

SCREENING FORM FOR LOW-EFFECT HCP DETERMINATIONS

I. Project Information

A. Project name:

B. Affected species:

C. Project size (in stream miles and acres):

D. Brief project description including minimization and mitigation plans:

The purpose (of project)

The need (of project)

The proposed project

The duration (requested for permit)

The lands covered under the HCP

Species occupation and baseline

Goals and objectives for covered species

Land and benefiting management activities (including avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures)

Monitoring (include timing)

II. Does the HCP fit the following low-effect criteria? *The answer must be “yes” to all three questions below for a positive determination. Each response should include an explanation.*

A. Are the effects of the HCP minor or negligible on federally listed, proposed, or candidate species and their habitats covered under the HCP prior to implementation of the minimization and mitigation measures?

B. Are the effects of the HCP minor or negligible on other environmental values or resources (e.g. air quality, geology and soils, water quality and quantity, socio-economic, cultural resources, recreation, visual resources, etc.) prior to implementation of the minimization and mitigation measures?

C. Would the impacts of this HCP, considered together with the impacts of other past, present and reasonably foreseeable similarly situated projects not result, over time, in cumulative effects to environmental values or resources which would be considered significant?

III. Do any of the exceptions to categorical exclusions apply to this HCP? (form 516 DM 2.3, Appendix 2) *If the answer is “yes” to any of the questions below, the project can not be categorically excluded from NEPA. Each “no” response should include an explanation.*

Would implementation of the HCP:

A. Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?

B. Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks?

C. Have highly controversial environmental effects?

D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?

E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?

F. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?

G. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?

H. Have adverse effects on listed or proposed species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species? *Consider the degree or amount of take and the impact of the take on the species. Although take may occur under project implementation, it may be so minor as to result in negligible effects. The same concept applies when considering effects to critical habitat.*

I. Have adverse effects on wetlands, floodplains or be considered a water development project thus requiring compliance with either Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?

J. Threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION STATEMENT

Based on the analysis above, the [INSERT HCP Project Name] qualifies for a categorical exclusion as defined in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service *Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook*. Therefore, this action is categorically excluded from further NEPA documentation as provided by 516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6, Appendix 1.

Other supporting documents [list]: Habitat Conservation Plan

Concurrence:

Assistant Field Supervisor

Date

Field Supervisor

Date