

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FOR DNRC FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Project Name: Troy and Libby District's USFS temporary road use permit

Proposed Implementation Date: fall 2016

Proponent: US Forest Service

Type and Purpose of Action: The US Forest Service proposes to use an existing 0.14 miles of state road #9915 Lynx Creek Flats road (sec. 8). The US Forest Service also proposes to use an existing 1.37 miles of unnamed state roads on Gopher Hill (sec. 14) and construct and use 295 feet of unnamed road on state land off #4925 Cripple-Canyon road (sec. 24). This 295 feet of new road would require the harvest of approx 2MBF of timber. These actions of road use and construction were analyzed for in the USFS East Reservoir EIS (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=34594>) and the USFS Lower Yaak, O'Brien, Sheep EIS (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45254>)

Location: T31N R33W section 8; and T31N R29W sections 14&24

County: Lincoln

Category (refer to ARM 36.11.447 (3)(a) through (w) for additional detail):

- a) Temporary Uses of Land with Negligible Effects
- b) Plans and Policies
- c) Leases and Licenses
- d) Acquisition of Land or Interest in Land
- e) Road Maintenance and Repair
- f) Bridges and Culverts
- g) Crossing Class 3 Streams
- h) Temporary Road Use Permits
- i) Road Closure
- j) Material Stockpiles
- k) Backfilling
- l) Gathering Forest Products for Personal Use
- m) Regeneration
- n) Nursery Operations
- o) Water Wells
- p) Herbicides and Pesticides
- q) Other Hazardous Materials
- r) Fences
- s) Waterlines
- t) Removal of Small Trees
- u) Removal of Hazardous Trees
- v) Cone Collection
- w) Timber Harvest (<100 MBF green or 500 MBF salvage)

By process of the adoption of the Forest Management Rules on February 27, 2003, pursuant to ARM 36.2.523(5)(a), the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Trust Land Management Division, has adopted the above categorical exclusions for activities conducted on state forested trust lands. "Categorical Exclusion" refers to a type of action that does not individually, collectively, or cumulatively require an EA or EIS unless extraordinary circumstances occur (ARM 36.2.522(5)).

Extraordinary Circumstances:

Will the proposed action affect one or more of the following resources, species or situations in the project area? If the resource, species, or situation is present, but project design avoids potential adverse effects on the resource, the answer is "No". One "Yes" answer indicates that Categorical Exclusion is not appropriate for the project, and an EA or EIS must be conducted.

