

Shasta-Trinity National Forest/Shasta-Mccloud Management Unit

NEPA Checklist

Purpose of Checklist: For projects categorically excluded under NEPA, document whether there are extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that warrant further analysis and documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Name of proposed project: Mott Parcel Re-Conveyance/Disposal

Project Leader: Stacy Smith Assigned Planner: Emelia Barnum

Location Description: Old USFS Mott Campground; Mott Road near Mott Airport

Legal Description: Section 1, T.39N., R.4W., M.D.B.M.

Gross acres (project area): <5 acres Net Acres (actual ground disturbance): 0

Description of Proposed Project:

The Shasta-Trinity National Forest proposes to dispose of the remainder of two parcels of donated land at the old Forest Service Mott Campground. Specifically, the Forest proposes to re-convey the remaining portion of a 3.9 acre parcel from Siskiyou County back to the County as per the provisions of the original deed; and dispose of the remaining portion of a 2.12 acre parcel from the State of California through the General Services Administration (GSA) process for excess property.

The two parcels are located outside the proclaimed boundary of the National Forest and were donated separately by the County (1940) and State (1957) to the USA to provide a Forest Service campground along Highway 99. The campground has been closed since the early 1970's, partially as a result of Interstate 5 construction and subsequent upgrades/improvements. A portion of the Siskiyou County parcel was conveyed (deeded) to the State of California for construction of I-5, and an additional portion of both the County and State parcels is currently included in a permit to State of California/Caltrans for additional Interstate 5 right of way. This permitted portion will be included in the pending update to the Department of Transportation (DOT) Easement to Federal Highways for freeway Right of Way.

The remaining parcels have been vacant with the exception of highway support facilities (water well, pump house, and fuel tank) and buried powerline with transformer box (Pacific Power) on the remainder of the parcel donated by the State, and a buried phone line (AT&T) on the parcel donated by the County. The two parcels are located between Mott Airport road (east) and Interstate 5 (west). Parcels to the north and south are vegetated but vacant. A history of the parcels is attached with photos below. The Siskiyou County parcel may be re-conveyed back to the County by means of a reversionary clause in the original donation deed. The State of California parcel may be offered back to the State via the GSA disposal process (disposal.gsa.gov).

The parcels support a mixed conifer stand that includes a ponderosa pine plantation, black oak, incense cedar, dogwood, and a mixed understory of manzanita, deer brush, white thorn, and some invasive weeds (black locust, grape hyacinths) that may have been introduced with illegal dumping that occurs sporadically on the property.

In 2001, to comply with FAA regulations, the Forest Service completed an environmental evaluation and decision notice that authorized removal of the conifers on the parcels that were encroaching into the adjacent Mott Airport runway airspace. The conifers on the parcels were eventually topped (see photo below). These

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trees have continued to grow and will again need to be cut or topped to prevent encroachment into the airspace¹.

Permitted uses that will remain on the parcel include the buried AT&T phone line (on Siskiyou County parcel), the buried Pacific Power line and above ground transformer box (on State parcel) and a permit for Right of Way to Caltrans for Interstate 5 (across both parcels and to be included in the updated DOT Easement to Federal Highways for Interstate-5). Previously permitted uses that will terminate include a water well pressure tank housing and electrical panel, propane tank and generator shelter with concrete foundation issued to the State of California in 1972 (on State parcel; well will be capped and remain). These were constructed originally to support the State Agricultural Inspection Station located northwest across the interstate (now CHP weigh station). Most of this equipment has been removed and the remainder is pending removal by Caltrans.

A Phase I evaluation for hazardous materials has been initiated. Inspection of the site did not reveal any obvious concerns. There are two concrete restroom footings and possible vaults from the previous campground that will require removal.

