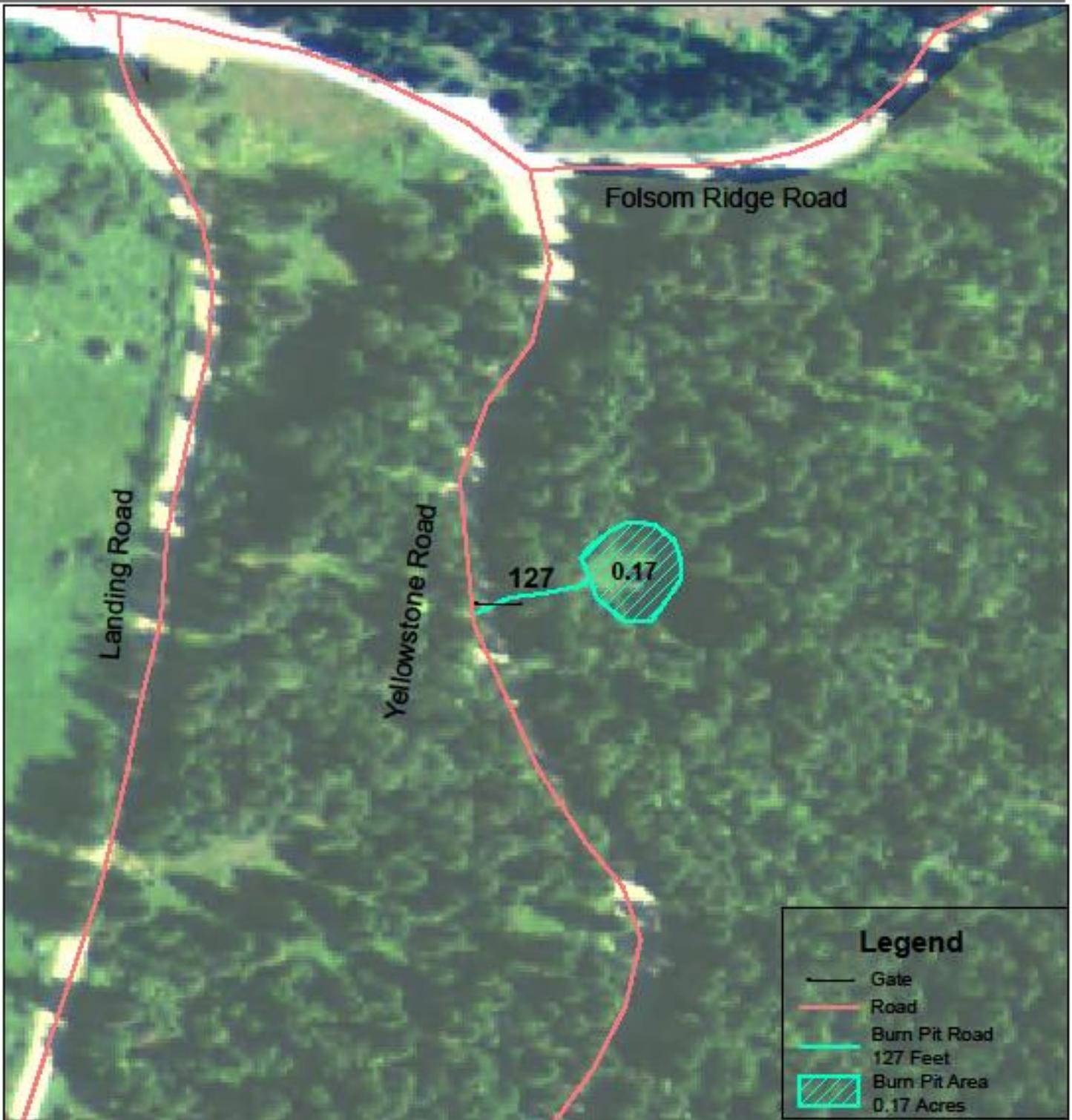
**Contact Person**

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Jake Bachtel, Lead Park Ranger, Coeur d’Alene Field Office, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d’Alene, ID, 83815, 208-769-5015

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Map 1 Project Area
- 2) Map 2 Blue Creek area vicinity

# Blue Creek Burn Pit



The surface management status ("land ownership") should be used as a general guide only. Official land records, located at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other offices, should be checked for up-to-date information concerning any specific tract of land.

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed. The following cannot be made Section 508 compliant. For help with its data or information, please contact the BLM Idaho State Office Webmaster at 208-373-4000.

