

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECKLIST FOR NEPA COMPLIANCE

**Part I. Proposed Action** *(Insert a brief description of the proposed action (approximately 4-5 sentences).)*

**Part II. Categorical Exclusion Identifier** *(Cite applicable categorical exclusion identifier that applies from either 516 DM 8.5 (e.g. 516 DM (B)(8)) or 43 CFR 46.210 or that has been previously adopted from another Federal agency or that is proposed for a categorical exclusion determination adoption).*

**Name of the agency or bureau that originally established the categorical exclusion proposed for application** *(Provide the name (without use of abbreviations or acronyms) of the Federal agency or bureau that originally established the categorical exclusion (e.g. Fish and Wildlife Service)).*

**Part III. Categorical Exclusion Justification** *(Insert a brief justification of why the categorical exclusion can be potentially applied for the proposed action (approximately 1-3 sentences).)*

*A categorical exclusion should be identified and cited before completing the remainder of the Checklist. If a categorical exclusion cannot be identified or the proposal cannot meet the qualifying criteria in the categorical exclusion, an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement must be prepared.)*

**Part IV. Extraordinary Circumstances Evaluation (43 CFR 46.215):**

*Check ( ✓ ) yes or no to assess if any extraordinary circumstances apply. Additional explanatory text may be added below each extraordinary circumstance.*

Yes   No

- ☐                      a. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- ☐       ☐       b. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- ☐       ☐       c. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].

Yes   No

- |                          |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.                             |
|                          |                          |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. |
|                          |                          |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.                       |
|                          |                          |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.      |

Yes No

- ☐ ☐ I. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112).

*(If any of the above extraordinary circumstances receive a “Yes” check (✓) or if any extraordinary circumstances exist of the agency or bureau that originally established a categorical exclusion, an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement must typically be prepared.)*

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*Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and Department of the Interior NEPA Regulations (43 CFR 46):*

- ☐ The proposed action is covered by a categorical exclusion as provided by 43 CFR 46.210 or 516 DM 8.5 or that has been adopted from another Federal agency and no extraordinary circumstances in 43 CFR 46.215 (a)-(i), (k)<sup>1</sup> apply. No further NEPA documentation will therefore be prepared (If applicable, attach any additional required environmental or cultural compliance documentation associated with the categorical exclusion).
- ☐ An extraordinary circumstance could exist for the proposed action and either an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement must be prepared.

**Service signature approval:**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_