Check the Categorical Exclusion category that applies to the project:

For full description of each category and examples refer to FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30. (5/28/14)		
32.11 Categories Established by the Secretary	32.12 Categories Established by the Chief	32.2 Categories for Which a Project Case File & Decision Memo is Required
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(1)	36 CFR 220.6(d)(1)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(1)
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(2)	36 CFR 220.6(d)(2)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(2)
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(3)	36 CFR 220.6(d)(3)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(3)
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(4)	36 CFR 220.6(d)(4)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(5)
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(5)	36 CFR 220.6(d)(5)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(6)
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(6)	36 CFR 220.6(d)(6)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(7)
7 CFR 1b.3(a)(7)	X 36 CFR 220.6(d)(7)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(8)
	36 CFR 220.6(d)(8)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(9)
	36 CFR 220.6(d)(9)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(11)
	36 CFR 220.6(d)(10)	36 CFR 220.6(e)(12)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(13)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(14)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(15)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(16)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(17)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(18)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(19)
		36 CFR 220.6(e)(20)
31.3 Categories Established by Statute		
42 USC 15942 – Energy Act 2005--Oil and Gas Leases		
16 USC 6554 – HFRA – Silvicultural Assessments		
Section 603 of HFRA (15 USC 6591b)		
31.4 Statutory NEPA Exception		
16 USC 6236 – Organization Camp Special Use Authorization		

¹ Under GSA procedures, the timber is not associated with the value of the parcel for disposal, so the hazard abatement could proceed independently of the re-conveyance/disposal.

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Forest Plan Prescriptions: (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Unroaded Non-motorized Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	VI. Wildlife Habitat Management
<input type="checkbox"/>	II. Limited Roaded Motorized Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	VII. Late-Successional Reserve
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	III. Roaded Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	VIII. Commercial Wood Products Emphasis
<input type="checkbox"/>	IV. Roaded High Density Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	IX. Riparian Management
<input type="checkbox"/>	V. Wilderness Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	X. Special Area Management

Forest Plan Management Areas: (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Porcupine Butte	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Nosoni
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. McCloud Flats	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Front
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Mt. Shasta	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. New River/North Fork/Canyon Creek
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Forest Wilderness Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Trinity River
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Parks-Eddy	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Corral Bottom
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Upper-Trinity	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. Hayfork Creek
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Weaverville/Lewiston	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Hayfork
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. National Recreation Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	19. Indian Valley/Rattlesnake
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9. Slate-Delta²	<input type="checkbox"/>	20. South Fork Mountain
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. McCloud River	<input type="checkbox"/>	21. Wildwood
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Pit	<input type="checkbox"/>	22. Beegum

Forest Plan consistency: (check Yes [Y] or No[N])

Consistent with Forest-wide Standards & Guidelines? (p. 4-11 thru 4-30)	Y
Consistent with Standards & Guidelines for the Management Prescriptions? (p. 4-33 thru 4-71)	Y
Consistent with Desired Future Condition for the Management Area? (p. 4-75 thru 4-171)	Y
Consistent with Supplemental Direction for the Management Area? (p. 4-75 thru 4-171)	Y

Other Supporting Documents, Plans, and Assessments: (list applicable titles and dates)

Watershed Analysis:	NAME:	Mt. Shasta	DATE:	2012
LSR Assessment:	NAME:	N/A	DATE:	
Transportation Analysis:	NAME:	Shasta-Trinity National Forest Motorized Travel Management Decision (ROD of 2010. Shasta-Trinity OHV Accessibility Enhancement Decision of 2012.	DATE:	2012

Categorical Exclusion – 31.12(7) Sale or exchange of land or interest in land and resources where resulting land uses remain essentially the same.

Determination of Extraordinary Circumstances for the Proposal (36 CFR 220.6(a)): The following resource conditions were considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or an EIS^{3,4}:

² The Management area boundary is along the township line between T39N and T40N, which is the north boundary of the parcels. The Forest Plan does not indicate a Management Prescription for this parcel, however the lands surrounding are identified as Roaded Recreation.

³ FSH 1909.15 Section 30.3(2).

