



United States
Department of
Agriculture

**Forest
Service**

May 2007



Decision Notice

Siuslaw Commercial Special Forest Products Program

Siuslaw National Forest
Benton, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Tillamook, and, Yamhill Counties, Oregon

Lead Agency: USDA Forest Service

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Project Background, Area, and Needs

The Siuslaw Commercial Special Forest Products program regulates the collection of commercial Special Forest Products and provides for the sustainability of these products while protecting the environment. In addition, two non-significant Forest Plan amendments are included:

- The Wildlife Forest Plan Standard and Guideline, “Prohibit(ing) collection and transportation of Special Forest Products by motorized means (i.e., chainsaws, vehicles, etc.) or firearms from March 1 to October 1 each year, except for use of roads by vehicles,” would be amended. This sentence would be amended to read, “There is also the potential to disturb nesting birds during the nesting season (March 1 to September 30). Disturbance events during the nesting season and associated with SFP harvest will comply with the most recent Biological Opinion for Disturbance Only Activities consulted on with the USFWS.”
- The Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines for MA 6 (Cascade Head Scenic Research Area) and MA 7 (Cascade Head Experimental Forest) would be amended to allow tribal collection.

The project area is located within the lands administered by the Siuslaw National Forest, Oregon.

This action is needed, because 1) it provides limits on amounts, location, or method of collection to control over harvesting of SFP resources, 2) it ensures consistent SFP administration across the Forest, and 3) it protects other resources from adverse effects incurred from SFP collection.

The decision to be made is whether to implement actions designed to meet the need by selecting Alternative 2 which also includes the commercial harvest of moss on the Hebo Ranger District, or to meet the need by selecting Alternative 3 which excludes the commercial harvest of moss on the Hebo Ranger District or to select the no-action alternative (Alternative 1).which would still require the completion of site-specific analysis and documentation prior to the issuance of permits for a given area and Special Forest Product.

My Decision

I have decided to implement all the actions described under Alternative 2 of the Commercial Special Forest Products Program EA. In making this decision, I have reviewed the EA, its appendices, and other project-file documents, including the associated comments received during the 30-day public comment period. Four comments were received during the 30-day public comment period.

The following actions under Alternative 2 will be implemented to 1) it provides limits on amounts, location, or method of collection to control over harvesting of SFP resources, 2) it ensures consistent SFP administration across the Forest, and 3) it protects other resources from adverse effects incurred from SFP collection.

Common to all Products

- Values charged for products would be reviewed annually and would not be less than values established by the Region.

- Commercial harvesting would be prohibited in Wilderness Areas, Special Interest Areas (SIA), Corvallis Watershed, Cascade Head Experimental Forest and Research Natural Areas, except for noble fir cone harvest within Marys Peak SIA (see Cones).
- Forest products would be required to be transported off the National Forest on the same day it was harvested.
- Harvested forest products would be hand carried to the road. Motorized methods of transporting forest products from the forest to the road would be prohibited, except in the Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) open areas in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.
- The use of any National Forest campground as a collection point or headquarters would be prohibited.
- Camping on the National Forest while commercially harvesting special forest products, would require a separate camping permit.
- Areas encompassed by sensitive archaeological or historical sites would be excluded from SFP collection.
- To avoid the potential spread of noxious weeds, commercial permits would not be issued in areas that are heavily infested with weeds.
- Special Forest Product collection access would be allowed on Forest Service Key Roads. Access on Non-Key Forest Roads would be limited to those roads that are maintained open during other projects as approved by the Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Permittee Identification

A Rearview Mirror Card would need to be clearly displayed in the permittee's vehicle, except for firewood permits, and the permittee would need to be able to show a copy of the permit when asked by any Forest Service or Law Enforcement personnel. For Greenery and Mushroom permits, the permittee would need to wear the photo Identification card issued by the Forest Service at all times while harvesting. The permittee would need to be able to present a copy of the permit when asked by any Forest Service or Law Enforcement personnel. Firewood permits would include load tickets that would replace the need for a Rearview Mirror Card.

