

Decision Record

Edson Creek Streambank Erosion Control Project

Environmental Assessment OR-128-99-14

Background

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Coos Bay District, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) to evaluate a proposed streambank erosion control project within the Edson Creek Recreational Area. The intent of the proposed project is to control bank erosion/channel migration at the Edson Creek Recreation Site in order to maintain present hydrologic function and meet recreation objectives. This project is part of the Jobs-in-the-Woods initiative to restore watershed conditions. The Proposed Action, Alternative I, and their design features are described in the attached Environmental Assessment No. OR128-99-14.

The Coos Bay District announced the availability of the EA and FONSI for a thirty day public review period beginning on May 27, 1999 and ending June 27, 1999. Copies of the EA and FONSI were sent to the appropriate government agencies, public interest groups, and individuals on our District mailing list and were also available on the District website. The District received no formal comments from any interested parties involving the EA or FONSI.

Decision

My decision is to adopt the Proposed Action, as described and analyzed in the Environmental Assessment (EA) No. OR128-99-14. The Proposed Action incorporates a bioengineering design to reestablish the desired channel dimension and maintain appropriate rates of bank erosion and channel migration. The design features and conservation practices listed on page 4 of the EA are accepted as described therein, including seasonal restrictions to minimize disturbance to possible nesting Marbled Murrelets.

Decision Rationale

The Proposed Action upholds the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) objectives better than

The Proposed Action is designed to minimize disturbance effects on Marbled Murrelets and the riparian environment. The bioengineering design is expected to cause no significant adverse impacts to the human environment. There would be no negative impacts on:

1. Air Quality
2. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
3. Cultural or Historical Values
4. Farm Lands
5. Native American Religious Concerns
6. Port-Orford Cedar Management
7. Threatened & Endangered Species (botanical)
8. Hazardous Material
9. Wild and Scenic Rivers
10. Wilderness

Some minor short-term impacts to flood plains, noxious weeds, riparian zones, water quality, and Threatened & Endangered Species (wildlife) are expected to occur, and are addressed in the EA. The design features and conservation practices incorporated into the Proposed Action ensure that no significant adverse impacts to the human environment will arise.

The Decision is consistent to both the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan (RMP)*, *Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, the accompanying *Record of Decision (ROD)* (BLM, 1995), and the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl with its Record of Decision* (Interagency, 1994).

Monitoring

Compliance and effectiveness monitoring will be performed during the streambank erosion control project. Methods will include inspections during the construction phase of the project, periodic inspections of project and donor sites by affected resource specialist, and long-term monitoring of the riparian habitat.

Karla Swanson, Field Manager

Date

Myrtlewood Resource Area