⁴ The mere presence of one or more of these resource conditions does not preclude use of a categorical exclusion (CE). It is the existence of a cause-effect relationship between a proposed action and the potential effect on these resource conditions, and if such a relationship exists, the degree of the potential effect of a proposed action on these resource conditions that determines whether extraordinary circumstances exist (36 CFR 220.6 (a) (2)).

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Resource Conditions	Present? Y/N	If Present, the following Findings are made:	Reference material supporting finding of no extraordinary circumstance:
Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered <u>Terrestrial Wildlife Species</u> or Their Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive wildlife species	Y	No P, T, E or S wildlife species or critical habitats will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this proposal. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Dispersal habitat present, not likely used due to proximity of Highway and I-5. See wildlife section below.
Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered <u>Aquatic Species</u> or Their Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive aquatic species .	N	No P, T, E or S Fish, Amphibians or Macroinvertebrates or critical habitats will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this proposal. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	No suitable habitat present or affected. No extraordinary circumstance.
Proposed, Threatened, or Endangered <u>Plant Species</u> or Their Designated or Proposed Critical habitat, or FS sensitive plant species	N	No P, T, E or S plant species will be <u>adversely affected</u> by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	No suitable habitat present or affected. No extraordinary circumstance.
Floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds	N	No floodplains, wetlands or municipal watersheds will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Parcels are not located within a floodplain, wetland or municipal watershed.
Congressionally designated wilderness, wilderness study areas, or National Recreation Areas	N	No Congressionally designated areas will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Parcels are not located within a congressionally designated Wilderness, Wilderness Study Area or National Recreation Area
Inventoried Roadless Areas	N	IRAs will not be <u>adversely</u> affected by this action. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Parcels are not located within an Inventoried Roadless Area.
Research Natural Areas	N	RNAs will not be <u>adversely</u> affected by this action.OHV use not allowed in wilderness/no routes exist No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	Parcels are not located within a Research Natural Area
American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites	N	Implementation of the Proposed Action would not <u>adversely</u> affect American Indian religious or cultural sites. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	There are no Traditional Cultural Properties or places of Native American importance (CRR #R2017051400033).
Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas	Y	No archeological sites or sites eligible for National Historic Register listing will be <u>adversely</u> affected by this proposal. No extraordinary circumstances exist for this resource condition.	The site is not eligible to the Register of Historic Places (SHPO reference # USFS020426A). There are no recorded prehistoric sites.

S&M Species Botanical (2001 ROD): (check Yes or No and list applicable dates or rationale)

Vascular Plants	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: No sites known, No habitat present 12/14/16
Bryophytes	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: No sites known. No habitat present 12/14/16
Lichens	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: No sites known. No habitat present 12/14/16

S&M Species Non- Botanical (2001 ROD with the 2003 Annual Species Review): (check Y /N and list applicable dates or rationale)

Terrestrial mollusks	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: No suitable habitat present for these species and no effect.
Aquatic mollusks	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: No suitable habitat present for these species and no effect.
Shasta Salamander	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: Project is outside the range and no suitable habitat present for this species. No effect.
Great Gray Owl	Required? N	DATE &/OR RATIONALE: No suitable habitat present for this species and no effect expected.

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S&M Species Covered by Pechman Exemptions Yes ___ No X If yes, describe (a, b, c and/or d): ___

Biological Evaluations / Assessments:

BE/BA - Wildlife	Done		N/A	X	Determination:	No effect. See wildlife section.
BE/BA - Fisheries	Done		N/A	X	Determination:	No effect. See fisheries section.
BE/BA - Plants	Done		N/A	X	Determination:	No effect. See botany section.

