

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

A. Brief Description of Proposed Action:

The proposed action involves management of forests on-site at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York. Forest management would involve the use of prescribed fire, mechanical treatments using a variety of heavy machinery, and selective removal of trees (thinning) to enhance wildlife habitat, reduce hazardous fuel loading, and improve forest health. Forest treatments (e.g., tree coring, cutting) and forest health and other vegetation monitoring may also be conducted. Work will be conducted in accordance with all applicable regulations.

Number and Title of the Categorical Exclusion Being Applied:

B1.3 Routine Maintenance, B1.20 Protection of cultural resources, fish and wildlife habitat, B2.5 Facility safety and environmental improvements, B3.3 Research related to conservation of fish, wildlife, and cultural resources, and B3.8 Outdoor terrestrial ecological and environmental research.

B. Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410 (b): (See full text in regulation.)

A. The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to Subpart D.

For classes of actions listed in Appendix B, the following conditions are integral elements; i.e., to fit within a class, the proposal must not:

- A. Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety and health, including DOE and/or Executive Orders;
 - B. Require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include such categorically excluded facilities;
 - C. Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or
 - D. Adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)).
- B. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- C. The proposal is not “connected” to other actions with potentially significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

C. Determination:

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

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Signature
NEPA Compliance Officer,
Brookhaven Site Office

10/5/23

Date