Permit Removal Table

For products with specific quantities, such as moss or boughs, a table is included with the permit. The table is required to be filled out each day of collection to record the amount of product removed. A product removal table is not required for firewood since load tickets would be issued.

Group 1 –Plants, Shrubs, and Trees Total Removal

Transplants

Transplants are any plants, shrubs, or trees that are dug for the purpose of transplanting live plants by nurseries or individual home owners. Commercial harvest would be limited to 20,000 plants per year.

Permits would specify species and size of transplants. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. To minimize disturbance to the area, holes created by digging the transplant would be refilled by the permittee. No more than 25 percent of the

number of available transplants within the permit area would be allowed to be removed (Beach grass would not be limited). Harvest would be allowed only along Forest Service road cutbanks and ditchlines, with the exception that Off Highway Vehicles would be allowed to access dunal areas within “OHV open areas” and on “designated routes.” Harvesting would be prohibited within 100 yards of western snowy plover nesting areas from March 15 to September 15. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Alder Puddle Sticks

Alder puddle sticks are used for stirring molten aluminum. Requests for puddle sticks have declined in the last few years. Commercial harvest would be limited to 100,000 pieces per year.

Alder puddle sticks are 1 to 4 inches in diameter and up to 12 feet in length. A maximum 2 inch stump height would be required. Harvest would be allowed only along designated Forest Service road cutbanks and ditchlines. Power equipment (i.e., chainsaws) has the potential to disturb nesting birds (Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet) during the nesting season (March 1 to September 30). Disturbance events during the nesting season and associated with SFP harvest will comply with the most recent Biological Opinion for Disturbance Only Activities consulted on with the USFWS. The use of handsaws would be allowed and is not considered disturbance. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Cascara Bark

Cascara bark is harvested and sold for the production of a laxative. Commercial Cascara harvest would be limited to 14,000 pounds on the Central Coast Ranger District and 7,000 pounds on the Hebo Ranger District.

All cascara collection permit applications would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure an important band-tailed pigeon food source is not depleted. All slash and debris would be lopped and scattered so that it is no closer than 15 feet from the edges of roads, ditches, culverts, and streams. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. Trees would be felled prior to peeling. Stump heights would not be less than 12 inches above the ground. Stumps would not be peeled. Power equipment (i.e., chainsaws) has the potential to disturb nesting birds (Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet) during the nesting season (March 1 to September 30). Disturbance events during the nesting season and associated with SFP harvest will comply with the most recent Biological Opinion for Disturbance Only Activities consulted on with the USFWS. The use of handsaws would be allowed and is not considered disturbance. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Roots

Roots are harvested for medicinal uses, basketry and other uses. Most of these permits are issued for personal use. Commercial use requirements are the same as personal use. Commercial harvest would be limited to 10,000 pounds per year.

All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. To minimize disturbance to the area, holes created by digging the transplant would be refilled by the permittee. No more than 25 percent of the number of available roots within the permit area

would be allowed to be removed. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Christmas Trees

Christmas trees are sold seasonally as individual tree permits. Occasionally, a permit (i.e., Boy scouts) is sold as a commercial permit in a specifically designated area. Commercial harvest would be limited to 1,000 trees per year.

Christmas tree cutting or digging would be prohibited within 200 feet of campgrounds and developed recreation sites, 100 feet of designated hiking trails or surface water (lakes or streams). In addition to the areas identified as prohibited from commercial harvest under the section; Common to All Products; the top of Mt. Hebo from the intersection of Forest Roads 14 and 1432 to North Lake and Marys Peak which includes all forest lands north of Highway 34 in Benton County, including all National Forest land accessed by the Marys Peak Road and the Woods Creek Road are prohibited. Holes dug would be filled by the permittee. A tree more than 12 feet tall would not be allowed to be topped, cut, or dug. The maximum stump height would be 6 inches high with no live branches attached to it. A tree could be cut or dug only if another tree is within 10 feet. No cutting or digging of Pacific Yew would be permitted. No use of All Terrain (ATV) or Off Highway (OHV) vehicles would be allowed. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Group 2 - Plants, Shrubs, and Trees Partial Removal

Boughs

Tree boughs are primarily used during the Christmas season for wreaths. The Siuslaw National Forest sells very few commercial bough permits. Bough harvesters are generally looking for noble fir and western redcedar boughs which are not as common in the Coast Range as they are in the Cascades. Douglas-fir is more common but not as desirable for bough harvest. Commercial harvest would be limited to 100 tons per year.

