



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

COOS BAY DISTRICT OFFICE

1300 AIRPORT LANE, NORTH BEND, OR 97459

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Telephone: (541) 756-0100 Toll Free: (888) 809-0839 Fax: (541) 751-4303



1792 (OR120)

EA OR 128-00-18 DNA #7

April 24, 2007

Dear Concerned Citizen:

Attached is a copy of the Decision Record for the Paradise Creek Snag Project (EA OR 128-00-18 DNA #7). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay District, has prepared a proposal to create wildlife habitats (snags) and logs to enhance late-successional habitat in the Umpqua Resource Area. Through a Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA), BLM has determined that a previously prepared Environmental Assessment (EA OR 128-00-18) adequately analyzed the effects of the Paradise Creek Snag Project and concluded that a new EA was unnecessary.

The decision has been made to proceed with the Paradise Creek Snag Project. The Decision Record is open to Appeal procedures as detailed at 43 CFR Part 4 Subpart E – Special Rules Applicable to Public Land Hearings and Appeals. Appeals of this action must be filed within 30 days after publication of a Notice of Availability for this Decision, which will be published on April 27, 2007.

Please direct questions, or requests for copies, or appeal documents to Coos Bay District BLM, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR 97459-2000, ATTN: Kip Wright or phone (541) 756-0100, FAX (541) 751-4303, or email to OR_CoosBay_Mail@blm.gov

Sincerely,

J.C. Hanf

J.C. Hanf

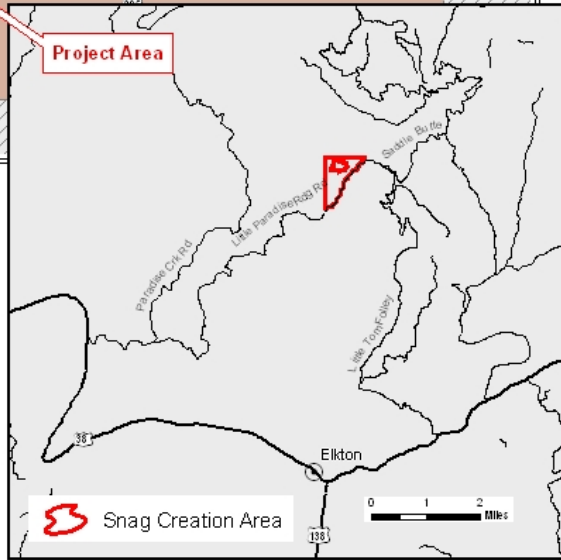
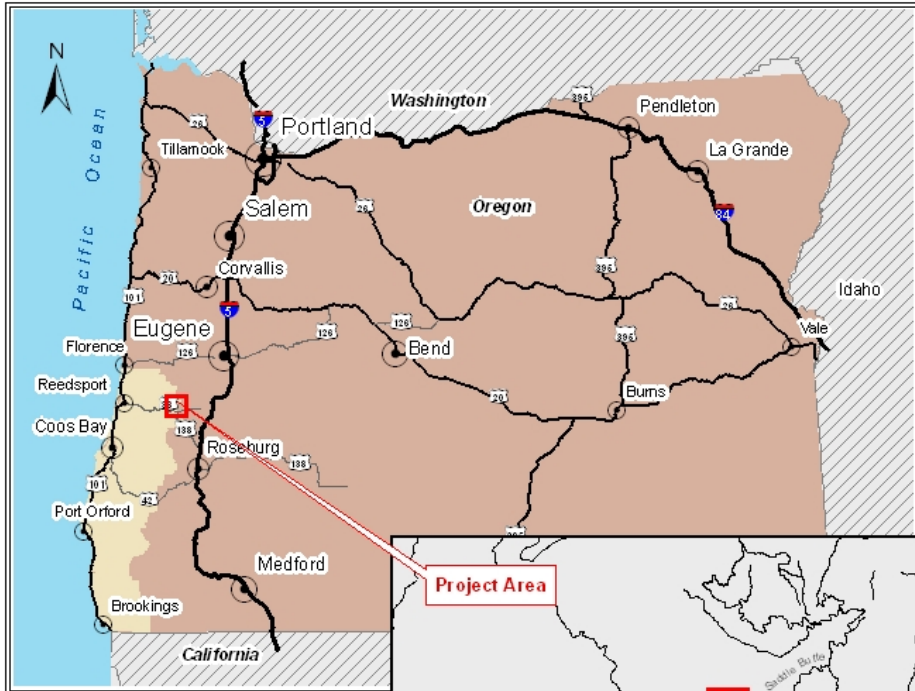
Acting Umpqua Field Manager

