

**FATE CREEK DAM REMOVAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SOUTH RIVER FIELD OFFICE
EA# OR - 105 - 99 - 02**

Date Prepared: May 7, 1999

Decision Record

Decision: It is my decision to authorize the removal of an old concrete and mortar diversion dam from Fate Creek, located on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the SE¼ SE¼ of Section 31, T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M. The dam will be replaced by a new diversion system that will provide water for irrigation to adjacent landowners, without impeding fish passage. Installation of in-stream structures below the site of the existing dam will assist fish passage beyond a natural rock ledge that rises approximately 3½ feet above the water level of the lower pool.

The objectives of the project are to provide water for irrigation and the restoration of access by fish and other aquatic organisms to the upper reaches of Fate Creek. Restoration of access to the upper reaches of the creek will provide additional spawning and rearing habitat for the endangered Umpqua River cutthroat trout and the threatened Oregon Coast coho salmon.

Rationale for the Decision: The decision to allow the removal of the existing dam, replace it with a new diversion system, and place structures in-stream to aid fish passage does not result in any undue environmental degradation. The project is consistent with the objectives of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy contained in the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl and in keeping with the standards and guidelines of the Roseburg District Record of Decision/ Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP), approved June 2, 1995.

No issues were identified by other agencies or tribal governments. The Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact were made available for public review and comment for a period of thirty (30) days from April 7, 1999, to May 7, 1999. No comments were received from members of the public.

Compliance and Monitoring: Compliance with project design features and Best Management Practices (ROD/RMP, Appendix D, pp. 129- 143) identified in the Environmental Assessment will be accomplished through BLM service contract administration procedures. Staff fisheries and hydrology personnel will conduct effectiveness monitoring by observing hydrological and biological responses during various seasons and stream flows.

Protest and Appeals Procedures: As outlined in 43 CFR § 5003 Administrative Remedies,

protests may be filed with the authorized officer within 15 days of the publication date of the Decision Notice in the News Review.

E. Dwight Fielder, Field Manager
South River Field Office

Date