Permits would be issued for harvest in plantations only. The permit would designate the species. Bough harvest from the top half of the tree would be prohibited. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. All slash and debris would be lopped and scattered so that it is no closer than 15 feet from the edges of roads, ditches, culverts, and streams. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Cones

Conifer tree cones are collected for seed sources. Cones are also collected for ornamental purposes. Commercial harvest would be limited to 20,000 pounds per year.

Felling or otherwise damaging any tree or shrub would be prohibited. Power equipment (i.e., chainsaws) has the potential to disturb nesting birds (Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet) during the nesting season (March 1 to September 30). Disturbance events during the nesting season and associated with SFP harvest will comply with the most recent Biological Opinion for Disturbance Only Activities consulted on with the USFWS. The use of handsaws would be allowed and is not considered disturbance.

An Ornamental cone permit would only permit harvest of cones that have fallen on the ground.

Noble fir cone harvest permits within Marys Peak SIA would allow noble fir cone harvest within 100 feet horizontal distance from any meadow only. Spur or gaff climbing would be prohibited. No use of off road vehicles would be allowed for any reason.

The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Grass and Plant Seed

Commercial harvest would be limited to 500 pounds per year. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. No more than 25 percent removal would be allowed within permit area. Plants would not be dug for transplants. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Berries

Commercial harvest would be limited to 100 permits per year. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. Permittee would avoid damaging the plants. The plants would not be allowed to be dug for transplanting. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Greenery and Cuttings

Greenery includes salal, huckleberry, dwarf Oregon grape, and swordfern. These products are used by the floral industry. Cuttings are other allowable species. Commercial harvest would be limited to 1,000 permits per year.

Careful clipping of the cutting without damaging the plant would be required. Plants would not be allowed to be dug for transplanting. Only 25 percent would be allowed to be removed from an individual plant. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. Each person harvesting would have to have a valid permit. Harvest amount would be regulated by length of permit. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Vine Maple, Willow or Dogwood Limbs and Hazel Shoots

Vine maple limbs are used for basketry, furniture and smoking meats. Most of these permits are sold for personal use. Commercial use requirements are the same as personal use. Commercial harvest would be limited to 50 tons per year.

All slash and debris would be lopped and scattered so that it is no closer than 15 feet from the edges of roads, ditches, culverts, and streams. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. No more than 25 percent of the number of available vine maples within the permit area would be allowed to be harvested. Only every other limb would be harvested. Power equipment (i.e., chainsaws) has the potential to disturb nesting birds (Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet) during the nesting season (March 1 to September 30). Disturbance events during the nesting season and associated with SFP harvest will comply with the most recent Biological Opinion for Disturbance Only Activities consulted on with the USFWS. The use of handsaws would be allowed and is not considered disturbance. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Group 3 – Moss

Researcher JeriLynn Peck has completed an inventory and identified sustainable moss harvest rates for the Hebo Ranger District (Peck, 2007). Commercial harvest would be limited to 16,000 pounds per year. A harvest area would be open to harvest for twelve years. Only one harvest area would be open at a time. The harvest areas would rotate every twelve years. The four currently established moss harvest areas would continue.

Commercial moss harvest would be allowed by permit on the Hebo Ranger District only, until an inventory and analysis is developed for the Central Coast Ranger District.

