



## Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

**Project:** Optic Cable Communications Connection to Existing Outside Line Upgrade

**PEPC Project Number:** 96319

**Description of Action (Project Description):**

This project proposes to trench/bore/install/splice a 6 strand fiber optic cable and any needed conduit from the Spalding Unit VC office area to the splice vault on the south side of Hwy 95. The park is looking at getting fiber optic internet access from the Nez Perce Tribe which has a fiber optic cable in place which is not connected to the NPS facilities. Work will include trenching, installation of conduit, fiber optic cable, splicing, and a fiber vault.. Construction specifications/details: Boring or trenching under/through the NPS museum ROW road. Boring/trenching is planned for 24 inches or less and that would be the main disturbance to the ground. Also a 2x3x2 ft ground vault near the park service fence for the shortest path, and up to 3 ground vaults/pull boxes, for the alternate path (one at each direction turn) may be required.

**Project Locations:**

**Location**

**County:** Nez Perce **State:** ID

There are no required mitigations identified.

**CE Citation:** C.15 Installation of underground utilities in previously disturbed areas having stable soils, or in an existing utility right-of-way.

**CE Justification:**

The area to be trenched, wherein the optic cable is to be inserted, has been previously heavily modified and landscaped. As well, the entire area has been archaeologically tested and sampled with an artifactual recovery of exactly zero items. Impairment of resources will not result from this activity.

**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.

**Signature**

**Superintendent:**

Charles Beall

**Date:** 09/10/2020

**Extraordinary Circumstances:**

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
<b>A.</b> Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	
<b>B.</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	
<b>C.</b> Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	
<b>D.</b> Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	
<b>E.</b> Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	
<b>F.</b> Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	
<b>G.</b> 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	
<b>H.</b> 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	
<b>I.</b> Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	
<b>J.</b> Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	
<b>K.</b> 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	
<b>L.</b> 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	