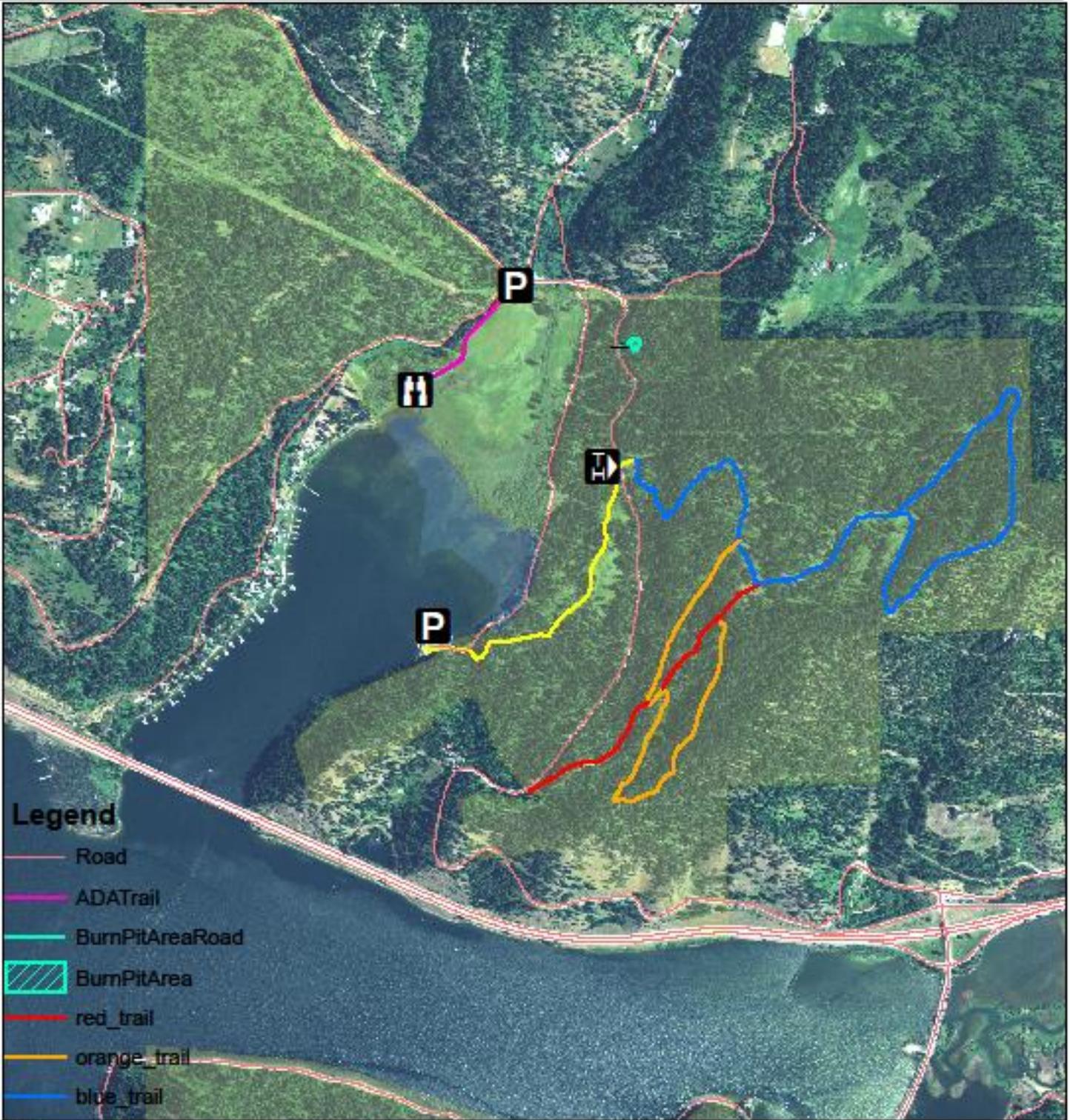
1:1,728

0 0.005 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.04 Miles

Map Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N



# Blue Creek Burn Pit



## Legend

- Road
- ADATrail
- BurnPitAreaRoad
- BurnPitArea
- red\_trail
- orange\_trail
- blue\_trail



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1:15,556

0 0.0450.09 0.18 0.27 0.36 Miles

Map Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 11N



**Extraordinary Circumstances Review**  
*Blue Creek Disposal and Burn Pit*  
 DOI-BLM-ID-C010-2016-0006-CX

*The BLM has reviewed the proposed action to determine if any of the following extraordinary circumstances apply, as listed in the Departmental NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46.215).*

Extraordinary Circumstances	Applies
<p><b>2.1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>            . The site would be used as designed; therefore public health and safety would not be affected.</p>	No
<p><b>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 (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>            No historic properties would be effected, however, one cultural feature was located nearby but will not be affected by this project. D. Sisson 6/17/16</p> <p>There are no park or refuge lands, scenic rivers, national natural landmarks, prime farmlands, or national monuments in the affected area. No wetlands would be deteriorated nor floodplain use impacted. The area aquifer would not be affected. This permit would not be valid within Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas and therefore would not be affected.</p>	No
<p><b>2.3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>            The proposal would only have negligible impacts on any resources; no conflicts between alternative resource uses are anticipated. Similar projects implemented in the past have not resulted in resource conflicts or controversial impacts.</p>	No
<p><b>2.4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>            The environmental impacts would be negligible. No unique unknown environmental risks are anticipated. The impacts are predictable based on previous similar projects.</p>	No
<p><b>2.5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i></p>	No

Extraordinary Circumstances	Applies
<p>The proposal is not controversial or precedent setting. No future actions which might result in significant impacts to the environment are known at this time.</p>	
<p><b>2.6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  The impacts from the proposal are expected to be negligible and would not contribute to potentially cumulative significant impacts now or in the reasonably foreseeable future.</p>	No
<p><b>2.7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the Bureau or office.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  There are no known cultural resources that are eligible or listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the project area.</p>	No
<p><b>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.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  None of these species or their habitat occurs in the project area; or if present, they would not be affected by the proposal.</p>	No
<p><b>2.9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  The proposal would be in conformance with all known environmental laws or requirements. This includes the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, county ordinances, and state statutes.</p>	No
<p><b>2.10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898).</b>  <i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  This proposal would not have an adverse effect on low income or minority populations.</p>	No

Extraordinary Circumstances	Applies
<p><b>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 (EO 13007).</b></p> <p><i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  The proposal would not have an adverse effect on these sites or limit access to Indian sacred sites on Federal lands. The proposal would not have an adverse effect on the physical integrity of these sites.</p>	No
<p><b>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 EO 13112).</b></p> <p><i>Comments/Explanation:</i>  The proposal is not expected to cause these species to spread into the affected area.</p>	No