NEPA COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST
internal use only

Sequoia National Forest
Hume Lake Ranger District

Name of Project: Goodmill OHV Stream Crossing Repair/Maintenance
Date: January 27, 2018

Purpose and Need (Why here and why now):

Why here:
Located at an area of historic importance known as Goodmill, there are three OHV crossings on Mill Flat Creek or its tributaries that are in need of repair/maintenance. Past use coupled with high flow events, especially following the Rough Fire, had created a condition where the road crossing Mill Flat Creek captured the stream and diverted it to another closeby ephemeral drainage directly down the road prism (Figure 1). This led to deteriorated stream banks and road sediment entering into Mill Flat Creek via the diversion, leaving a section of the original channel dry. Repair of the road was completed last year up to but not including the entire stream crossing. Flow has now been directed back into the original channel and the road repaired, but no work was done to stabilize stream banks. With no crossing stabilization and the certainty of future high flow events, a repeat of the condition will likely occur without treatment. Mill Flat Creek is designated as a critical aquatic refuge for the Western Pond Turtle. There is also a tributary crossing that has a similar situation that will be treated in like fashion, and an ephemeral crossing with a blown out culvert that will be converted to a low water crossing. See Figure 2.

Why now:
The stream crossings were not included in the road repair package that was implemented last year. There is a need to stabilize these crossings to better withstand future OHV use and prevent a similar situation from occurring again. Funds and ability are currently available to address the Mill Flat Creek crossing. The other two crossings will be completed as funding becomes available.

Figure 1. Photo of previous condition of Mill Flat Creek crossing. Stream in the forground is the captured road prism, not the original stream channel. This condition has since been addressed.

