

**Attachment 11C(1)**

**Explanatory Note for DOI: Department Wide Program  
Wildland Fire Management  
November 2, 2009**

The OWFC was approved for ARRA funding under one Treasury Appropriations Fund: Hazardous Fuels Reduction, WUI.

No new projects have been entered in the report. For increased transparency and because of the relatively limited number of projects, OWFC projects are listed individually and there are not any grouped projects.

For some projects, compliance documents were completed several years ago. For each of these projects, we have confirmed that there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts, and that the conditions of and around the projects have not changed significantly.

**Pending Categorical Exclusion actions-** There are 6 out of 16 categorical exclusions whose status remains as pending. The reason that projects remain in a pending status is that project NEPA will be completed as contracts between the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tribes are readied.

**Pending Environmental Assessment actions-** Two environmental assessments remain pending within the time lines that were established for the projects. One project is awaiting clearance of federal environmental compliance. The other project is a component of a more comprehensive hazardous fuels treatment effort that is being analyzed as a set of actions.

**Class of Action Changes-** Six Bureau of Indian Affairs projects were changed from Environmental Assessments to Categorical Exclusions since the previous report. Field offices with the projects in question had determined, from the experience of neighboring administrative units and from the guidance of regional offices, that a more expedient process for completing NEPA requirements would be satisfactory. Although the Department completes the environmental documentation for and implements thousands of hazardous fuels treatments every year, some field offices do not complete many projects.

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