

Neuman Road Thinning Project
Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy
(DNA)
Compliance with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy for Neuman Road Thinning
Project

Environmental Assessment Number OR080-04-05

September 2007

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Oregon State Office
Salem District
Marys Peak Resource Area

Township 7 South, Range 7 West, Sections 1 and 2, Willamette Meridian
Mill Creek-South Yamhill River 5th field Watershed.
Polk County, Oregon

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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering economic use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

BLM/OR/WA/PL-07/056+1792

A. Description of the Proposed Action and Background

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) conducted an environmental analysis for the Neuman Road Thinning project, which is located in Township 7 South., Range 7 West Sections 1 and 2 Willamette Meridian (see attached selected action map) and documented in the Neuman Road Thinning environmental assessment (Neuman Road Thinning EA, # OR080-04-05) and the associated project file. The Proposed Action of the Neuman Road Thinning EA is to thin 40-55 year old mixed conifer stands on 101 acres within Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations (LUA's). A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was signed on February 23, 2005 and the EA and FONSI were then made available for public review.

In addition, a Decision Rationale (DR) was signed on August 21, 2006 and was based on the analysis documented in the EA.

On March 30, 2007, the District Court, Western District of Washington, ruled adverse to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA-Fisheries) and USFS and BLM (Agencies) in *Pacific Coast Fed. of Fishermen's Assn. et al v. Natl. Marine Fisheries Service, et al and American Forest Resource Council*, Civ. No. 04-1299RSM (W.D. Wash)(PCFFA IV). Based on violations of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Court set aside:

- the USFWS Biological Opinion (March 18, 2004),
- the NOAA-Fisheries Biological Opinion for the ACS Amendment (March 19, 2004),
- the ACS Amendment Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) (October 2003), and
- the ACS Amendment adopted by the Record of Decision dated March 22, 2004.

Previously, in *Pacific Coast Fed. Of Fishermen's Assn. v. Natl. Marine Fisheries Service*, 265 F.3d 1028 (9th Cir. 2001)(*PCFFA II*), the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that because the evaluation of a project's consistency with the long-term, watershed level ACS objectives could overlook short-term, site-scale effects that could have serious consequences to a listed species, these short-term, site-scale effects must be considered. The following information show how the Neuman Road Thinning Project meets the Aquatic Conservation Strategy in the context of PCFFA IV and PCFFA II and documents the overall NEPA adequacy of the Neuman Road Thinning Project.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

The proposed action is subject to the ROD/RMP. The ROD/RMP (pg. 15) provides the following general guidance for management actions within the Northern Coast Range Adaptive Management Area: "If needed to create and maintain late-successional forest conditions, conduct thinning operations in forest stands up to the 110 year age class. This would be accomplished by precommercial or commercial thinning of stands regardless of origin".

The ROD/RMP (pg.11) recommends "implement silviculture treatments inside LSR that are beneficial to the creation of late-successional habitat".

Consultation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

In compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (1973, as amended), consultation for this proposed action was facilitated by its inclusion within a programmatic Biological Assessment (USDA-FS and USDI-BLM 2004) that analyzed all projects that may modify the habitat of listed wildlife species on federal lands within the Northern Oregon Coast Range during fiscal years 2005 and 2006. The resulting Biological Opinion (reference #1-7-2005-F-0005; USDI-FWS 2004), concluded that this action would not result in jeopardy to listed species and would not adversely modify critical habitat for any species. This proposed action has been designed to incorporate all appropriate design standards set forth in the Biological Assessment to ensure compliance with the Terms and Conditions included within the Biological Opinion.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Upper Willamette River (UWR) steelhead trout and UWR Chinook salmon are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The area where the proposed action is located has one stream (Gooseneck Creek) that provides habitat for UWR Steelhead (approximately one mile down stream from the project area). Upper Willamette River Chinook salmon are downstream more than twenty-five miles from the project area; therefore this project would have no effect on UWR Chinook salmon. A “May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect” determination was made for the project due to the small size, scope, and duration of this project. An informal consultation with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) was requested via an informal consultation letter which included an analysis of project affects consistent with BLM Instruction Memorandum (OR-2005-012) Analytic Process for Developing Biological Assessments for Federal Actions Affecting Fish within the Northwest Forest Plan Area on April 12, 2005. A letter of concurrence with the determination of “may affect, not likely to adversely affect” to listed fish was received by the BLM from NOAA NMFS on April 26, 2005.

