

DECISION RECORD/RATIONALE/FONSI

Young Stand Pruning - 2001

EA # OR1 10-01-33

I. DECISION: Implement the proposed action as described in Environmental Assessment (EA# OR 110-01-33). Implementation of this decision should include all project design features as described in the environmental assessment. Pruning will only be done in the matrix land allocation. No pruning will be done within riparian reserves.

II. RATIONALE: Implementing the proposed action will provide for a high quality grade wood product. It will also help meet the demand for future wood products, reduce fuel loadings and support the local and regional economy. This action incorporates several project design features which minimize short and long term adverse effects of the actions to be implemented.

The No Action Alternative was rejected because it does not meet the intended silviculture objectives for the subject stands and natural pruning could increase fire hazards due to fuel ladders close to the ground.

This decision is consistent with the Medford District Resource Management Plan and the Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl. This decision is also consistent with the Endangered Species Act, The Native American Religious Freedom Act and cultural resource management laws and regulations.

III. FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: On the basis of the information contained in the environmental assessment for the subject project, it is my determination that the decision stated above does not constitute significant effects to the quality of the human environment. In addition this project does not exceed the range of effects discussed in the EIS documents that the project EA is tiered. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

In accordance with the BLM Forest Management Regulation 43 CFR 5003.2 (a&c), the effective date of the decision will be the date of publication of the Notice of Decision and FONSI in The Grants Pass Daily Courier. This establishes the date for initiation of the protest period in accordance with 43 CFR 5003.3.



Abbie Jossie
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Medford District, Bureau of Land Management



Date