YES NO

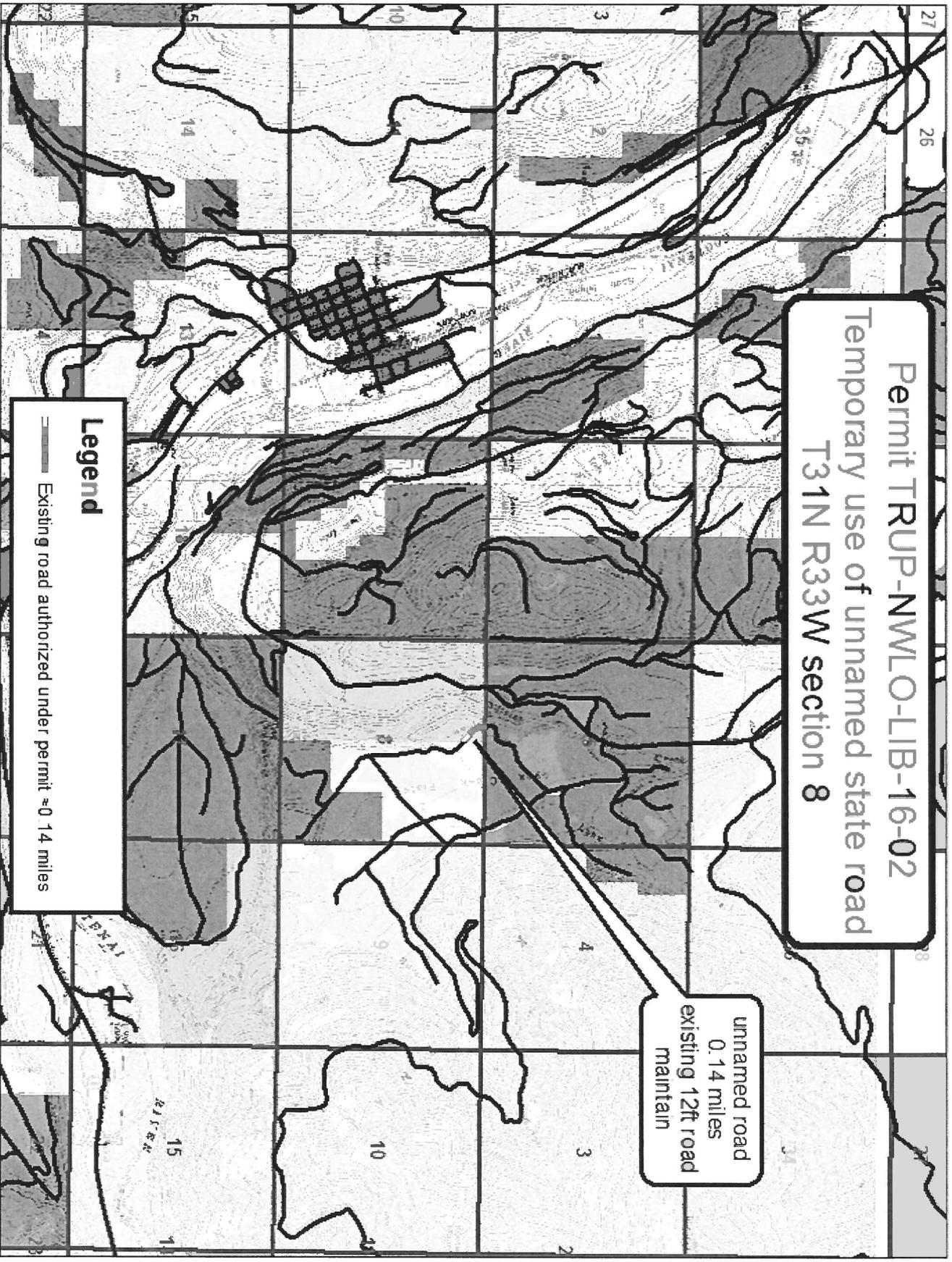
- YES NO a) Sites with high erosion risk.
- YES NO b) Federally listed threatened and endangered species or critical habitat for threatened and endangered species as designated by the USFWS.
- YES NO c) Municipal watersheds.
- YES NO d) The SMZ of fish bearing streams or lakes, except for modification or replacement of bridges, culverts and other crossing structures.
- YES NO e) State natural area.
- YES NO f) Native American religious and cultural sites.
- YES NO g) Archaeological sites.
- YES NO h) Historic properties and areas.
- YES NO i) Several related projects that individually may be subject to categorical exclusion but that may occur at the same time or in the same geographic area. Such related actions may be subject to environmental review even if they are not individually subject to review.
- YES NO j) Violations of any applicable state or federal laws or regulations.

The project listed above meets the definition of the indicated categorical exclusion, including specified conditions and extraordinary circumstances, as provided in the Forest Management Rules (ARM 36.11.447).

Prepared by: Jeremy Rank 10-3-2016
 (Name) (Date)

Decision by: Doug Turman Unit Manager
 (Name) (Title)
Doug Turman 10/3-2016
 (Signature) (Date)

*HCP checklist completed
 10-3-2016 (JK)*



Permit TRUP-NWL O-LIB-16-02
Temporary use of unnamed state road
T31N R33W section 8

unnamed road
0.14 miles
existing 12ft road
maintain

Legend
Existing road authorized under permit ≈0.14 miles