Protection of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as described by the Magnuson/Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act and consultation with NOAA-NMFS is required for all projects which may adversely affect EFH of UWR Chinook salmon. The proposed Neuman Road Thinning project is not expected to affect EFH due to distance of all activities associated with the Neuman Road Thinning project from occupied habitat.

A letter of concurrence was issued by NOAA on December 29, 2005, designating critical habitat for UWR steelhead and UWR Chinook salmon as published in the Federal Register on September 2, 2005. The letter of concurrence adopted the determination that this project “may affect, not likely adversely affect” critical habitat for UWR steelhead listed fish species.

C. Identification of the applicable NEPA documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management. 1994a. *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*. Portland, OR.

USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management. 1994b. *Record of Decision (ROD) for amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management planning documents within the range of the northern spotted owl*. In combination with Attachment A: *Standards and guidelines for management of habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species within the range of the northern spotted owl*. Portland, OR.

USDI Bureau of Land Management. 1994. *Salem District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement*. Salem, OR.

USDI Bureau of Land Management. 1995. *Salem District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan*. Salem, OR.

USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management. *Record of Decision to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines in Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*, March 2004

Other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report):

Neuman Road Thinning Project Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact #OR080-04-05 (February, 2005)

Neuman Road Thinning Project Final Decision and Decision Rationale (August, 2006).

Programmatic Biological Assessment (USDA-FS and USDI-BLM 2004) that analyzed all projects that may modify the habitat of listed wildlife species on federal lands within the Northern Oregon Coast Range during fiscal years 2005 and 2006. The resulting Biological Opinion (reference #1-7-2005-F-0005; USDI-FWS 2004). Unpublished document in response to BLM and FS request for Section 7 Consultation on program activities that may disturb federally listed wildlife species. Portland, Oregon. 28p.

<u>Watershed Analysis</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Rowell Cr./Mill Cr./Rickreall Cr./ Luckiamute River	9/1998

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed? Is the current proposed action located at a site specifically analyzed in an existing document?

The proposed action (density management project in conjunction with harvest and road activities necessary to accomplish the project) would be completed as described in the ROD/RMP. The proposed action was specifically analyzed in the Gold Goose/Neuman Road EA/FONSI #OR080-04-05 (February, 2005) and the Neuman Road Thinning Project Final Decision and Decision Rationale (August, 2006).

1. Riparian Reserves (ROD/RMP pp. 11-12)

- a. **Management Actions/Direction:** Apply silvicultural practices for Riparian Reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.
Compliance: Variable density management would occur within Riparian Reserves. Trees would be removed in a variable spacing; providing both openings for understory tree/shrub development and areas of higher density. This would provide habitat for a wider variety of species than a dense uniform stand. The long-term results of density management would be larger average DBHOB and deeper crowns at any given age, compared to the no treatment option.
- b. **Management Actions/Direction:** Minimize road and landing locations in Riparian Reserves.
Compliance: No new road construction or landings would be located within Riparian Reserves.
- c. **Management Actions/Direction:** Road maintenance giving high priority to identifying and correcting road drainage problems that contributes to degrading riparian resources.
Compliance: Road maintenance activities would be accomplished with the intent of minimizing sediment delivery to streams.

