

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

EA Number: OR-056-01-68

Title Of Action: Trout Creek Boat Launch Expansion and Riparian Area Restoration

Background:

Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management(BLM) analyzed a proposal to increase the size and capacity of a boat ramp and to create hardened pedestrian trails. The proposed action would occur at the Trout Creek Recreation Site, river mile 89.6 on the lower Deschutes River. BLM believes this action is necessary to eliminate the impacts of unauthorized boat launch sites and trails on a variety of natural resources, including riparian habitat and fisheries. Boat ramp work would be accomplished using BLM personnel and equipment; trail work would be completed using volunteers.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

The proposed action is designed to minimize disturbance to aquatic and riparian habitat. The BLM has consulted with the National Marine Fisheries Service on this project to ensure the proposed action would not affect any species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The proposed action is expected to cause no significant impacts to the human environment. There would be no negative impacts on:

- Air Quality
- Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
- Farm Lands
- Native American Religious Concerns
- Threatened or endangered Species (botanical or wildlife)
- Hazardous Materials
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Wilderness
- Paleontological Resources
- Drinking Water Quality
- Wetlands
- Environmental Justice

Some minor, short term impacts to noxious weeds and wildlife are expected to occur.

Rationale

The EA analysis for the proposed action supports the FONSI and its determination findings. None of the resources analyzed for the Proposed Action had impacts approaching the threshold level that would have triggered a significance.

There would be an enhancement of the river's Wild and Scenic outstandingly remarkable values. The proposed action has been modified in response to comments received by adding additional planting of native vegetation. Nonnative plant species, including noxious weeds (primarily blackberry), will be reduced and inhibited in the vicinity of the proposed action.

The project would enhance scenic values by preventing further degradation from uncontrolled use and by rehabilitating past damage.

Wildlife habitat associated with the riparian zone would improve on sites being restricted. Temporary disturbance of

