

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

DECISION RECORD DOCUMENTATION and FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
Wildcat Watershed Transportation Management Plan  
Implementation  
Environmental Assessment No. OR-094-EA-00-23

**Background:**

The Wildcat Creek Watershed analysis identified road closures as an opportunity to benefit aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat in the watershed. Approximately 22 miles of road segments are identified for decommissioning to a level one maintenance standard. These roads would be waterbarred, blocked to vehicular traffic and stream crossing culverts would be removed. These actions would also reduce the extent to which noxious weeds would be spread by vehicular traffic. The Coast Range Interdisciplinary Team designed priorities to implement the Transportation Management Plan. These priorities are: listed salmonid species, sedimentation to streams and reduction of noxious weeds. Roads with a more direct impact to streams would be decommissioned first. The remaining road segments would be decommissioned over the next 5 years. These roads would be opened for future resource management activities on an as needed basis.

**Fonsi:**

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that the action 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), 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.

**Decision:**

Based on the analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment (EA) OR-094-EA-00-23 and the Finding of No Significant Impact it is my decision to select the proposed action. Implementation of this action will result in the decommissioning of approximately 22 miles of road segments to a level one maintenance in the Wildcat Creek Watershed.

**Rationale:**

The proposed action is tiered to and 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. The Proposed Action will reduce the extent to which the existing road system within the Riparian Reserve functions as an extension of the stream network, would restore or enhance the connectivity of the stream channel and Riparian Reserve for both aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources, would reduce potential risk of future road fill failures and reduce the spread of noxious weeds. Placing these road segments in a level one maintenance would reduce the future maintenance workload in this watershed.

**Consultation and Coordination:**

Formal consultation with the USFWS has been conducted for Fiscal Year 2000 and it was determined these actions would “Affect, but is not likely to Adversely Affect” the spotted owl and marbled murrelet due to potential audio disturbances to these birds during the latter part of the nesting period. There is “No Affect to any other Federally listed or proposed species known to occur in the vicinity”.

Although there may be some short term negative impacts to wildlife due to audio disturbance, the overall results would benefit wildlife species because of reduced human disturbance.

Project work such as culvert removals would comply with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife times lines for working in stream channels. Water levels would be low and no fish are expected to be present in the project area during the period of work.

Signed: *Diana Bus*  
Coast Range Field Manager

Date: July 21, 2000