2. Late-Successional Reserves (ROD/RMP pp. 16-18)

- a. **Management Actions/Direction:** If needed to create and maintain late-successional forest conditions, conduct thinning operations in forest stands up to the 110 year age class. This would be accomplished by precommercial or commercial thinning of stands regardless of origin.
Compliance: Variable density management would provide a substantial recovery of overstory canopy closure within treated stands; the gradual transition in structural characteristics of the treated stands to more closely resemble late-seral forest (larger diameter trees, sub-canopy development, greater tree species diversity, greater volume and size of hard CWD, canopy gaps); and the extended persistence of hardwood tree and shrub cover diversity. The proposed action is anticipated to enhance local forest habitat conditions and thereby benefit numerous wildlife species, especially those species that are associated with late-seral forest structure and CWD.
- b. **Management Actions/Direction:** Construct road(s) in LSR's if the potential benefits of silviculture exceed the costs of habitat impairment.
Compliance: Road construction and reconstruction of approximately 2000 feet would occur near ridge top locations and would allow for the treatment (density management) of approximately 101 acres. Following harvest, all of the new construction and reconstruction would be decommissioned and blocked to vehicular traffic. Drain dips would be installed where cross drainage is necessary.

3. Key Watersheds (ROD/RMP, p. 7)

- a. **Management Actions/Direction:** Prior to further resource management activity in Key Watersheds, prepare watershed analyses.

Compliance: The project is located in the Mill Creek-South Yamhill River 5th field Watershed. The project is not located within a key watershed.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

The range of alternatives is appropriate with respect to silviculture activities that recommends silviculture treatments inside LSR and RR LUAs that are beneficial to the creation of late-successional habitat because the Standards and Guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan were incorporated in the ROD/RMP which has not been updated since implementation.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances?

There is no new data which affects the validity of the existing analyses relevant to the Neuman Road Thinning project.

4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?

The methodologies and analyses continue to be appropriate for the Neuman Road Thinning project.

5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Does the existing NEPA document analyze site-specific impacts related to the current proposed action?

An assessment of silviculture, road construction and renovation, wildlife and fisheries/aquatic habitat activities was completed for the RMP. In addition, site specific impacts were analyzed in the Neuman Road Thinning Project EA. There are no substantial changes from those addressed in the analyses to the present.

6. Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

A cumulative impacts assessment of affected resources (vegetation, hydrology, soils, wildlife, fisheries/aquatic habitat and fuels/air quality) was completed for the Neuman Road Thinning Project (EA #OR080-04-05). Cumulative impacts have not changed from those addressed in the EA.

7. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

The RMP received substantial public involvement during the course of development. Progress in implementing the RMP has gone to the public for the past 8 years in the *Annual Program Summary*. The Gold Goose/Neuman Road EA notice for public comment was mailed to approximately 26 agencies, individuals and organizations and a legal notice was published in a local newspaper soliciting public input. Two comment letters were received during the EA public comment period.

Compliance with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy

The following paragraphs show how the Neuman Road Thinning Project meets the Aquatic Conservation Strategy in the context of PCFFA IV and PCFFA II.

Existing Watershed Condition

The Neuman Road Thinning Project area tributaries flow towards the Willamette Valley (Mill Creek-South Yamhill River 5th-field watershed). The Mill Creek-South Yamhill Watershed is not a key watershed.

Mill Creek-South Yamhill River Watershed

Thirty-six percent of the watershed is managed by BLM and 64% is managed by private timber companies. The Rowell, Mill, Rickreall and Luckiamute River Watershed Analysis (1998) describes the events that contributed to the current condition such as timber harvest, wildfire, and road building.

Late seral and/or old growth (greater than 80 years old) forests comprise 15% of the total ownership in the watershed. We can infer then, that commercial harvest or stand replacement fire has occurred on 85% of the lands in the watershed. The earliest harvests on BLM managed lands have been regenerated and are progressing towards providing mature forest structure. Most of the private industrial lands have been and will continue to be moved from mid condition class to the early condition class.