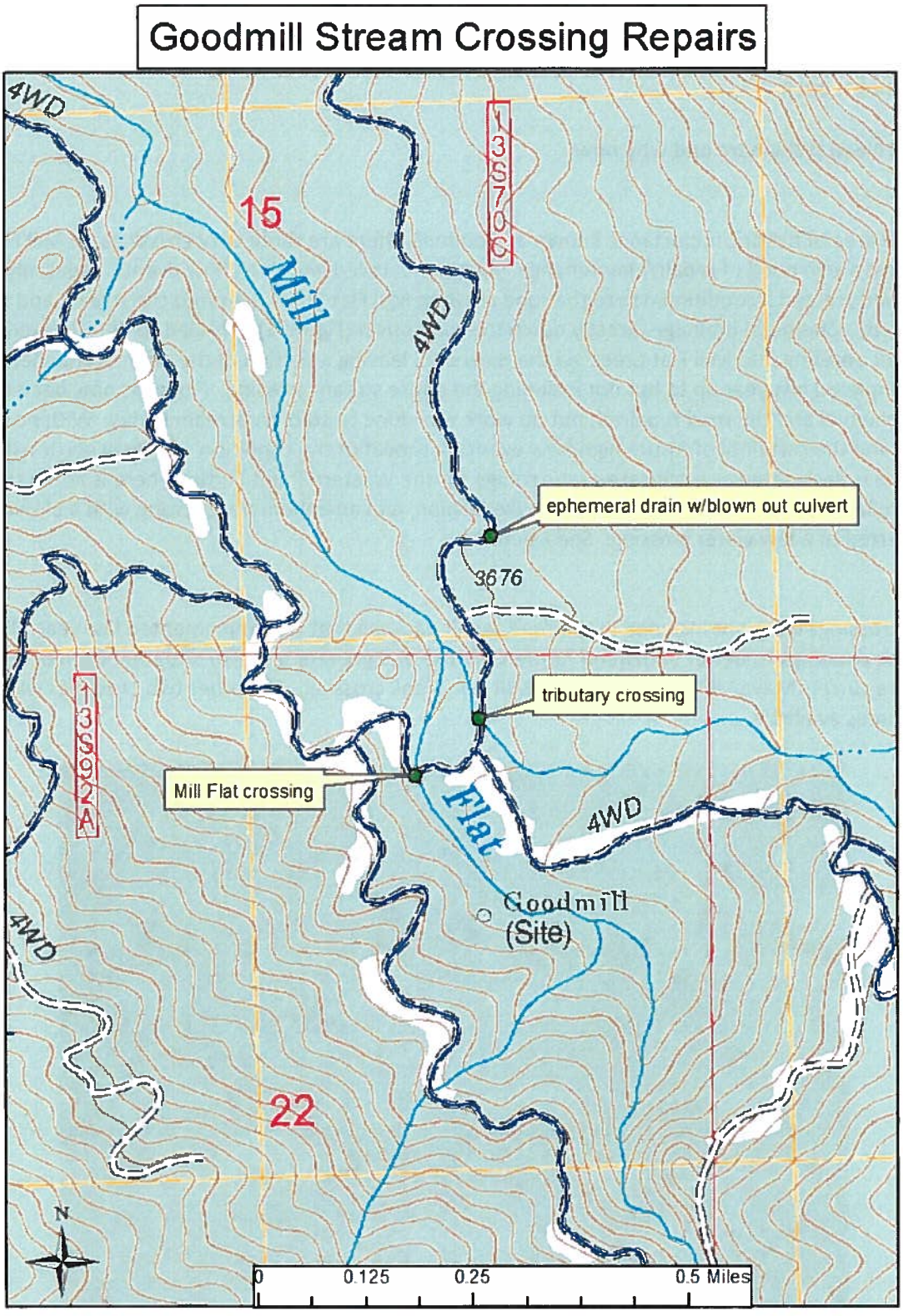

Figure 2. Map of proposed action locations.

Proposed Action (who, what, when, where and how):

Who: Project is proposed by the Hydrology and Engineering departments.

What: Stabilize the stream crossing with conventional revetment materials that would essentially harden the banks and stream bottom yet allow for natural sediment movement through the crossing along the channel bottom. This design would allow for natural sediment transport and aquatic organism passage while hardening the surface making it durable to OHV use and resistant to erosion. OHVs would cross making contact with the water and hardened bottom/substrate. Revetment mats are in interlocking 8'x4' sections and adjusted to fit the crossing size. Once the mats are set in place, surrounding rocks would be placed adjacent to the revetment on the upstream and downstream for erosion protection. Technical photos are attached as a PDF. Note that page 5 of the PDF, "Proposed Stream Crossing with Revetment System" is a example of the revetment system in general, not a depiction of the proposed project.

When: Due date for response is 02/02/2018. This needs to be completed before the contracting is completed. Contracting for the Mill Creek Crossing will occur this FY. The other two crossings will be incorporated into future contracting.

Where: On road 13S70 and 13S70C, they are located in T.13S., R.27E., Sections 15 & 22. The GPS coordinates are N 36 degrees 46.993, E -119 degrees 1.495; N 36 degrees 47.054, E -119 degrees 1.41 N 36 degrees 47.238, E -119 degrees 1.394. See Figure 2.

How: Work will be accomplished via contracting under the supervision of the Engineering Department.

Purpose of Checklist: For projects categorically excluded under NEPA that do not require a decision memo, this checklist documents that there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Applicable Categorical Exclusions for Projects Not Requiring a Decision Memo For full description of each category and examples refer to FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30.			
32.11 Categories Established by the Secretary 7 CFR 1b.3		32.12 Categories Established by the Chief 36 CFR 220.6(d)	
	(1) Policy admin. development/planning		(1) Prohibit for resource protection
	(2) Activities related to funding/money		(2) Admin procedures, processes, instructions
	(3) Inventories, research activities, studies		(3) Repair/maintain Admin. Sites
	(4) Educational and information activities	X	(4) Repair/maintain roads, trails, landlines
	(5) Law enforcement and investigation		(5) Repair/maintain Rec. Sites/Facilities
	(6) Advisory or consultative activities		(6) Acquisiton of land or interest in land.
	(7) Trade representation/market develop		(7) Sale or exchange of land with same land use
			(8) Approve/modify/continue less than 1 year Special Use Permit
			(9) New Permit for exisiting ski area for administrative changes only
			(10) Amend/Replace exisitng Special Use Permit for administrative changes only
32.3 Categories Established by Statute			
	42 USC 15942- Oil and Gas Leases		
	16 USC 6554(d) – Applied Silvicultural Assessments		
32.4 Statutory NEPA Exception			
	16 USC 6231 – Organization Camp Special Use Authorization		

Determination of Extraordinary Circumstances for the Proposal 36 CFR 220.6(a)				
Resource Conditions 36 CFR 220.6(b)	Resource Condition Present?		For Resource Conditions that are Present, the following Findings are made:	Reference material used to support finding of no extraordinary circumstance
	Yes	No		
(1)Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species	X		No federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species will be adversely affected by this proposal. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Project Biological Assessment/Biological Evaluation dated 1/31/2018
(2) Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds;	X		No floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds will be adversely affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Follow established BMPs as outlined in the hydro report
(3) Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas;		X	No Congressionally designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas;will be adversely affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	
(4) Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas;		X	IRAs will not be adversely affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	
(5) Research natural areas;		X	RNAs will not be adversely affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	
(6) American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites, and		X	Implementation of the Proposed Action would not adversely affect American Indian religious or cultural sites. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	
(7) Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas.	X		No archeological sites or sites eligible for National Historic Register listing will be adversely affected by this proposal. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	See Clearance R2018051351012 for mitigations.

I have considered the above listed resource conditions and determined there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS. None of the extraordinary circumstances described in 36 CFR 220.6 (b) exist.

Signature Carol Hallacy

CAROL HALLACY
District Ranger

Date 03/05/2018