

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**

Office: Salem District Office – Marys Peak Field Office

Tracking Number: DOI-BLM-ORWA-S050-2016-0016-DNA

Case file/Project Number: N/A

Proposed Action Title/Type: Upper Rickreall Creek – Phase 2 Project (Project)

Location/Legal Description: T. 8 S., R. 7 W., sections 1-3, 7, 9-10, Willamette Meridian.

Applicant (if any): N/A

A. Description of the DNA Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures

The BLM, in partnership with the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District (Polk SWCD) and in connection with the Rickreall Watershed Council (RWC), proposed enhancing nearly 6 miles of the Upper Rickreall Creek with large woody debris (LWD) placement which is being completed in multiple phases. Phase 1, completed in 2013, treated 1 mile of stream with 150 pieces of wood using ground-based equipment at the confluence of South Fork Rickreall and Upper Rickreall Creek mainstem in T. 8 S.; R. 7 W., section 10.

The Phase 2 project is located in the Rickreall Watershed on Upper Rickreall Creek and South Fork Rickreall Creek in Township 8 South; Range 7 West; Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10, approximately 9 miles west of the City of Dallas, Oregon.

The Phase 2 project will install approximately 715 logs for large wood debris jams on nearly 4.5 miles of Rickreall Creek by helicopter. Approximately 348 logs would be flown from a source area of down logs on BLM lands in the SW of the SW quarter of Township 8 South; Range 7 West; Section 9 to the stream channels. Approximately 382 logs would be flown from existing decks located along the project reach to stream channels. The project would transport and deck approximately 40 additional logs near South Fork Rickreall Creek. These logs would originate from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Baskett Slough Wildlife Refuge and/or private lands.

In addition, the Phase 2 project will install approximately 55 logs for large wood debris jams by ground-based equipment on approximately 1/4 mile of Upper Rickreall Creek. The ground-based site is near the Laurel Creek confluence in T. 8 S., R. 7 W., section 3 in the South half of the NE quarter. Ground-based activities would also include the yarding of logs to ground-based project sites from a nearby log deck.

Placed logs will be used to create up to 62 LWD structures in Upper Rickreall Creek and South Fork Rickreall Creek to improve channel complexity and enhance water quality.

The Project will be adhere to Project 3 described in the Rickreall Creek Watershed Enhancement Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-ORWA-S050-2010-0004-EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) Section 2.3 and project design features outlined in the EA's Section 2.6.3, except for the following changes. The National Marine Fisheries Service consultation documents *Endangered Species Act Section 7 Programmatic Consultation and Biologic Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation Fish Habitat Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington, CY 2008 - CY 2012 (aka ARBO)* expired in 2012. The ARBO consultation was replaced with the *Biological Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for Aquatic Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington* (NMFS:2013/NWP-2013-9664) (ARBO II) signed in April 2013. The Rickreall Creek Watershed Enhancement EA Project 3 will be adhere to the design features outlined for Large Wood (LW), Boulder, and Gravel Placement (...; Tree Removal for LW Projects) projects in the NMFS ARBO II (and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services complimentary ARBO II) project design features and criteria that this restoration project will be adhered during project activities.

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan

Land Use Plan Name: Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (1995 RMP). Approved: March 1995, as amended 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. For the red tree vole, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in *KSWC et al. v. Boody et al.*, 468 F.3d 549 (9th Cir. 2006) vacated the category change and removal of the red tree vole in the mesic zone, and returned the red tree vole to its status as existed in the 2001 ROD Standards and Guidelines, which makes the species Category C throughout its range.

The Project is in conformance with the land use plan, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following land use plan decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions) and, if applicable, implementation plan decisions:

- RMP Aquatic Conservation Strategy (RMP pp. 5, 7):
 - Maintain and restore the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape-scale features to ensure protection of the aquatic systems to which species, populations and communities are uniquely adapted.
 - Watershed restoration will be an integral part of a program to aid recovery of fish habitat, riparian habitat and water quality.
- RMP Fish Habitat Objectives (RMP p. 27):
 - Design and implement fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities in a manner that contributes to attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.

C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the Proposed Action

NEPA Documents

USDI Bureau of Land Management March 2016 Salem District Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Restoration Revised EA (DOI-BLM-ORWA-S000-2012-0001-EA), FONSI, and Decision Record (DR).

- The DR for the Rickreall Creek Watershed Enhancement EA specifically included those actions covered in this DNA (Phase 2) as part of the implementation of the Project 3 – Large Woody Debris Enhancement.

USDI Fish and Wildlife Service. Ankeny, Baskett Slough, and William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuges Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment. September 2011.

- This document includes a description and analysis of treatments that will contribute source logs to the BLM for this project.

Other documents that cover the proposed action

- USDI Fish and Wildlife Service. July 2013. *Programmatic Consultation for Aquatic Habitat Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington BO# 01EOFW00-2013-F-0090*
- National Marine Fisheries Service. April 2013. *Biological Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for Aquatic Restoration Activities in Oregon and Washington NMFS:2013/NWP-2013-9664*
- USDI Bureau of Land Management. 1998. *Rowell Creek/Mill Creek/Rickreall Creek/Luckiamute River Watershed Analysis*

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the current Project substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?