There is a total of about 8,774 acres of riparian vegetation within 100 ft of stream channels in the Mill Creek-South Yamhill Watershed; BLM manages about 3,525 acres (40%) and private landowners about 5,249 acres (60%).

Review of Aquatic Conservation Strategy Compliance:

I have reviewed this analysis and have determined that the project complies with the ACS on the project (site) scale. The following is an update of how this project complies with the four components of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy, originally documented in the EA, Table 16, p. 65. The project would comply with:

Component 1 – Riparian Reserves: by maintaining canopy cover along all streams and the wetlands would protect stream bank stability and water temperature. Riparian Reserve boundaries would be established consistent with direction from the *Salem District Resource Management Plan*. No new road construction would occur within RMP Riparian Reserves;

Component 2 – Key Watershed: by establishing the Neuman Road Thinning project is not within a key watershed,

Component 3 – Watershed Analysis: The Rowell Creek/Mill Creek/Rickreall Creek/Luckiamute River Watershed Analysis was completed in 1998. The following are watershed analysis findings that apply to or are components of this project:

Rowell Creek/Mill Creek/Rickreall Creek/Luckiamute River Watershed Analysis

The Rowell Creek/Mill Creek/Rickreall Creek/Luckiamute River Watershed Analysis, focused on seven subwatersheds located within the following four fifth-field watersheds: All of the lands, both federal and private, contained within the following four fifth-field watersheds were referred to as the “megawatershed area”.

- ✓ South Yamhill River
- ✓ Luckiamute River
- ✓ Mill Creek-South Yamhill River
- ✓ Rickreall Creek

The following information was derived from the megawatershed area and is not inclusive of the Mill Creek-South Yamhill River Watershed itself.

Density management (selective thinning and possibly other treatments) in early and mid-seral stands will be used where appropriate to accelerate the attainment of late-successional/old-growth forest characteristics on BLM and US Forest Service lands (p. ES-6).

In project areas less than 110 years of age, manage tree density to increase growth and achieve structural and density diversity (SI&MR 9)

Management activities in the Riparian Reserves should be used to promote older forest characteristics, attain ACS objectives and move the Riparian Reserves on a trajectory toward older forest characteristics (see Appendix V, “Riparian Reserve Project Design”). Desired riparian characteristics include: Diverse vegetation appropriate to the water table, geomorphic land type and stream channel type, diverse age classes (multi-layered canopy), mature conifers where they have occurred in the past, dead standing/down wood, stream connected to its floodplain (floodplain inundated every 1-3 years), stream bank vegetation with adequate root strength to maintain bank stability (SI&MR 10)

Accelerate, in 40-110 year old stands (in both riparian and upland forest habitats), the attainment of large trees with large horizontal branches in order to provide increased nesting opportunities for marbled murrelets in the shortest time possible. Beginning with the oldest stands first, locations for treatment should occur in stands as follows: those closest to Coast; then those closest to existing occupied stands; and then those closest to existing unoccupied LSOG. [Note: This recommended action will also benefit LSOG-dependent species by accelerating the development of structural complexity and increasing the amount of it in these treated stands. (SI&MR 17).

Create Special Habitat Components (snags, coarse woody debris, wolf trees, multi-layered canopies) where and when appropriate in stands 40-110 years old in riparian and upland forest habitats. Inventory existing pre- and post-treatment Special Habitat Component conditions. In stands with an average DBH of 12 inches or more, use trees which are at least 12 inches in diameter to create snags, coarse down woody debris, and wolf trees if these special habitat components are lacking. (SI&MR 18).

Prioritize density management treatments in stands, including those in Riparian Reserves, to benefit wildlife and aquatic habitat. First priority targets would be the even-aged, densely-stocked stands (50 to 110 years) in the western portion of the Mill and Luckiamute subwatersheds.(SI&MR 19).