Consultation with other agencies and tribes:

Technical Assistance

FWS: No effect/ N/A Informal by: Christine J. Jordan DATE: 12/14/16
 Forest discussed the Proposed Action with FWS at the [date] Level 1 Meeting. (Yes [], No [] or NA [])

NMFS: No effect/ N/A Formal Informal by: Christine J. Jordan DATE: 12/14/16
 Notes:

SHPO: Done X N/A by: /s/Leslie Schmidt DATE: 1/11/2017
 Notes: Notes: ref # USFS020426A, 2002

Native Americans: Done X N/A by: /s/Leslie Schmidt DATE: 1/11/2017
 Notes: ref ARR #05-14-995/1, 2002

Finding required by other laws:

NFMA compliance?	Y	Supporting information: Action is consistent with the terms of the deed; parcel is outside the proclaimed NF boundary.
National Historic Preservation Act	Y	Supporting information: Site has been evaluated for both prehistoric and historic sites and Native American Tribes were consulted regarding potential cultural use or sites.
Clean Water Act compliance?	Y	Supporting information: Proposal does not include any change to current conditions; no change to water quality or quantity.
Clean Air Act compliance?	Y	Supporting information: Proposal does not include any change to current conditions; no change to air quality.
Endangered Species Act compliance?	Y	Supporting information: No effect. Refer to wildlife and fisheries section.

Other considerations: (check Yes [Y] or No [N])

If in Roadless, has a Roadless Area briefing and Line Officer narrative been prepared (if needed)?	N/A
Is the proposed project in or adjacent to Red Band Trout streams or the Red Band Trout Refugium?	N
Is the project in a Key Watershed?	N
Does the project meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?	N/A
Is there Riparian Reserves in the project area that may be affected?	N
Is an MIS report required?	N
Is a Migratory Bird report required??	N
Has the project been entered in PALS database?	Y

Scoping: Scoping is required for all Forest Service proposed and is important to discover information that could point to the need for an EA or EIS versus a CE as well as to inform the public. Scoping complexity should be commensurate with project complexity. [36 CFR 220.6(c), and FSH 1909.15 chapter 30.5] (check all that apply)

- The proposed project was listed in the Shasta-Trinity N.F. Schedule of Proposed Environmental Actions.
- A request for public involvement was published in local newspapers.
- Potentially affected parties were notified and interviewed for this project.
- Environmental analysis for this project was completed by an interdisciplinary planning team.

Attach list of individuals, groups, and agencies that were contacted. State of California, Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors, Siskiyou County Administrator, Mr. David Fabrini (private party and property owner), City of Dunsmuir, City of Mt. Shasta.

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INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW (including supporting rationale)

Optional, Not Required

Wildlife (Christine Jordan):

Based on my knowledge of the project area, and map analysis; there are no extraordinary circumstances for this resource. No suitable habitat for listed or sensitive species is present. There is no critical habitat designated in the project area. Disposal of these parcels will have no effect on listed or sensitive species, while dispersal use may occur in this area (fisher, other carnivores), the action will not affect this potential use.

Initials: CJJ Date: 12/14/16

Botany (Rhonda Posey):

There are no extraordinary circumstances for this resource. No known sites, TES plant species and no habitat.

Initials: RP Date: 12/14/16

Archaeology (Leslie Johnson/Liz Cutright Smith):

The Mott Public Campground (FS site #05-14-59-424) is not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (SHPO reference # USFS020426A; May 2, 2002). There are no recorded prehistoric sites, Traditional Cultural Properties, or places of Native American importance in this parcel. Reference Cultural Resources Report #R2017051400033, signed by Heritage Program Manager on 1/10/2017.

Initials: LS Date: 1/11/17

Soils / Geology (Anna Courtney):

This area has been a campground and highway right of way which is not part of the managed soil resource. At this time, there are no major soils concerns.

Initials: AC Date: 1/11/17

Hydrology (Heidi George):

No adverse effects or impacts from this activity are expected to hydrologic resources.

Initials: HWG Date: 12/14/16

Fire / Fuels (Ryan Reginato):

No concern from fire/fuels on the disposal of this property.

Initials: RR Date: 12/14/16

Engineering (Dustin Bonivert, Leslie Ross):

No road concerns.

