

NEPA COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST
internal use only

Sequoia National Forest
Western Divide Ranger District

Name of Project: George Bush Rehabilitation Project

Purpose and Need for Project:

There is a need to remove the existing natural pave surface material and replacing with asphalt. The trail is approximately 0.96 miles long. A plaque and marker (approximately 3'X 3') that documents the signing of a presidential proclamation also needs to be replaced.

Also there is a need to upgrade an accessible parking space (approximately 15'X 21') and to install information signs at the trailhead parking area.

Proposed Action:

The proposed action will remove the existing natural pave surface material and edge board material using a small excavator and hand tools. Material removed from trail prism will be removed from the site. New asphalt will be applied using a small asphalt machine. The trail and access routes used for past projects will be used to transport equipment and materials. The plaque and marker will be removed and replaced in-kind.

The accessible parking space will be hardened using asphalt or an aggregate, using similar equipment and tools as described above. Signing will be added in the trailhead parking area.

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.

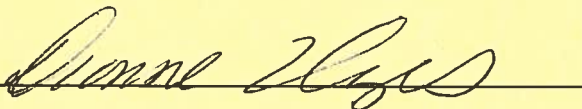
Applicable Categorical Exclusions for Projects Not Requiring a Decision Memo	
For full description of each category and examples refer to FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30.	
31.11 Categories Established by the Secretary 7 CFR 2b.3(a)	31.12 Categories Established by the Chief 36 CFR 220.6(d)
(1) Policy admin. development/planning	(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) Acquisition 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 existing ski area for administrative changes only
	(10) Amend/Replace existing Special Use Permit for administrative changes only

31.4 Statutory NEPA Exception				
16 USC 6236 – 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		
Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered Terrestrial Wildlife Species or Their Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive wildlife species	X		<p>The project area overlaps a California spotted owl protected activity center (PAC, TUL0110) and a goshawk PAC (Freeman Grove Goshawk PAC) and a goshawk PAC-associated nest is located within ¼ mile of the project area. Noise from the excavator and asphalt machines may cause disturbance to California spotted owl and/or northern goshawk, if present. Noise disturbance will be expected to cause temporary displacement of individuals for the duration of project activities. Displacement will have a negligible effect on individuals as they will be able to utilize nearby habitat during project activities and resume use of the project area after project completion.</p> <p>Disruption of breeding activities with possible decreased reproductive success of a spotted owl or goshawk breeding pair may also occur as a result of noise disturbance if the project activities are to occur during the breeding season (i.e., March 1-August 15 for California spotted owl and February 15-September 15 for northern goshawk). Implementation of limited operating periods for the duration of the breeding season would avoid impacts to breeding pairs. Surveys for these species can be conducted during the breeding season to determine breeding status of the designated PACs and limited operating periods may be waived if surveys indicate that no breeding pairs are present.</p>	Wildlife Project Input Form

Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered Aquatic Species or Their Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive aquatic species.		X	Note- Trail prism is outside of critical habitat or proposed critical habitat for mountain yellow frog.	
Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered Plant Species or Their Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive plant species		X		
Floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds		X		
Congressionally designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, or National Recreation Areas		X		
Inventoried Roadless Areas		X		
Research Natural Areas		X		
American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites	X		Survey will be required before project implementation. Any existing and newly discovered sites will be protected using standard protection measures outlined in the Regional Programmatic Agreement Appendix E. Protection will include avoidance, and monitoring if necessary. By following protection measures, and confining activities to previously disturbed areas, this project will have a no adverse effect to cultural resources.	Clearance # R2019051352022
Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas	X		See Above	Clearance # R2019051352022

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



Date