Attachment:

Decision Record Paradise Snag Project

2 Maps

VICINITY MAP
Paradise Creek Snag Creation Project
Umpqua Resource Area
COOS BAY DISTRICT BLM

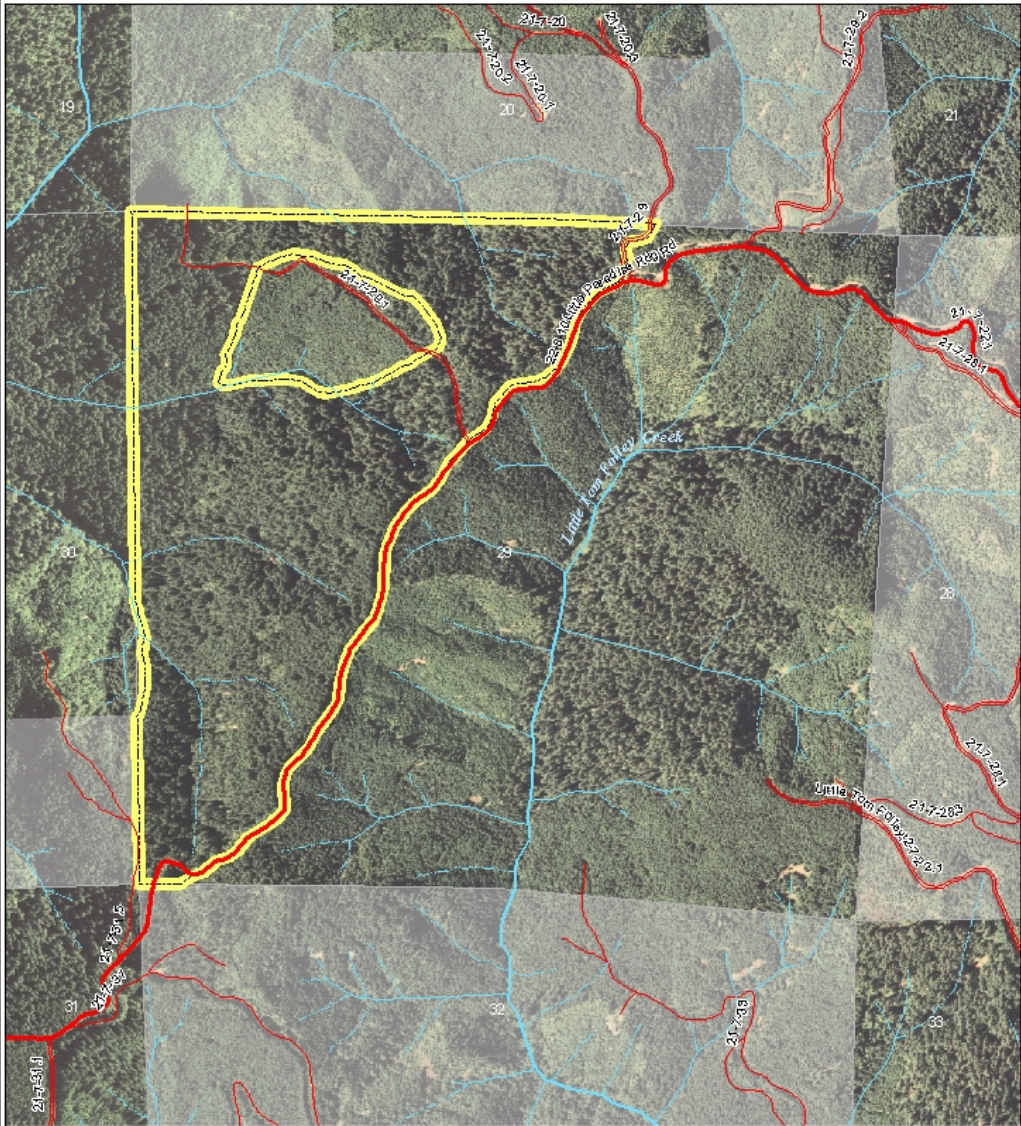


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No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or specific use without their data.