Yes, the current Project is substantially the same action analyzed and selected in the Rickreall Creek Watershed Enhancement EA (DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2010-0004-EA) (EA, pp. 13, 26, 46-47, 52) and Decision Record (DR).

The Project is within the analysis area for the EA. The EA analyzed the effects to resources in the BLM Salem District Marys Peak Field Office for large woody debris placement within Rickreall Creek (EA, pp. 56-128). This project is consistent with the selected action documented in the DR (pp. 1-2, Selected Action Map).

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current Project, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?

Yes, the range of alternatives analyzed in the EA is appropriate with respect to the current Project. During the internal and external scoping process for the EA an unresolved conflict concerning the

impacts of road construction on water quality and long-term soil productivity was used to generate an alternative, Alternative 3. No additional alternatives were identified that would meet the purpose and need and have meaningful differences in effects from the Proposed Action specific to Large Woody Debris placement (EA, p. 12). The EA includes an effects analysis of the No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action, and the No New Road Alternative. The Proposed Action encompasses the Project described in this DNA (EA, p. 26), making the range of alternatives considered appropriate. The environmental analysis was completed in March 2012 and is still appropriate given the current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances, which are substantially the same as those analyzed in the EA. There would be no known other or additional concerns, interests, or resource values associated with the Project that were not previously addressed in the EA relative to the Large Woody Debris placement portion of the EA.

3. Is the existing analysis adequate and are the conclusions adequate in light of any new information or circumstances? Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the Project?

The existing analysis and conclusions are adequate and there is no new information that is significant with regard to the analysis of the current Project.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new Project similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Yes, the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the Project are similar to those identified and analyzed in the EA. The Project is substantially similar to the selected action in the DR and analyzed in the EA. The Project location was specifically defined in the EA and DR, and effects to resources are similar to those analyzed in the EA. No new or additional impacts are anticipated from the implementation of the Project other than those analyzed in the EA.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current Project?

Yes, public involvement and interagency review associated with the 2012 EA is adequate for the current Project. The 2012 EA analyzed substantially the same project. Project scoping and EA public review/comment period was completed on the EA.

Along with project scoping and EA comment periods, the BLM will continue to provide information to the public on LWD restoration project and implementation under the EA. The BLM will notify the public of individual restoration projects through the Salem District Quarterly Project Update newsletter and the ePlanning website where DNAs for the projects will be posted. The BLM has updated the joint Aquatic Restoration Regulatory Reporting System website to include the Rickreall Large Woody Debris project. The Project will follow the public information sharing process described above.

E. Person, Agencies, and BLM Staff Consulted

Name	Role or Resource Represented	Initials	Date
Ron Exeter	Botany	RE	July 26, 2016
Douglas Fitting	Hydrology, Water Quality, Soils	DWF	7/20/2016
Scott Hopkins	Wildlife	DSH	7/22/2016
Stefanie Larew	NEPA Review	SNL	7/27/2016
Scott Snedaker	Fisheries	SMS	7/20/2016
Fred Greatorex	Cultural Resources	FG	7/26/2016

CONCLUSION

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM’s compliance with the requirements of NEPA.