Initials: DB Date: 12/14/16

Recreation (Becky Cooper):

As described in the background information (above), the campground has been closed/decommissioned since 1970 due to its close proximity to Interstate 5. Therefore, there are no effects or potential effects to recreation resources.

Initials: BC Date: 1-6-17

Fisheries (Christine Jordan/Justin Mapula):

Based on my knowledge of the project area, there is no suitable habitat or critical habitat present for listed or Forest Service sensitive fish or other aquatics. There will be no effect on this resource and no extraordinary circumstances exist.

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Initials: CJJ Date: 12/14/16

Visual Quality (Becky Cooper/Zanard Choice):

The disposal of the Mott parcel will have no effect to visual quality based on the fact this parcel is adjacent to the Interstate-5 and surrounding areas is being utilized for the Mott Airport. Trees within the parcel have already been topped for air traffic clearance and will need to have that completed again for FAA requirements. The parcel does not provide any unique scenic quality value.

Initials: BC Date: 1/6/17

Timber/Silviculture (Ed Domanski):

A small amount of commercial sized conifers are present on the site (exact amount unknown). All conifers were previously treated (topped) over 10 years ago. The value of remaining trees is minimal given expected defect/decay as a result of previous tree topping. No adverse effects to timber/silviculture resources as a result of this action.

Initials: EBD Date: 12/14/16

Lands and Special uses: (Stacy Smith)

The parcel includes a buried AT&T phone line and a Caltrans permit for freeway Right of Way; transfer of the parcel includes authorization for both uses. The Forest Service is exercising the reversionary clause in the deed which specified that the parcel should be re-conveyed back to the County if the Forest Service was no longer managing the area for operation of a CCC camp or for other National Forest purposes. The parcel is outside the proclaimed National Forest boundary and is not needed or planned for NFS purposes.

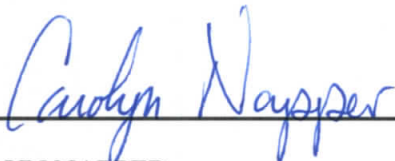
Initials: sls Date: 1/6/17

Staff/Environmental review:

Environmental Review by: /s/ Emelia H. Barnum DATE: 1/13/17
Staff Recommendation by: /s/ Stacy Smith DATE: 1/13/2017

Line Officer review:

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. This project is categorically excluded from documentation in an EA or EIS as per 36 CFR 220.6(d)(7) "Sale or exchange of land or interest in land and resources where resulting land uses remain essentially the same." I have also considered all other factors listed here and find that all practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm have been adopted in the design of proposed action.