The harvest area would include only those stands that are under 110 years of age. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. Felling or otherwise damaging any tree or shrub is prohibited. Within a harvest area, moss could only be collected from every other harvestable moss mat on shrubs (e.g., vine maple) or trees (e.g., alder or conifer where moss is removed from the main bole). Moss would be collected only from standing trees or shrubs. The harvest of moss growing on the ground, including on rocks and downed logs would be prohibited, as is the harvest of moss greater than 20 feet above ground. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Group 4 – Fungi

Mushrooms

Matsutake collection specifically within the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area is covered in a separate environmental document (USDA, 1993). Matsutake permits would be sold separately from other mushroom species.

Individual commercial permits are sold for other mushrooms. Commercial harvest would be limited to 1,000 permits per year. Permits are unlimited by weight or amount. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. Soil would be replaced by the permittee after removing mushrooms from the ground. Raking or other surface disturbance of the moss, organic matter, duff, or soil larger than the diameter of the mushroom cap would be prohibited. Raking would be considered disturbing the soil by hand or by using a tool such as a rake or hoe. Surrounding vegetation or down woody debris would not be allowed to be disturbed by the permittee. Harvesting would be allowed only during daylight hours. No artificial light would be permitted while harvesting. Each person would be required to have a permit. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Conks

Permits to collect conks are a very rare request. Commercial harvest would be limited to 50 permits per year. All collections would be at least 200 feet from recreational sites and streams. Permits would be prohibited within Marys Peak Special Interest Area. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator

Group 5 – Wood Products

Firewood

Most firewood is sold for personal use. Commercial use requirements are the same as personal use. Harvest would be limited to 5,000 cords per year (Includes both commercial and personal).

Firewood would be in designated areas or specially marked. One validated load ticket would be attached to the back of the load for every 1/3 cord or portion thereof, prior to leaving the cutting area. The attached load ticket would need to be visible from behind the vehicle. Load tickets would be validated by removing the applicable month and date in its entirety. All slash and debris would be lopped and scattered so that it is no closer than 15 feet from the edges of roads, ditches, culverts, and streams. Use of all wheel and track mounted logging and skidding equipment must be approved by the Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator and would be prohibited from leaving the road surface. Firewood would be removed in lengths of 6 feet or less. The maximum allowable stump height would be 12 inches. Only decked material, not standing trees, would be designated for removal from a timber sale landing. The permit and length of permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Poles/Post/Split Rails

Most post, poles and split rail permits are personal use. Commercial use requirements are the same as personal use. Commercial harvest would be limited to 25 permits per year. The Forest Service would designate all material for harvest. The large-end diameter of individual post, pole, or rail would not exceed 9 inches, or 28 inches in circumference. The maximum allowable stump height would be 12 inches. All slash and debris would be lopped and scattered so that it is no closer than 15 feet from the edges of roads, ditches, culverts, and streams. Pacific Yew would not be cut. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Cedar Shake Bolts

Large fallen cedar is rare on Siuslaw National Forest. Standing large cedar is not expected to be harvested. Tribal cultural use of cedar is a priority. Additionally, large fallen cedars would be evaluated for use in watershed improvement projects. However, if a fallen cedar is not wanted by the tribes or needed for watershed improvement projects and it is blocking road access, a shake bolt or other permit may be prudent for removal.

The Forest Service would designate all material for harvest. All slash and debris would be lopped and scattered so that it is no closer than 15 feet from the edges of roads, ditches, culverts, and streams. All collections would be at least 200 feet from streams. The permit would be approved by a Special Forest Product Coordinator or Sale Administrator.

Reasons for the Decision

Alternative 2 was selected because it best meets the need to 1) it provides limits on amounts, location, or method of collection to control over harvesting of SFP resources, 2) it ensures consistent SFP administration across the Forest, and 3) it protects other resources from adverse effects incurred from SFP collection.

Alternatives Considered

Before selecting Alternative 2, I considered Alternative 1 (no action), and other alternatives that were eliminated from detailed study in the EA.

Alternative 1, no action—Alternative 1 is fully described in chapter 2 of the EA, page 6. The analysis of the effects of Alternative 1 is disclosed in chapter 3 of the EA. The no-action alternative forms the basis for a comparison between meeting the needs and not meeting the needs. This alternative provides baseline information for understanding changes associated with Alternative 2 and expected environmental responses.

