

Finding of No Significant Impact

EA Number: #OR-056-02-038

Title of Action: PacifiCorp Right-of-Way

Serial Number: OR-33383

BLM Office: Prineville District, Oregon

Proposed Action:

The proposed action is the granting of an electrical distribution line right-of-way (ROW) across Bureau of Land Management (BLM) managed public lands to PacifiCorp to allow for utility service to private properties. The BLM managed public lands are located in Township (T.) 14 South, Range (R.) 13 East, Section 18; N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and T. 14 S., R. 12 E., Section 13; N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, of the Willamette Meridian, Oregon (see map 1).

Decision:

It is my decision to grant PacifiCorp an electrical distribution line as described in Alternative B: Proposed Action of EA Number OR-056-02-038, dated April 29, 2002 to allow for utility service to private properties. This decision would allow for installation of approximately 8,700 feet of new 12.5 KV three phase aerial electrical distribution line. It would also allow for 28 power poles installed with the existing Deschutes County Road Right-of-Way (ROW) and 15 anchors with down guys and #2 AAAC Conductor outside the ROW.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the environmental assessment, I have determined that impacts to the human environment are not expected to be significant and an environmental impact statement is not required.

My reasons for this determination are:

There would be no significant irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources.

There would be no impact on Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive animals within the affected area.

The likelihood of occurrence of special status plants is low.

No disturbance would occur to habitat amounts or disturbance for nongame species.

The proposed project would have A No Effect on any listed or eligible cultural resources.

There would be no significant, adverse impacts to water quality or stream channel morphology.

The proposed action is not part of any other action having potential for cumulatively significant impacts to the important or relevant resource values for the area involved.

Wetlands and floodplains do not exist in the area, and would therefore not be impacted.

The area is not within a Wild and Scenic River boundary, Wilderness Study Area, or Area of Critical Environmental Concern so no impacts to those resources would occur.

There is no prime or unique farmland affected the development of the ROW.

An Environmental Impact Statement is therefore unnecessary and will not be prepared. The proposed action and alternatives are consistent with the 1989 Brothers/La Pine Resource Management Plan.

The area is within the 6,065 acre McWeiss Allotment. This allotment has been inactive since 1987.

There are no impacts to Environmental Justice because no low income or minority populations have been identified by the BLM internally or through the public comment process.

Robert Towne, Deschutes Field Manager

Date

Attachment:
Decision Record