

**RED TOP SALVAGE-PHASE I  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
South River Resource Area  
EA# OR105-96-16**

Date Prepared: April 1, 1997

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

The South River Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management, has completed the Environmental Assessment (EA) on the Red Top Salvage located in T28S, R3W, Sections 23 & 26, and T29S R2W, Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 & 17.

The project is not within the proximity of park lands, prime farmlands, or wild and scenic rivers. Wetlands would be tagged outside of the unit boundaries and wet areas less than one (1) acre in size would have clumped retention trees placed to protect them. No unique characteristics would be impacted (CEQ Regulations, section 1508.27(b)(3)).

There were no Native American religious concerns identified through scoping. The cultural resources identified in the project area would be protected by being posted out of the sale area. The mitigation would assure that there would be no adverse impacts to scientific, cultural, or historical resources (CEQ Regulations, section 1508.27(b)(8)).

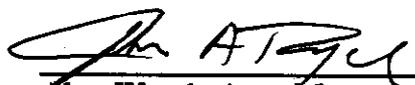
The salvage area overlaps the provincial home range of six Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) sites. The overall impact to the NSO is considered to be a "may affect likely to adversely affect" due to the removal of 130 acres of suitable habitat and an incidental take permit has been issued. The peregrine falcon has not been observed in the sale area, and the sale area is beyond the range of the Columbian White-tailed Deer and the marbled murrelet. The proposed project is considered a "no affect" on the bald eagle. The project would constitute a "may affect likely to adversely affect" action on the Umpqua River cutthroat trout (URCT), Coastal coho salmon and West Coast steelhead.

Terms and Conditions stated in the Biological Opinions from the NMFS and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), would be implemented in order to minimize take and impacts would be within the range analyzed by the ROD/RMP. There would be no significant adverse impacts to these special status species (CEQ, section 1508.27(b)(9)).

The Pacific Yew Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (Sept. 1993, p. 5) states that the decision will be implemented only when there is a demand for Pacific yew from federal lands for taxol. There has been no demand for the taxol from federal lands since 1993. Pacific yew would be tallied and reserved from harvest to meet the requirement of the 1992 Pacific Yew Act (PL 102-335 106 Stat. 859). Applied mitigation would insure that the action does not threaten a violation of Federal, State, or local law (CEQ, section 1508.27(b)(10)).

Of the ten points under section 1508.27(b), the following will not be discussed further in this document, because there are no: significant beneficial or adverse effects; significant effects on public health or safety; effects on the quality of the human environment that are likely to be highly controversial; highly uncertain or unknown risks; precedents for future actions with significant effects; and no anticipated cumulatively significant impacts.

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the EA (pp.3-6), I have determined that the proposed action will not have significant impact on the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and an environmental impact statement is not required. The project is in conformance with the Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP) for the Roseburg District, approved by the Oregon/Washington State Director on June 2, 1995. The Aquatic Conservation Strategy will be met (ROD/RMP, p. 19). The Best Management Practices (BMP's) listed in Appendix D of the ROD/RMP (p.129-143) were used to develop project design features to mitigate impacts.

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Alan Wood, Area Manager  
South River Resource Area

5-16-97  
Date