

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

The following is a list of Categorical Exclusions (CE) specific to the Valles Caldera Trust NEPA procedures and is in accordance with CEQ's NEPA regulations.

Categorical Exclusion	Example and Limitations
Policy development, planning and implementation which relate to routine activities	Example: Personnel, organizational change, record management, internal communication, financial management, or similar administrative functions
Procurement of equipment and supplies	Example: Tracking collars, chainsaws, microscopes Limitations: Must be "consistent with federal environmental policies and direction"
Closures or other orders issued to provide resource protection or to protect public health and safety.	Example: Temporary Closure of an area during or following a wildfire. Limitations: Must not exceed one year in duration
Location and maintenance of landline boundaries and geographic sites	Example: Survey and placement of boundary markers
Routine repair and maintenance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities Administrative Sites Removable communication facilities* 	Example: "Buildings, fences, water systems, roads, trails, signs, and ancillary facilities" Limitations: must be associated with the administration and management of the Preserve *cannot be more than 250 sq. ft.
Use and care for horses or other stock	Example: Grazing of horses used for administrative activities. Limitations: must be for administrative purposes and limited in context and intensity
Repair and maintenance of recreation sites	Example: Fixing washed out trails or damaged signage
Reconstruction or maintenance of utilities within a designated corridor	Example: Existing utilities (power, communications, water etc.) can be maintained.
Inventories, research activities, and studies.	Example: Resource inventories and routine data collection like collecting plant height data, creating an inventory of tree species, or instrumentation to measure weather, water quality etc.. Limitations: limited in context and intensity
Implementation or modification of minor management practices	Example: The placement of salt blocks, temporary fencing, and the placement of temporary water tanks to improve range conditions and/or animal distribution.
Treatment of forest structure and fuel conditions for the purpose of reducing the hazard of large, stand replacing crown fires in areas where such high severity fires are outside an historic range of variability.	Example: Projects are limited to a total area in the Preserve of no more than 640 acres in a calendar year, and may involve prescribed fire and/or the removal of live trees, the diameter of which will be: (A) No larger than nine inches at breast height; or (B) Determined by publicly available site-specific size class information used to define an appropriate diameter and basal area distribution of trees to be removed.
Removal of brush or hazard trees near roads or buildings, where such action is necessary to protect historic structures or the health and safety of the public and/or employees.	Example: Removing hazard trees close to historic buildings Such actions "are clearly limited in context and intensity"
Authorizing seasonal or short-term backcountry recreation or special use actions	Example: Day-use hiking; wildlife observation; educational field trips; and other small group activities.

Based on reviewer comments to better quantify the categories listed in the proposed procedures, a categorical exclusion may not include the addition of more than 1320 feet of road or trail.