Alternative 3, excluding commercial moss harvest—Alternative 3 is fully described in chapter 2 of the EA, page 14. The analysis of the effects of Alternative 3 is disclosed in chapter 3 of the EA. Alternative 3 was developed in response to the August 22, 2005 Regional Forester letter (USDA FS, 2005) establishing a regional policy to conduct inventories and analyses. Inventory and analysis was completed by Jerilyn Peck (2007), but sensitivity to the issue caused the Forest Supervisor to evaluate this Alternative.

Reasons for Not Selecting the Other Alternatives

Alternative 1 (no-action) was not selected because it does not meet the purpose and need. Alternative 3 was not selected because no comments were received that were opposed to commercial moss harvest at the levels established by Jerilyn Peck's inventory and analysis (2007)

Help from the Public and Other Agencies

The proposal was listed in the 2006 Winter Project Update, Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA). After considering the identified issues to be addressed and developing a proposal, scoping letters describing the actions considered in the proposed Commercial Special Forest Products Program were mailed to about 230 individuals, agencies, and organizations identified as potentially interested in the proposed action on February 9, 2006. No comments were received. On February 23, 2007 a legal notice making the EA available for the 30 day public comment period was published in the Corvallis Gazette-Times. About 220 letters were mailed to individuals, agencies, and organizations announcing the availability of the EA. The legal notice and letters indicated the beginning and end of the 30-day comment period, described the comment process, and identified a Forest Service contact person. Copies of the preliminary analysis were also made available at the Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters in Corvallis, the District offices in Florence, Hebo, and Waldport, and were posted on the Siuslaw National Forest website. Four comments were received. Responses to these comments are found in Appendix E of the EA.

The EA conforms to the FWS biological opinion ref #: 1-7-06-F-0192.

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

After considering the environmental effects described in the Commercial Special Forest Products Program Environmental Assessment, I have determined that the activities will not constitute a major Federal action and will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. I base my finding on the following context and intensity of impacts (40 CFR 1508.27):

Context

The activities have been viewed and approved in a Regional context through the Siuslaw National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA 1990), as amended by the Special Forest Products Program Environmental Assessment, Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (1995), and as amended by the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA, USDI 1994). This action only affects the commercial harvest of special forest products on the Siuslaw National Forest, which is a very small portion of the Region.

The site-specific activities that are authorized and guided by this decision are limited in scope and duration. Some minor adverse effects are expected. However, given the renewable nature of the resources and the high growth rates of coastal vegetation, these effects are expected to be short-term. No long-term adverse effects are expected.

Intensity

1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse. A significant effect may exist even if the Federal agency believes that on balance the effect will be beneficial.

Discussion: Actions associated with the Program will have both beneficial and adverse effects. Individual products harvested would be adversely affected, but harvest levels will not affect species sustainability. Further, I find that when considered alone, the adverse effects associated with the Study are not significant (EA, chapter 3).

2. The degree to which the proposed actions affect public health or safety.

Discussion: No significant adverse effects to public health or safety have been identified. (EA, page 42)

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area, such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers or ecologically critical areas.

Discussion: Site specific management requirements provide protection for these areas (EA, chapter 2). Past actions of similar or greater intensity in similar areas have not indicated any significant adverse effects (EA, chapter 3).

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

Discussion: The effects on the quality of the human environment are not likely to be highly controversial, because there is no known scientific controversy over the impacts of the project (EA, pages 1 through 5).

5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

Discussion: The Program's environmental effects are not uncertain or unknown. Planned actions are similar to those already accomplished on the Forest (EA, pages 2 through 5; EA, chapter 3).

6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

Discussion: Actions that will be implemented by the Program do not set a precedent for future actions, because similar actions have been implemented in the past (EA, page 1 through 5; EA, chapter 3).

7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts. Significance exists if it is reasonable to anticipate a cumulatively significant impact on the environment. Significance cannot be avoided by terming an action temporary or by breaking it down into small component parts.

