

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
Eugene District Office
Old Growth Ridge Trail Extension
Environmental Assessment
OR-090-EA-04-09

Decision Record Documentation
and
Finding of No Significant Impact

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Siuslaw Resource Area, Eugene District, has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Old Growth Trail Extension in the Whittaker Creek area, T. 18S., R. 8W., Section 21., Western Lane County, Oregon.

The design features of the Proposed Action and Alternatives are described in the (EA). No significant adverse impacts are expected to threatened and endangered species, special status plants, geology and soils, fisheries, hydrology, other wildlife, and cultural resources.

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the Proposed Action or alternatives will not have significant environmental impacts beyond those 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) as amended, with which this EA is in conformance, and does not, in and of itself, constitute a major federal action having a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement or a 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 (EA) OR-090-04-09 and the Finding of No Significant Impact it is my decision to select the Proposed Action Alternative. Implementation of this alternative will complete the original proposal of the Old Growth Ridge Trail (1992) to construct a loop that will offer the hiker a different route back to the campground, rather than the up-and-back pathway that exists now. Implementation is planned to begin and be completed during the summer months of 2004. A small memorial site overlooking Whittaker Creek would be constructed and interpretive signing opportunities identified in the environmental assessment would be implemented as funding permits.

