

Proposed Action Title/Type: School District 13 and Southwestern Oregon Community College WUI Hazardous Fuels Removal

Location of Proposed Action: T.25S., R.13W., Sec. 16 Tax Lot 6000, Willamette Meridian

Applicant (if any): School District 13, Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) and the Coquille Watershed Association

Conformance With Applicable Land Use Plan: This proposed action is subject to the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan & Environmental Impact Statement* and its Record of Decision (BLM, 1995); which is in conformance with 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* and its Record of Decision (Interagency, 1994). This plan has been reviewed to determine if the proposed action conforms with the land use plan's terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1601.5.

Remarks: The Proposed Action is in compliance with the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan & Environmental Impact Statement* and its Record of Decision (BLM, 1995)(RMP); hereby incorporated by reference. The RMP has been determined to be consistent with the standards and guidelines for healthy lands at the land use plan scale and associated timelines.

Need for Proposed Action: Development actions taken by School District 13 and Southwestern Oregon Community College has resulted in hazardous fuels buildup. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will not allow School District 13 and SWOCC to mitigate the hazardous fuels situation by burning for public health and safety reasons.

Description of Proposed Action: Neither School District 13 or SWOCC currently have the money to abate the hazardous fuels situation. Mitigation can be accomplished through an Agreement between the Coos Bay District BLM and partnering Coquille Watershed Association to provide money and labor to abate the current hazardous fuels situation.

Step 1: Consolidate and move fuels on both the Oak Street and SWOCC sites to Oak Street to facilitate removal and reduction of the hazardous fuels.

Time Frame – approximately 1 week

Equipment – Excavator for moving and consolidating fuels

Dump truck to transport fuels from SWOCC to Oak Street and to move fuels on the Oak Street site

Dozer to facilitate dump truck and excavator entry and exit from the Oak Street site

Chainsaw to cut and split root wads

Step 2: Grind the material to form mulch that can be utilized for landscaping or as an alternative energy source. If the material is used in any other way than on site trucking will be required.

Time Frame – approximately 1 week

Equipment – Excavator for moving, consolidating fuels and to feed the grinder

Dozer for moving and consolidating fuels for grinding

Chainsaw to cut and split root wads

Grinder to mulch hazardous fuels

Environmental Impacts to Critical Elements of the Human Environment:

<u>Critical Elements</u>	<u>Affected</u>		<u>Critical Elements</u>	<u>Affected</u>	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Air Quality	<u>X</u>	—	T & E Species	—	<u>X</u>
ACECs	—	<u>X</u>	Wastes, Hazardous/Solid	—	<u>X</u>
Cultural Resources	—	<u>X</u>	Water Quality	—	<u>X</u>
Farmlands, Prime/Unique	—	<u>X</u>	Wetlands/Riparian Zones/ACS	—	<u>X</u>
Floodplains	—	<u>X</u>	Wild & Scenic Rivers	—	<u>X</u>
Unresolved conflicts	—	<u>X</u>	Wilderness	—	<u>X</u>
Noxious Weed Management	—	<u>X</u>	Port Orford Cedar Management	—	<u>X</u>
Environmental Justice Concerns	—	<u>X</u>	Energy production, transmission	—	<u>X</u>
Native American religious concerns and/or					

Description of Impacts to Specific Elements of the Human Environment: The use of heavy equipment in moving and processing the hazardous fuel has the potential to increase the noise and particulate matter levels of the project area during the contract period.

Description of Mitigation Measures and Residual Impacts:

Prior to implementation School District 13 will be contacting and providing project information to the neighborhood.

Step 1: Work to transport material from SWOCC to the Oak Street site and the cleanup of the Oak Street site for Step 2 will be done in the late summer and during normal work hours (8 to 5) Monday through Friday to minimize noise and particulate impacts to the adjacent neighbors and students

Step 2: Grinding of the material will be done in the late summer and during normal work hours (8 to 5) Monday through Friday to minimize noise and particulate impacts to the adjacent neighbors and students.

Persons/Agencies Consulted:

- School District 13 – Boyd Bjorkquist – Athletic Director North Bend High School
- Southwestern Oregon Community College – John Speasl - Athletic Director SWOCC
- Coquille Watershed Association – Jennifer Hempel - Watershed Coordinator
- Stuntzner Engineering – Ron Bruce – Wetlands Mitigation

Preparer(s):

Earl Burke – District Fire Management Officer

Date: 8-20-2002

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/DECISION RECORD.

I have reviewed this environmental assessment including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts. I have determined that the proposed action with the mitigation measures described below will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an EIS is not required.. I have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan. It is my decision to implement the project as described in the Description of the Proposed Action section with the mitigation measures identified below.

Mitigation Measures:

Decision Approved by:

District Manager:\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Ä

Photo 1 (taken late April early May 2002)



North Bend School District Property on Oak Street  
West side of property looking east towards Oak Street

General History or Chronology of Oak Street property:

- ? Initial site work started in the late 1990's was done by the Army National Guard
- ? The North Bend School District was required to mitigate impacts to the wetlands on the property by accomplishing two off site wetland habitat restoration projects before further work could continue
- ? 2001 wetland mitigation projects completed and accepted.
- ? The North Bend School District and SWOCC have been denied burning permits by DEQ for public health and safety reasons.
- ? April 2002 Army National Guard completed clearing of the site.

Photo 2



North Bend High School property on Oak Street – north looking south.

Photo 3



Southwestern Oregon Community College property to be treated, south looking north. The fuel from this site will be moved to the Oak Street site. The southwest corner of the Oak Street property can be seen just to the

right of center at the top of the photo. The softball field is to the north and the soccer field to the south.