

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Coeur d'Alene District, Idaho

DECISION RECORD

Project Name: Crystal Lake WSA Trail Restoration

BLM Office: Coeur d'Alene Field Office, Idaho

NEPA Register No.: DOI- BLM-ID-C010-2011-0001-EA

Project Location: Shoshone County

Contact: Kurt Pindel, Natural Resource Specialist-Recreation, kpindel@blm.gov

Boise Meridian, Shoshone County, State of Idaho

Project Areas #1 and #5

T. 47 N., R. 1 W.,

Section 36, Lot 2, S1/2SE1/4

Project Area #2

T. 47 N., R. 1 E.,

Section 17, SW1/4SE1/4

Project Areas #3 and #4

T. 47 N., R. 1 E.,

Section 20, E1/2NW1/4

Proposed Action and the Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The trail restoration will proceed as described and analyzed for the Proposed Action alternative in the environmental assessment (EA) listed above and as attached.

The trail restoration is being completed on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered public lands identified either within or adjacent to the Crystal Lake Wilderness Study Area.

Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act

In accordance with regulations to implement the procedural requirements of NEPA found at 40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508 and 43 CFR Part 46, the BLM has reviewed the proposed action in the Crystal Lake WSA Trail Restoration EA. BLM's review determined that implementation of the proposed action would not result in any significant impacts to the human environment thus requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Public Involvement

The public was notified of the project through the BLM e-Planning NEPA Register and no public scoping comments were received. The Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be available with the EA and this Decision Record (DR) from the Idaho BLM public internet site at <http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/info/nepa.html> throughout an administrative appeal period for this decision.

DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Crystal Lake WSA Trail Restoration Project proposed action as it is described in the referenced EA to include all environmental design and monitoring features. This decision is further conditioned upon any stipulations or mitigation measures required of BLM.

Rationale

My decision to restore the trail as described in the Proposed Action alternative of the EA has been made for the following reasons:

- 1. Consistent with RMP Goal:** The trail restoration will help the Coeur d'Alene Field Office comply with the Resource Management Plan by:
 - a. Allowing the public access to BLM managed public lands.
 - b. Managing WSA's so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness until such time as Congress either designates them as wilderness or releases them from further study.
 - c. Implementing projects that involve no significant adverse impacts on the human environment.
- 2. Public Involvement:** The BLM solicited input from the public during scoping for the EA and considered any comments received following publication of the pre-decisional EA.

Authority: The authority for this decision is contained in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA, 43 USC 1715), as amended.

Compliance and Monitoring: Post trail restoration monitoring will be completed by the recreation staff to determine the effectiveness of the planting and restricting unauthorized ATV/UTV access to the Crystal Lake WSA. All other monitoring will be performed in accordance with FLPMA, approved activity plans, Code of Federal Regulations and BLM Instruction Memoranda.

Alternatives Considered: In addition to the Proposed Action alternative, the EA analyzed a No Action alternative in which the BLM would not restore the trail as described in the EA. Under the no action alternative the WSA would still have visible impacts from ATV/UTVs.

Land use Plan Conformance: The project is proposed in accordance with BLM Interim Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1), and the RMP goal for Special Designations (SD-3, page 62), which is to "*Manage WSAs so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness until such time as Congress either designates them as wilderness or releases them from further study.*" The project is further consistent with meeting objectives from the RMP for recreation (Objectives RC-1.5,p. 52), cultural resources (CR-1.2, p. 43), and travel management (TM-1.1 p.56), and would implement the action for non-forested vegetation (VN-1.1.2, p. 16, to "*Actively prevent non-authorized off-road motorized and mechanical vehicle access/use.*"

Approval and Effective Date

\s\ Kurt Pavlat
Kurt Pavlat, Field Manager

July 30, 2012
Date

Administrative Review Procedures

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. Public Notification of this decision will be considered to have occurred on August 3, 2012. Within 30 days of this decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at 3815 N. Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300-QC, Arlington, VA 22203 after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

If you wish to file a petition (request) pursuant to regulation 43 CFR 4.21(b) for a stay (suspension) of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision from which the appeal is taken, and with IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer. A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor at Department of the Interior, Boise Field Solicitor's Office, University Plaza, 960 Broadway Ave, Suite 400, Boise, ID 83706, no later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.