

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

DECISION RECORD and FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Badger One Timber Sale
Environmental Assessment No. OR090-EA-02-26
Sale Tract No. E-99-123

DECISION:

Based on the analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment (EA) OR090-02-26 and the finding of no significant impact it is my decision to select the proposed action. The Badger One Timber Sale is located in T. 17 S., R. 7 W., Section 35 Willamette Meridian. A cruised volume of 1.0 million board feet of timber would be harvested. The Proposed Action includes forest management activities including regeneration harvest; road construction; road improvement and road decommissioning; site preparation; and tree planting in an approximately 27 acre forested area within the General Forest Management Area (GFMA) of the Matrix land use allocation (LUA). No actions would occur within Riparian Reserves. All the project design features identified in the EA will be implemented to mitigate any impacts.

DECISION RATIONALE:

The Proposed Action was selected because it best meets the goals and objectives for the GFMA and Riparian Reserve LUA's within the Wildcat Creek Watershed as discussed in the EA. The proposed action is tiered to and is in compliance 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 (ROD)/Resource Management Plan (RMP), June 1995, as amended by the Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management, January, 2001.

Watershed analysis has been completed for the Wildcat Watershed. The proposed action would maintain or restore riparian conditions by protecting structural features currently present. The treatment is consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) Objectives.

Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, formal consultation was completed with the Fish and Wildlife Service on this proposed action, along with other actions proposed in the Eugene District for Fiscal Years 2003-2004. The Fish and Wildlife Service issued its Biological Opinion on September 30, 2002, completing consultation. According to Eugene District's Biological Assessment for habitat modifying projects for fiscal years 2003-2004, Badger One would "May Affect, but is Not Likely to Adversely Affect" the Northern spotted owl due to loss of dispersal habitat within the unit. After treatment, there would still be approximately 80% of federal lands remaining in a dispersal condition within that quarter township. This proposal would have a "No Affect" on the marbled murrelet and other federally listed/proposed terrestrial species.

This proposed action was determined by the Level 1 Coast Range Province Team to be a "May Affect, but Not Likely to Adversely Affect" for the coastal coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*). The Biological Assessment was submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for concurrence of the "May Affect, but Not Likely to Adversely Affect" determination on June 16, 1999. A letter of concurrence from NMFS was submitted to this office on July 23, 1999 for the Proposed Action.

The Bureau of Land Management, Eugene District, consulted with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians as part of the cultural inventory to be conducted in conjunction with the environmental analyzes process for the Fiscal Year 1998 and 1999 proposed timber sale program. A letter was sent on September 24, 1997. No response was received. The Bureau of Land Management,

Coast Range Resource Area also consulted with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians on June 4, 1998 seeking cultural information as part of the Wildcat Watershed Analysis. A response was received on June 11, 1998 concerning cultural resources within the watershed.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI):

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 by the Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management, January, 2001, with which this EA is in conformance, and does not 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.

Both the EA and preliminary FONSI were advertised on October 2, 2002 as available for a 30-day public review period in the Eugene Register-Guard. Copies of the EA and preliminary FONSI were mailed to interested individuals on our mailing list. Two public comment letters were received; one letter expressed that techniques and methods to be used appeared to be sufficient and one letter expressed several concerns. Their comments were considered and concerns responded to with a new section added to the EA. No changes were made to the proposed action or design features as a result of comments. Copies of the EA, DR and FONSI were mailed to the interested parties.

 /s/ Steven Calish
Steven Calish,
Siuslaw Field Manager

 11/20/02
Date