

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

1792A  
EA-99-05

DECISION RECORD  
Environmental Assessment No. OR090-EA-99-05

Background:

An environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Deer Creek Aquatic Restoration Project were prepared by the McKenzie Resource Area, Eugene District Office. The project would occur within the Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area (CCAMA) and within a selected Riparian Reserve (RR) within the McKenzie Resource Area. The proposed action would target up to 30 trees to be pulled over from the nearby RR, into the stream channel and flood plain areas along the lower reach (½ mile) of Deer Creek.

The management objectives for the proposal are to:

- improve spawning/rearing habitat for juvenile salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout.
- improve forage habitat potential for bull trout.
- facilitate migration for all fish in Deer Creek.

Project objectives:

- accumulate gravels, and
- raise active channel where possible to allow floodplain connection.
- create off-channel rearing habitat.
- increase material/nutrient retention time.

Public Comments:

The EA was advertised on March 17, 1999 in the Eugene Register Guard as available for a 30-day public review period. No comments were received during the review period.

Decision:

The decision is to proceed with the aquatic restoration project as described in Alternative 2, The Proposed Action of the Deer Creek Aquatic Restoration Project Environmental Assessment. The proposed action is included in the Willamette Province Programmatic Biological Assessment for both bull trout and spring chinook. This project will not prevent the attainment of ACS objectives.

Implementation of this project will meet all of the management objectives. Alternative 1 (no action) is not selected because it fails to meet any of the management objectives.

The decision is tiered to 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 (June 1995).

Administrative Review Opportunities:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4, within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

Approved by: Emily Rice  
McKenzie Resource Area Manager

Date: 4/22/99