



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

COOS BAY DISTRICT OFFICE

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1792(OR-125)

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) For Dean Creek Water Supply Project EA#OR-120-04-09

I. Introduction

The United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District (BLM), has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) that analyzed potential impacts of connecting the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area water lines to the City of Reedsport's water supply. The purpose of the proposed action is to provide over 400,000 visitors with a safe, reliable and ample supply of drinking water at this public outdoor facility.

The EA evaluates the environmental elements impacted by the construction of the water supply line. The EA also describes the project design features that will be incorporated in order to minimize the potential for adverse environmental harm to occur during the projects.

II. Background

The Coos Bay District (CBD) of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is under the direction of the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan (RMP)* and *Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)* and its' Record of Decision (ROD) (BLM, 1995). The RMP and its' ROD are in conformance with 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* and its ROD (Northwest Forest Plan [NWFP]) as supplemented and amended (Interagency, 1994).

III. Finding of No Significant Impact

A careful review of the EA, which I herein adopt, indicates that there will not be a significant impact on the quality of the human environment from the implementation of the Proposed Action. I agree with this conclusion and determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will not be prepared. This determination is based on consideration of the following factors:

1. The proposed activities will occur in localized areas within the boundaries of the Coos Bay District. The proposed activities are not national or regional in scope.
2. The proposed activities will not significantly affect public health and safety. Best Management Practices incorporating spill kits and containment plans as described in the EA will minimize the risk to Water quality. In addition, notifications in the event of a release threatening waterways are to be made in accordance with the BLM Coos Bay District Riparian Spill Plan, and Oregon DEQ Administrative Rule (OAR) 340-108, *Oil and Hazardous Materials Spills and Releases*.
3. The proposed activities will not have an impact on unique characteristics of the geographic area such as energy development, air quality, prime unique farmlands, environmental justice/native American trust resources, wild & scenic rivers/wilderness, Port Orford Cedar, or special status areas. The project area is located on previously disturbed sites and utilizing the project design features would help to ensure minimal impacts to the natural environment.
4. The effects on the quality of the human environment of the proposed activities are not highly controversial.
5. The possible effects of the proposed activity on the quality of the human environment are not highly uncertain and do not involve unique or unknown risk.
6. The proposed project does not establish a precedent for actions with future significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration.
7. There are no significant cumulative effects identified by this assessment.
8. The proposed activity will not affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Nor will it cause a loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.
9. The proposed project will fully comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended.
10. There are no irreversible or irretrievable resource commitments identified by this assessment.
11. The proposed activity will not violate Federal, State, or local laws imposed for the protection of the environment.

Ralph Thomas (acting)
M. Elaine Raper
Umpqua Field Manager

July 14, 2004
Date