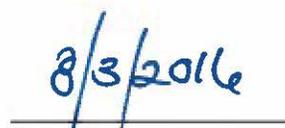
 Signature of Project Lead



 Signature of NEPA Coordinator



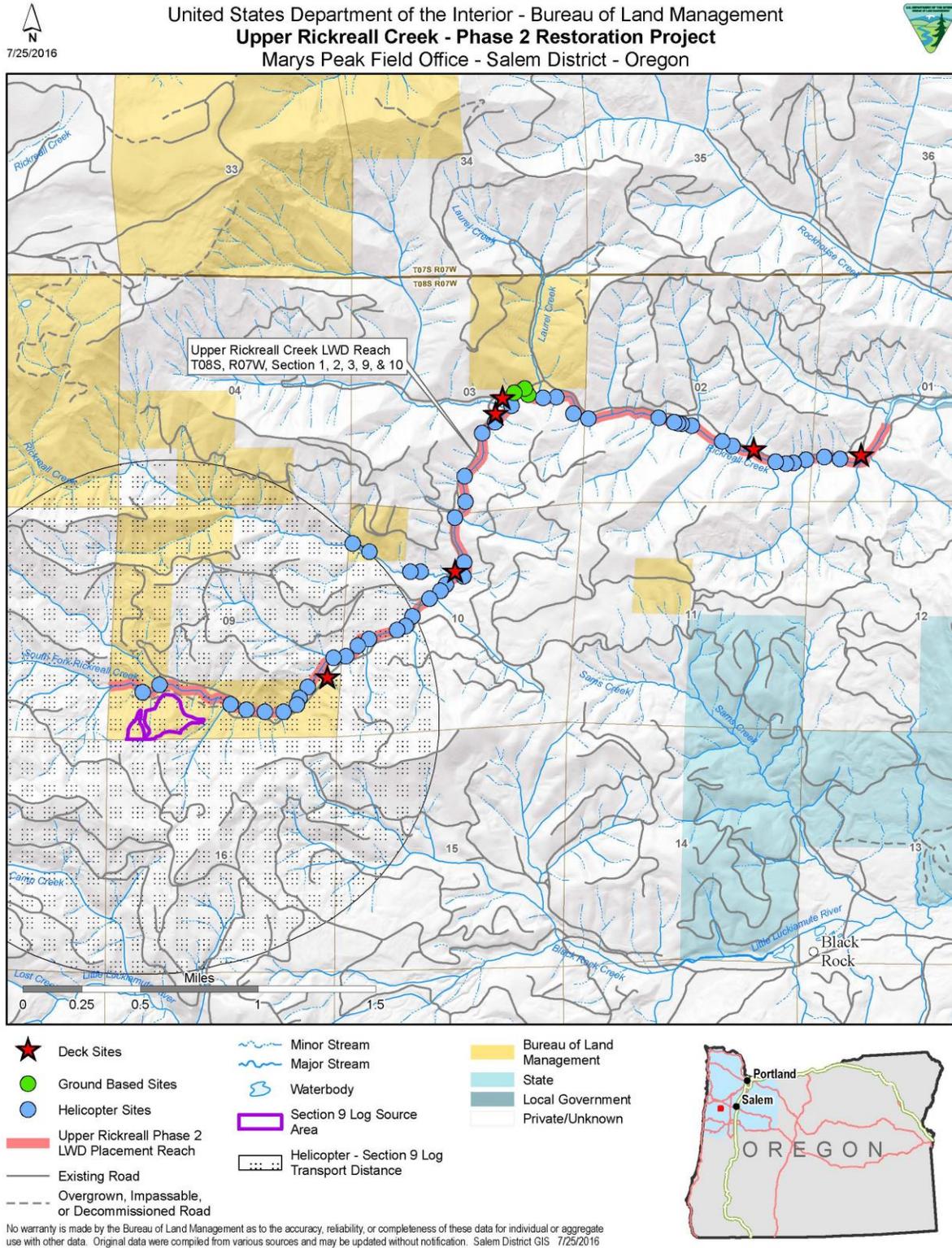
 Signature of the Authorized Officer



 Date

Note: The signed conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM’s internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations. The record for the appealable Project Decision is attached to the Upper Rickreall Creek – Phase 2 DNA.

Figure 1: Map of the Project Area.



**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management -Salem District Office
Decision Record
DOI-BLM-ORWA-S050-2016-0016-DNA
Upper Rickreall Creek – Phase 2 Project**

Decision

It is my decision to implement the Upper Rickreall Creek – Phase 2 Project (Project), as described in the attached Determination of NEPA Adequacy documentation. The Project includes the following activities:

1. Move 348 Douglas-fir trees in the LSR/Riparian Reserve of the forest in the 19 acres of SW¹/₄SW¹/₄ of section 9, T. 8 S., R. 7 W. (Figure 1) to the South Fork Rickreall and Upper Rickreall Creek by helicopter. BLM will identify and mark the trees proposed for removal.
2. Move 382 Douglas-fir trees from several existing decks alongside the Rickreall Creek Mainline Road (7-6-36) to in-stream locations of South Fork Rickreall and Upper Rickreall Creek.
3. Transport by truck up to 40 additional cut logs from off-site and deliver these to a staging site adjacent to the instream structures.
4. Construct up to 62 large wood structures in the South Fork Rickreall and mainstem Rickreall in Township 8 South; Range 7 West; Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10 (see attached map) utilizing 770 logs made up of the logs from Section 9 and decked logs.
5. By helicopter, install approximately 715 logs on 4.5 miles of the Rickreall channel in groups of 10, 20 and 30 logs into the stream under the direction of BLM project leads.
6. Ground-based placement would occur in ¹/₄ mile of the mainstem Rickreall on the S ¹/₂ of NE ¹/₄ of section 3, T. 8 S., R. 7 W. Approximately 55 logs would be yarded from the adjacent streamside log deck and placed individually into the stream channel by the excavator operator under the direction of BLM project leads. Disturbed surfaces in the project area will be smoothed and replanted with native species adapted to local conditions.
7. As available small woody material will be incorporated into large woody debris jams to help create the appearance of a natural log jam.

Decision Rationale

The Project has been reviewed by BLM staff. The Project is in conformance with the 1995 Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (as amended). Based on the DNA, I have determined that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the Project and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (Board or IBLA) according to 43 CFR Part 4 – Department of Interior Hearings and Appeals Procedures.

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this decision, contact Stefanie Larew, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, Marys Peak Field Office, at (503) 375-5601.

Implementation Date

This project will be implemented Summer 2016.

Authorized Officer



Paul Tigan
Field Manager, Marys Peak Field Office

8/3/2016

Date