01/25/2017

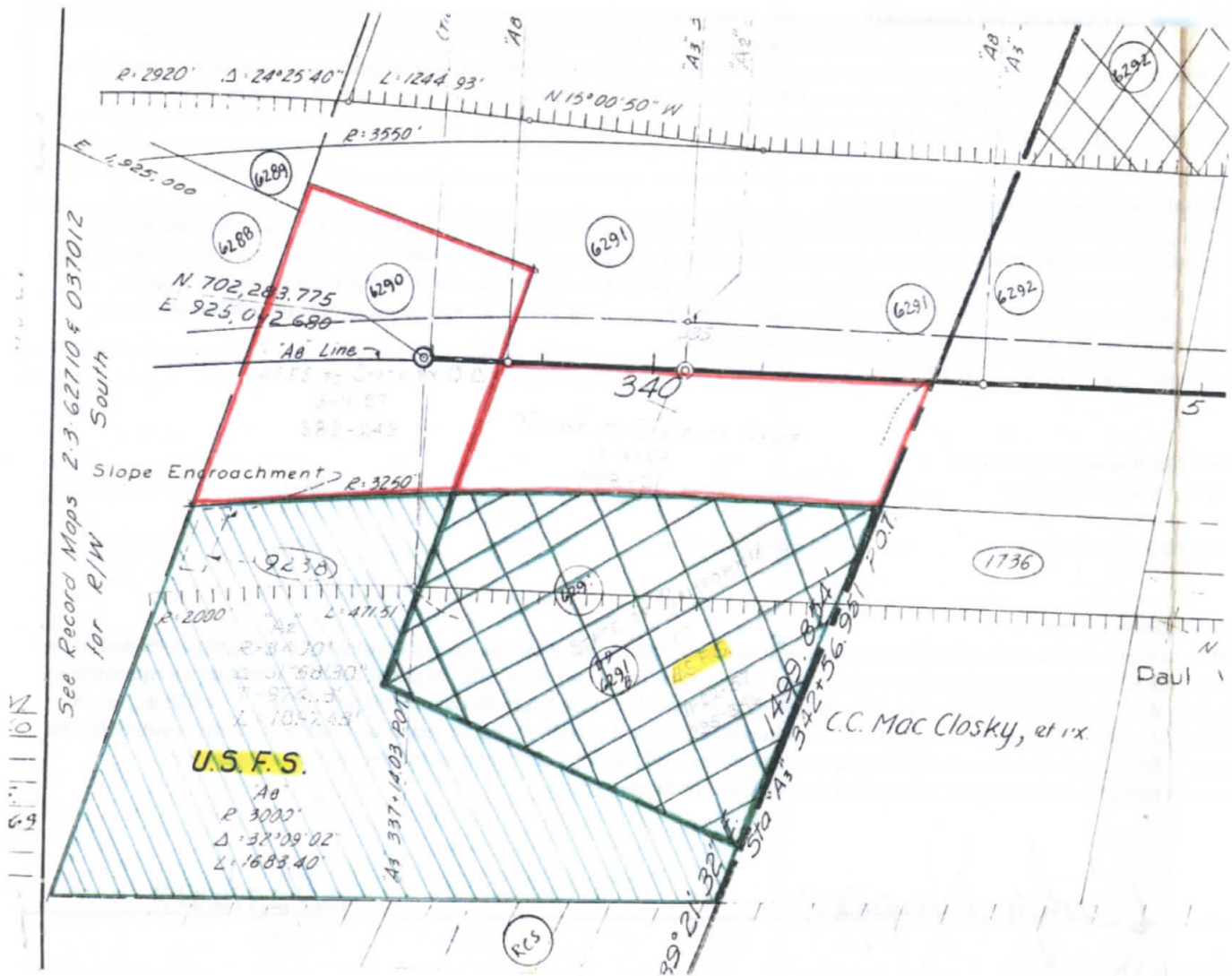
Date

CAROLYN NAPPER
District Ranger

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History:

In 1939, a CCC camp (Camp Mt. Shasta #978) was in operation alongside Highway 99 in Siskiyou County. The camp operated until November 1941 when it was closed. Archaeological report notes that the camp was also used after this time by the Army during WWII to protect the railroad. In late 1940, Siskiyou County donated a 3.9 acre parcel (APN: 030-230-340) of land to the Forest Service (USA) at the location of the CCC camp for operation as a campground for the traveling public. The deed notes that "in case the party of the second part shall fail or cease to use said described premises as or for a Civilian Conservation Corps camp, or for National Forest purposes, that then and in such even or either of such events the said land above described shall revert back to the party of the first part and its assigns."



In 1955, the State proposed to upgrade Highway 99 to an Interstate and in 1957 the Forest Service quit claimed 1.26 acres of the 3.9 acre parcel to the State of California for Freeway purposes; approximately 2.64 acres of the original donation remained.

In 1957, the State of California donated an adjacent 2.12 acre parcel to the USA for the purposes of creating a parcel large enough for continued operation of the Forest Service Mott campground.

