

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
And  
DECISION RECORD  
Culp Creek Aquatic Habitat Restoration  
Environmental Assessment No. 0R090-EA-04-10

Background:

An Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Culp Creek Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project were prepared by the Upper Willamette Resource Area, Eugene District. This project would occur in the Row River Watershed in Township 21 South, Range 1 West, Section 31, Willamette Meridian.

Purpose and Objective

The purpose and objective of the project is to restore the spatial and temporal connectivity and physical integrity of the aquatic ecosystem by eliminating human-caused barriers to fish and other aquatic-dependent species within the watershed.

Public Comment:

The EA was advertised on May 5, 2004 in the Eugene Register Guard as available for a 30-day public review period. No comments were received during the review period.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

On the basis of the information contained in the attached Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the Proposed Action will not have significant environmental impacts not already addressed in the *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994)* and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (June 1995)*, and the *Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (2001)* with which this EA is in conformance, and does not, in and of itself, constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, a new environmental impact statement or supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

Decision:

Based on the analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment No. 0R090-EA-04-10 and the Finding of No Significant Impact, it is my decision to implement the Proposed Action. This action proposes (within the project area) to remove the old "Power House Dam" on main stem Culp Creek, and restore the stream channel and riparian area to a more natural condition. In addition, this action proposes to construct three boulder weirs downstream of the dam site, and restore a damaged stream bank resulting from an improperly installed road drainage culvert.

Decision Rationale:

The Proposed Action was selected because over the long-term it restores the physical integrity of the aquatic system, restores the spatial and temporal connectivity within the drainage, and restores water quality to support health riparian and aquatic ecosystems. The project would provide for the movement of fish and other aquatic-dependent species through the system for a number of life history needs and increase the genetic diversity throughout the Culp Creek drainage.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (April 1994), and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (May 1995).

Administrative Review Opportunities:

The decision to implement this aquatic habitat restoration project may be protested under 43 CFR 5003 - Administrative Remedies. In accordance with 43 CFR 5003.2, this decision will not be subject to protest until the notice of decision is published in the Eugene Register-Guard on July 14, 2004. The published notice of decision will establish the effective date of the decision. 43 CFR 5003.2(a). Protests of this decision must be filed with this office within fifteen (15) days after publication of the notice of decision.

Approved by: Emily Rice  
Upper Willamette Resource Area Manager

Date: July 9, 2004