Paradise Creek Snag Creation Project



- Paved Road
- Gravel Road
- Natural/Unk Surface Road
- Snag Creation Area
- Stream
- Section
- Private or Other Land

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

1 inch equals 1,000 feet



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.



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File Code: 1792
DNA #7
EA OR 128-00-18

Decision Record **For** **Wildlife Habitat Tree Creation** **DNA No. 7 to EA OR128-00-18**

Background:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Coos Bay District previously prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA OR 128-00-18) and Finding of No Significant Impact to evaluate the effects of various methods for restoring wildlife habitat trees (e.g. snags) and down logs. The objective was to treat stands where current deficits in wildlife habitat trees occur and where natural processes are unlikely to remedy the situation in the short term (30 years). The EA analyzed a Proposed Action along with a No Action and an Alternative Action. A thirty-day public comment period ended on July 28, 2000. No comments were received from the general public, adjacent landowners, or interested citizens.

Decision:

My decision is to adopt the Proposed Action of EA OR 128-00-18 for the wildlife habitat tree creation project described in DNA No. 7. The project will consist of creating down wood by falling trees and snags by topping trees with chainsaws. The proposed action will take place in Paradise Creek drainage in the Middle Umpqua Watershed. In addition, to enhance stand diversity, treated trees will be grouped to create small openings around a dominant "select" tree to release the tree from competition.

Additional design features are accepted as described below:

To maintain stream bank stability, trees within one crown diameter (approximately 15 feet) of the edge of the active channel will not be treated.

Project Design Criteria as described in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion for individual tree selection projects (Ref. no. 1-15-03-F-004) will be followed.

No trees will be removed from the treated stands.

Botanical surveys will be conducted as recommended for Survey and Manage as well as Special Status Species. Sites located during the survey will be buffered to provide protection.

Where required survey and manage guidelines as amended in the NWFP will be adhered to for the protection of known survey and manage species' sites.

We do not expect that the litigation over the ASR process in Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center et al. v. Boody et al will affect this project, because the development and design of this project complies with the Northwest Forest Plan prior to the ASR process. If it is determined that red tree vole surveys are required at the time of the contract, they will take place prior to habitat modification. Active nest will be buffered from disturbance. Therefore, the decision for the Paradise Snag project is neither altered by changes made through the ASR processor the 2004 decision to eliminate the Survey and Manage program.

Rationale for Decision:

The Proposed Action will treat stands where current deficits occur and where natural processes are unlikely to remedy the situation in the short term (30 years). Increase in wildlife habitat trees will benefit associated wildlife species and help to ensure their persistence within the landscape.

This project is tiered to and in conformance with the *Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement* (USDI BLM 1994) and it's *Record of Decision* (USDI BLM 1995) and the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) on Management of Habitat for Late Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (Northwest Forest Plan [NFP]) (USDA/USDI 1994a) as supplemented and amended by:

- *The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines (USDA/USDI 2000) and its Record of Decision (USDA/USDI 2001) including any amendments or modifications in effect as of March 21, 2004.*
- *Management of Port-Orford-cedar in Southwest Oregon Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (USDA/USDI 2004b) and its Record of Decision (USDA/USDI 2004c).*

This project is also tiered to and in conformance with the *Coos Bay Integrated Noxious Weed Program* (EA OR 120-97-11).

Decision recommended by:

Natural Resource Staff Administrator
Kathy Wall Kathy Westenskow Date: 4/24/2007

Natural Resource Staff Administrator (Acting)
Dan VanSlyke Terry Evans(Acting) Date: 4/24/2007

Decision approved by:

Umpqua Field Office Manager (Acting)
J.C. Hanf J.C Hanf Date: 4/24/2007