



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: Lobanillo Swales Interpretive Retracement Trail on El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail

PEPC Project Number: 74021

Description of Action (Project Description):

Construction of a retracement trail and other facilities on private land along El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail.

Project Location: The Lobanillo Swales site is located in Sabine County, Texas, directly off of Highway 21, approximately 11 miles east of San Augustine and 2 miles west of Geneva. The site was purchased by El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association in 2014, and it contains some of the most pristine and well preserved historic trail remnants left along the national historic trail in the United States.

Location 1

County: Sabine State: TX

Mitigation(s):

- Archaeological monitoring of some activities may be required, depending on Texas SHPO comments.

CE Citations: CEs for Which Documentation is Necessary

2015 NPS NEPA Handbook, Section 3.3:

#5. Installation of signs, displays, kiosks, etc.

- The project will include interpretive wayside exhibits.

#11. Minor trail relocation, development of compatible trail networks on logging roads or other established routes, and trail maintenance and repair.

- The project will include the construction of 1,140 feet of trail surfaced with crushed rock or fines no more than four feet wide. The trail is on the established route of El Camino Real de los Tejas.

#16. Landscaping and landscape maintenance in previously disturbed or developed areas.

- The project will include vegetation removal and erosion control structures.

#18. Construction of minor structures, including small improved parking lots, in previously disturbed or developed areas.

- The project will include construction and surfacing of a short access road and a small four-space parking area in a previously disturbed area.

19. Construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible for the disabled.

- The project will be made accessible for the disabled.

Explanation:

A CE is the appropriate NEPA pathway for the Lobanillo Swales Interpretive Retracement Trail because the project activities will not result in any individual or cumulative significant environmental impacts.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

Superintendent:  Date: 7/12/2017

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?	No	
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?	No	
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	No	
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	No	
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?	No	