Discussion: The Siuslaw Commercial Special Forest Products Program Environmental Assessment has disclosed direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to sustainability, aquatic and terrestrial species, and other components of the human environment. There are no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effects anticipated from implementing study actions (EA, chapter 3).

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources.

Discussion: Site specific management requirements provide that the actions associated with the Program will have "no effect" (as defined in 36 CFR 800.5 [b]) on any listed or eligible heritage (cultural) resources. If a heritage site is discovered during project implementation, work will be stopped until the site is evaluated or the Program has been altered to avoid the site (EA, page 39).

9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Discussion: Based on the wildlife biological assessment, specialists' reports, and biological evaluations prepared for the Program, the effects on endangered or threatened species or their critical habitats, and other terrestrial, aquatic, and plant species and habitats are not found to be significant (EA, chapter 3).

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

Discussion: Actions implemented by the Program will not violate Federal, State, and local laws, or requirements designed for the protection of the environment. The Program will meet or exceed State water and air quality standards. The Program is consistent with the Siuslaw Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended by the Special Forest Products Program Environmental Assessment, Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (1995), and as amended by the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and

Old-Growth Forest Related Species within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA, USDI 1994).

Other Disclosures

All measures contained in the Program EA will be incorporated to comply with the Record of Decision (October 2005) for the Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program, Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants Final Environmental Impact Statement. Actions will be designed to prevent the spread of invasive plants, including noxious and undesirable weeds (EA, page 20; EA).

The Program will have no significant adverse effects on wetlands, floodplains, farm land, range land, park land, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, or inventoried roadless areas; minority groups, civil rights, women, or consumers; Indian social, economic, subsistence rights, and sacred sites; and heritage resources

Findings Required By Other Laws

Based on the analysis in the Commercial Special forest Products Program Environmental Assessment, I find the selected alternative to be consistent with the Siuslaw National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA 1990), as amended by the Special Forest Products Program Environmental Assessment, Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (1995), and as amended by the Northwest Forest Plan (USDA, USDI 1994) (EA, pages 1 to 5). The Program is designed to meet or exceed the objectives of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy as set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan). The selected alternative is consistent with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) 1976.

Implementation Date

If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

Administrative Review and Appeal

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215.7. Written notice of appeal must be postmarked or received by the Appeal Deciding Official, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208-3623 within 45 days of the date of publication of the notice for this decision in the Corvallis Gazette-Times (Corvallis, Oregon). An appeal may be filed by any person or any non-Federal organization or entity that provided comment or otherwise expressed interest in this proposed action by the close of the comment period (36 CFR 215.11(2), 2002 rule). The appeal must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14:

- The appeal must state that the document is an appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215;
- The name, address, and telephone number (if applicable) of the appellant must be included, and must identify the decision by title, subject, date of decision, and name and title of the Responsible Official;

- The appeal narrative must be sufficient to identify the specific change(s) to the decision sought by the appellant or portions of the decision to which the appellant objects, and must state how the Responsible Official's decision fails to consider comments previously provided; and
- If applicable, the appeal should state how the appellant believes this decision violates law, regulation, or policy.

Appeals (including attachments) may be filed by regular mail, fax, e-mail, hand delivery, express delivery, or messenger service. The publication date of the notice for this decision in the newspaper of record is the sole means of calculating the appeal-filing deadline, and those wishing to appeal should not rely on dates or timelines from any other source. E-mail appeals must be submitted to: appeals-pacificnorthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us, and must be in one of the following three formats: Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf) or Adobe Portable Document Format (pdf). FAX appeals must be submitted to: 503-808-2255. Appeals may be hand-delivered to the Resource Planning and Monitoring Office, 333 SW First Ave., Portland, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday.

Contact Person

For further information regarding this project, contact Frank Davis at (541) 750-7077, Siuslaw National Forest, 4077 SW Research Way, Corvallis, Oregon 97333

Responsible Official:

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May 18, 2007

Date