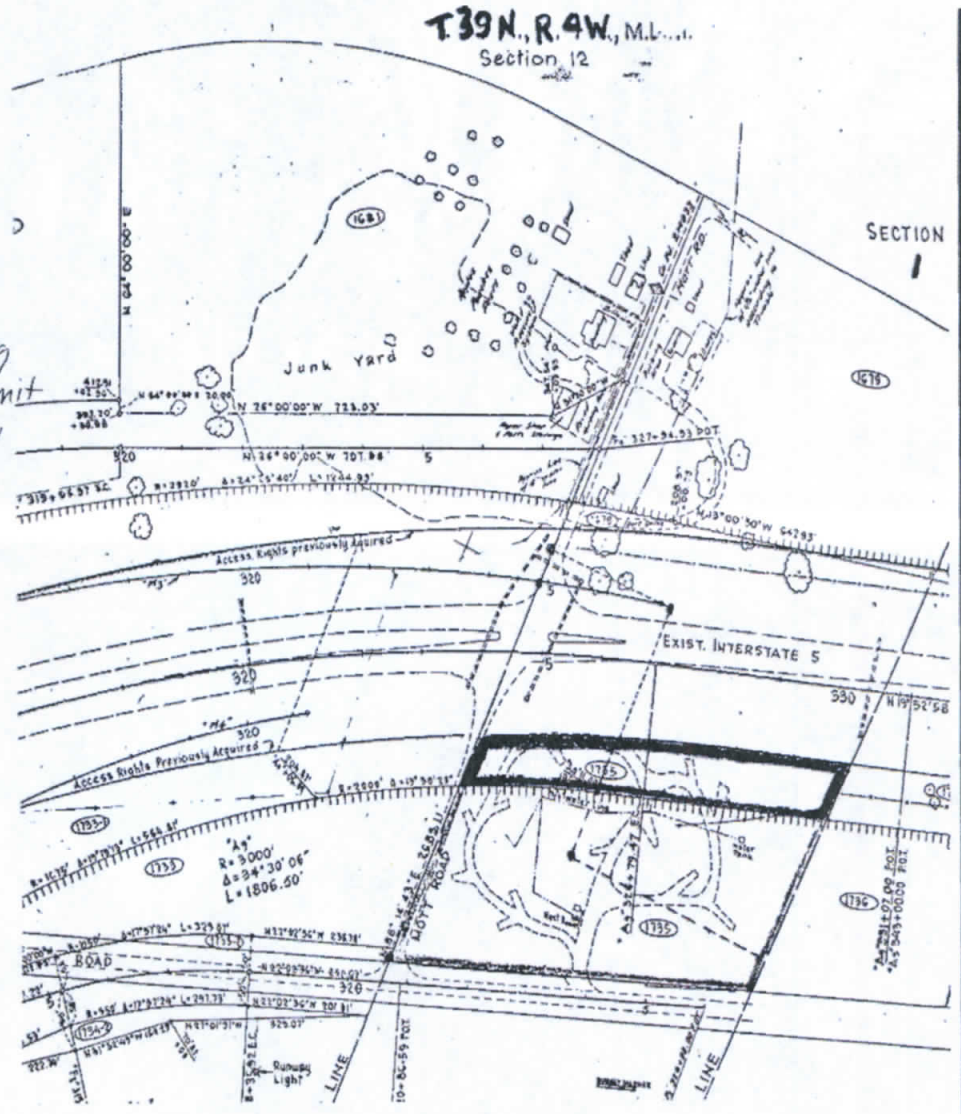
The Mott Campground was operated until 1970 when the Department of Transportation proposed reconstruction of Interstate 5. The upgrade required additional width thereby further reducing the space available for the campground.

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A Multiple Use Impact Report was completed that concluded that existing camping facilities at Sims and the new Lake Siskiyou reservoir were adequate to supply the camping demand and the Mott campground could be closed.

In 1972 a Special Use Permit was issued to Department of Transportation for an additional 1.2 acres of the donated parcels for inclusion in the freeway right-of-way.

Map accompanying
1972 Special Use Permit
for additional ROW
along Interstate 5



At this time, the remainder parcels are no longer needed for either the CCC camp, a Forest Service Campground or other National Forest purposes. Due to their location outside of the Forest boundary and entirely surrounded by private land, they are more appropriately managed as private residential use or municipal use.



