

FONSI AND DECISION RECORD
Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation
EA OR-104-00-01
SWIFTWATER FIELD OFFICE

In-stream Restoration: Large Wood and Boulder Placement

An interdisciplinary (ID) team of the Swiftwater Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in coordination with the Coos Bay District BLM, has analyzed the proposed **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation** project work. This analysis was documented in EA # OR-104-00-01. This analysis covers pulling or felling of trees into streams and/or large wood placement in approximately 42 stream miles and is expected to provide benefits to water quality, fish and wildlife habitat. A determination of NEPA adequacy was also developed and concluded that using boulders for instream structures would have similar affects as the use of large wood.

Decision:

It is my decision to implement that portion of the Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation EA that includes placement of approximately 20 logs and 230 boulders within Smith River (T20S R6W Sec. 31, T21S R6W Sec. 6, T20S R7W Sec. 25) and approximately 30 logs and 20 boulders in Cleghorn Creek (T21S R7W Sec. 3 and 4) as shown on the attached maps. These streams all fall within the Roseburg District, Swiftwater Resource Area boundary. Logs to be used in the project have been stockpiled off the Smith River Road (County Road 37), at the junction with BLM Road 20-7-25.0 as well as at a site located in T21S R7W Sec. 15 along the BLM road 22-7-2.0. Boulders would be used from commercial sources. Funds are currently available to place these structures within the specified streams analyzed in the above mentioned, EA # OR-104-00-01.

Finding of No Significant Impacts:

Based on the analysis of the potential environmental impacts contained in the **Upper and Middle Smith River II Restoration and Rehabilitation** EA, we have determined that impacts from the listed projects above are in conformance with the Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan, June 1995. The impacts from these projects are not expected to be significant, and an environmental impact statement is not required.

Decision Rationale:

The selected portion of the Proposed Action Alternative meets the objectives for lands in key watershed, the Matrix, Late Successional Reserve, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations, and follows the principles set forth in the ROD for the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP), dated April 13, 1994 and the RMPs, dated May and June 1995.

For cultural clearances, the stream reaches identified have been inventoried for cultural resources. If new cultural resources are discovered, they will be avoided or mitigated. Avoidance or mitigation of cultural sites will ensure that the Section 106 requirements of the National Historical Preservation Act and Oregon BLM/Oregon SHPO protocols will be satisfied.

A Letter of Concurrence has been received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluding that the actions are ". . . not likely to adversely affect the continued existence of the spotted owl, murrelet, or bald eagle, and are not likely to adversely modify spotted owl or murrelet critical habitat."

A Biological Opinion has been received from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) concluding that the actions are ". . . not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Oregon Coast coho or Oregon Coast steelhead trout."

The project design features (PDFs) for log placements are listed on pages 10-15 of the EA. Surveys in accordance with the *Record of Decision and Standard and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* have been completed in the riparian areas and stream reaches shown on the attached map.

The thirty day public review and comment period was completed on July 2 , 2000. During the thirty day public review period, comments were received from Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. The substance of these comments expressed concerns about the potential of source large woody debris (LWD) coming from blow down areas in late successional reserves. The EA dealt specifically with the highest priority stream locations needing LWD placed in the stream and did not address the source of LWD. These streams were chosen as high priority because they also have the highest potential of creating quality habitat within the stream system for the above listed fish. The stockpiled logs for tree placement came from blow down on BLM roads.

Compliance and Monitoring:

Monitoring will be conducted as per the guidance given in the ROD and the RMP.

Protest and Appeal 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.

For further information, contact Jay Carlson, Field Manager, Swiftwater Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg, OR 97470, (541) 440-4930.

Jay Carlson
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Date

Smith River/Cleghorn Log Placement 2003

