CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FOR DNRC REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Project Name: UM Climate Office Access Road

Proposed Implementation Date: August 2023

Proponent: UM Climate Office

Type and Purpose of Action: Travel along an established 2-track on State Trust Land to install and maintain a climate monitoring station located on adjacent Federal land. Installation during 2023, then inspections and maintenance through 2028.

Location: T10N-R1E-Sec. 7

County: Lewis & Clark

Category (refer to ARM 36.25.918 (1)(a-o) for additional detail):

a) ☐ Lease and License Administration
b) ☐ Review of Lease and License Modification
c) ☐ Boundary Adjustments to Existing Leases
d) ☐ Project Planning and Design
e) ☐ Project Evaluation under **ARM 36.25.906**
f) ☐ Development of a Site Selection Report under **ARM 36.25.907**
g) ☐ Project Selection under **ARM 36.25.908**
h) ☐ Development of the Project Management List under **ARM 36.25.909**
i) ☐ Marketing of State Trust Lands Proposed for lease, license, or easement
j) ☒ Short-term land use licenses, involving no resource extraction or developed uses, and conforming to local permitting and land use regulations
k) ☐ Other RE Management Activities Administered by the Bureau on State Trust Lands that are not in connection to:
    i. A Department Proposal for a Sale, Exchange, Easement, Placement of Improvement, Lease, License, or Permit; or
    ii. A Department Review of an Application for Authorization of a Sale, Exchange, Easement, Placement of Improvement, Lease, License, or Permit
l) ☐ Department Request to Amend a Local Growth Policy or Zoning Regulation
m) ☐ Department Request to Amend or Develop a Neighborhood Plan or Extension of Services Plan
n) ☐ Annexation
o) ☐ Land Acquisition

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Trust Land Management Division, has adopted the above categorical exclusions for real estate activities conducted on state 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	
☐	☒	a) upon sites with high erosion risk.
☐	☒	b) where critical habitat for federally listed threatened and endangered species may be affected
☐	☒	c) where Native American religious and cultural sites may be affected
☐	☒	d) where archaeological sites may be affected
☐	☒	e) where historic properties and areas may be affected
☐	☒	f) where several related categorically-excluded individual activities may cumulatively result in significant impacts to the human environment because they will either occur closely in 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
☐	☒	g) where the activity would result in a violation of any applicable local, 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 Real Estate Management Project Rules (ARM 36.25.918).

Prepared by: Heidi Crum (Name) 7/19/23 (Date)

Decision by: Andy Burgoyne (Name) Trust Land Program Manager (Title)

(Signature) 7/19/23 (Date)