

DECISION RECORD
for the
ROAMING SALVAGE TIMBER SALES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
EA No. OR 014-96-04

DECISION

My decision is to implement the Proposed Action Alternative of the Roaming Salvage Timber Sales Environmental Assessment, EA. No. OR 014-96-04. No mitigating measures were proposed for the west side of the Klamath Falls Resource Area in addition to the Project Design Features included in the proposed action. The sale area is within the known range of the Northern spotted owl and within the area analyzed in the Northwest Forest Plan. A "no effect" determination was made for the Jenny Creek Sucker.

DECISION RATIONALE

The decision stated above is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Final Klamath Falls Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (June 1995), the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management Habitat for Late-Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl, the Klamath Falls Resource Area Fire Management EA (No. OR-014-94-09), and the Klamath Falls Resource Area Integrated Weed Control Plan EA (No. OR-014-93-09). The impacts created by the above decision do not require further analysis as noted in the FONS1 determination.

The Deferred Harvest and No Action Alternative were rejected because of the immediate need to remove what remaining value is left in the salvage timber. Deferring harvest would result in the loss of commercial value. Existing conditions would not significantly improve if the area was deferred from harvest, and the impacts of future harvest would not vary substantially from those anticipated under the proposed action.

DISCUSSION

The proposed salvage sales will be offered under this EA as partially cruised. A small portion of the proposed sale volume will be marked and cruised to provide a representative sample of the sale volume and logging conditions. The purchaser will bid on the precruised volume and the estimated additional volume. The remaining volume will be marked and cruised directly ahead of the logging operation. This procedure will continue until the target sale volume has been reached or the available salvage is exhausted. If the target sale volume is reached, and additional salvage exists, a decision will be made to either modify the existing timber sale contract or write a new one to capture the additional salvage. In no case will the total harvested sale volume exceed the volume analyzed in this EA (15M MBF) without an amendment to the EA.

This procedure is being implemented to capture as much of the salvage volume as possible before it is lost to decay. If a conventional sale procedure was used, the cruising and marking would not be completed prior to the winter of 1996 and logging would not begin until the summer of 1997. By the time logging could begin in 1997, much of the original cruise volume and value would be lost to decay. In addition, the widely scattered nature of the salvage harvest would make the implementation and logistics of a conventional sale difficult.

Signed _____ Date _____

A. Barron Bail
Klamath Falls Resource Area Manager