Component 4 – Watershed Restoration: by maintaining more than half of the canopy cover, implementing project design features to protect aquatic and riparian resources, and creating some structural diversity, the project would not preclude future restoration projects.

In addition I have reviewed this project against the ACS objectives at the project or site scale with the following results. The no action alternative does not retard or prevent the attainment of any of the nine ACS objectives because this alternative would maintain current conditions. The Selected Action does not retard or prevent the attainment of any of the nine ACS objectives for the following reasons.

Table 1: Projects’ Consistency with the Nine Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives

Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives (ACSOs)	Project 2 (EA section 3.4)
1. Maintain and restore the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape-scale features.	Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 1 . Riparian Reserves in the analysis area as a whole are characterized by lack of late-seral and old-growth habitat, and generally lack large woody debris (<i>RWA</i> p. R&CC-46 & 53). The proposed thinning project would be a means to enhance late-successional forest conditions and speed up attainment of these conditions across the landscape. Since Riparian Reserves provide travel corridors and resources for aquatic, riparian dependant and other riparian and/or late-successional associated plants and animals, the increased structural and plant diversity would ensure protection of aquatic systems by maintaining and restoring the distribution, diversity and complexity of watershed and landscape features.
2. Maintain and restore spatial and temporal connectivity within and between watersheds.	Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 2 . Long term connectivity of terrestrial watershed features would be improved by enhancing conditions for understory development (structural diversity), increasing the proportion of minor species in the stand (species diversity), and increasing growth rates on remaining trees. In time, these reserves would improve in functioning as refugia for late successional, aquatic and riparian associated and dependent species. Both terrestrial and aquatic connectivity would be maintained, and over the long-term, as Riparian Reserves develop late successional characteristics, lateral, longitudinal and drainage connectivity would be restored.
3. Maintain and restore the physical integrity of the aquatic system, including shorelines, banks, and bottom configurations.	Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 3 . A no-cut stream protection zone (SPZ) would maintain the integrity of shorelines, banks and bottom configurations. Criteria used to designate SPZ’s were riparian vegetation, major slope breaks, active floodplain or high water tables, and areas contributing to stream shading. All SPZ’s are a minimum of approximately 50 feet. Trees would be directionally felled within one tree height of SPZ’s and any part that falls within them would remain (EA 3.2.2.2), thereby preventing disturbance to stream banks and bottom configurations. Tree removal and road renovation and construction would not occur on steep, unstable slopes where the potential for mass wasting adjacent to stream reaches is high. Therefore, increases in sediment delivery to streams due to mass wasting are unlikely to result from

Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives (ACSOs)	Project 2 (EA section 3.4)
	<p>this action. (EA 3.4.3.1).</p> <p>Trees that remain after thinning would benefit from increased sunlight and would grow fuller crowns allowing them to grow faster. This would increase the amount of future potential quality large diameter wood for in-stream function, complexity and riparian dependant species. Thinning within the riparian reserve also allows for a secondary canopy to establish and the development of species diversity and habitat complexity (EA 3.4.4.1).</p>
<p>4. Maintain and restore water quality necessary to support healthy riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems.</p>	<p>Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 4. Measurable direct and indirect effects to stream flow, channel function, and water quality as a result of this proposed action are unlikely.</p> <p>Tree removal and road renovation and construction would not occur on steep, unstable slopes where the potential for mass wasting adjacent to stream reaches is high. Therefore, increases in sediment delivery to streams due to mass wasting are unlikely to result from this action. In addition, potential impacts resulting from tree harvest and road construction/renovation would be mitigated to reduce the potential for measurable sediment delivery to streams, by implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs), such as stream and road no-treatment buffers, minimum road widths, minimal excavation, ensuring appropriate drainage from road sites, prohibiting hauling during wet weather conditions, etc. (EA 3.4.3.1)</p>
<p>5. Maintain and restore the sediment regime under which aquatic ecosystems evolved.</p>	<p>Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 5. Tree removal would not occur on steep, unstable slopes where the potential for mass wasting adjacent to stream reaches is high. Therefore, increase in sediment delivery to streams due to mass wasting is unlikely to result from this action (EA 3.4.3.1).</p> <p>Project design features would maintain the physical integrity of the hill slopes and channel; no long-term alteration of the current sediment regime is expected.</p>
<p>6. Maintain and restore in-stream flows sufficient to create and sustain riparian, aquatic, and wetland habitats and to retain patterns of sediment, nutrient, and wood routing.</p>	<p>Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 6. Because the proposed action would only affect 0.3% of the forest cover in the Mill Creek-South Yamhill River watershed, the effects of tree removal on evapotranspiration and flow quantities cannot be detected within a reasonable degree of accuracy (EA 3.4.3.1).</p>
<p>7. Maintain and restore the timing, variability, and duration of floodplain inundation and water table elevation in meadows and wetlands.</p>	<p>Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 7. The proposed project would not alter existing patterns of floodplain inundation or water table elevation as it would have no effects or only negligible short-term negative effects on existing flow patterns and stream channel conditions.</p> <p>Over the long term, reductions in stand density would likely increase riparian forest health and tree size. This would lead to increased large wood recruitment for stream channels, an important factor in proper channel function. Additional large wood in project area channels would ultimately slow stream velocity, increase retention of organic material, capture bed load, and improve aquatic habitat.</p> <p>There are no meadows or wetlands in the proposed project area.</p>

Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives (ACSOs)	Project 2 (EA section 3.4)
<p>8. Maintain and restore the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities in riparian areas and wetlands.</p>	<p>Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 8. The actual riparian areas (as defined by criteria in EA project file, Riparian Reserves Report) along streams would be excluded from treatment, by designating stream protection zones. Only the upslope portions of the Riparian Reserves would be included in the density management treatment.</p> <p>Structural components of late-seral forests (large trees, multiple canopy layers, large hard snags, heavy accumulations of down wood, and species diversity) are generally lacking in the young stands surrounding and including the project area. In addition, the proposed project would restore the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities by enhancing conditions for understory development (structural diversity), increasing the proportion of minor species in the stand (species diversity), and increasing growth rates on remaining trees.</p>
<p>9. Maintain and restore habitat to support well-distributed populations of native plant, invertebrate and vertebrate riparian-dependent species.</p>	<p>Does not prevent the attainment of ACSO 9. Habitat to support well distributed riparian-dependent and riparian associated species would be restored by reducing overstocked stands, increasing tree species diversity, and altering forest structural characteristics.</p> <p>Density management within the Riparian Reserves would enhance stand conditions, growing residual trees faster than if the stand were to grow without treatment. This would increase the potential for high quality CWD and LWD.</p> <p>Development of stand and individual tree characteristics desirable for riparian and old growth associated species would be accelerated by restoring structural complexity to the stands and by accelerating development of desired tree characteristics (increased diameter and increased crown depth/width).</p>

E. Interdisciplinary Analysis: Identify those team members conducting or participating in the NEPA analysis and preparation of this worksheet.

List of Interdisciplinary Team Members

(who reviewed this Documentation of NEPA Adequacy)

Affected Resource	Name	Initial	Date
Botany	Ron Exeter	RE	Sept 24, 2007
Vegetation	Bill Caldwell	BC	9-24-07
Cultural Resources	Dave Calver	DC	9-25-07
Fisheries	Scott Snedaker	SS	9/24/07
Hydrology, Water Quality, Soils (including floodplains)	Steve Wegner		
Natural Resources Supervisor	Daniel Schreindorfer	DS	9/24/07
Fuels/Air Quality	Tom Tomczyk		
Recreation/Visual Resources	Traci Meredith	TMM	9/24/07
Wildlife	Scott Hopkins	SH	9-24-07

Prepared by: *Mary L. Hunder*
NEPA

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitute's BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

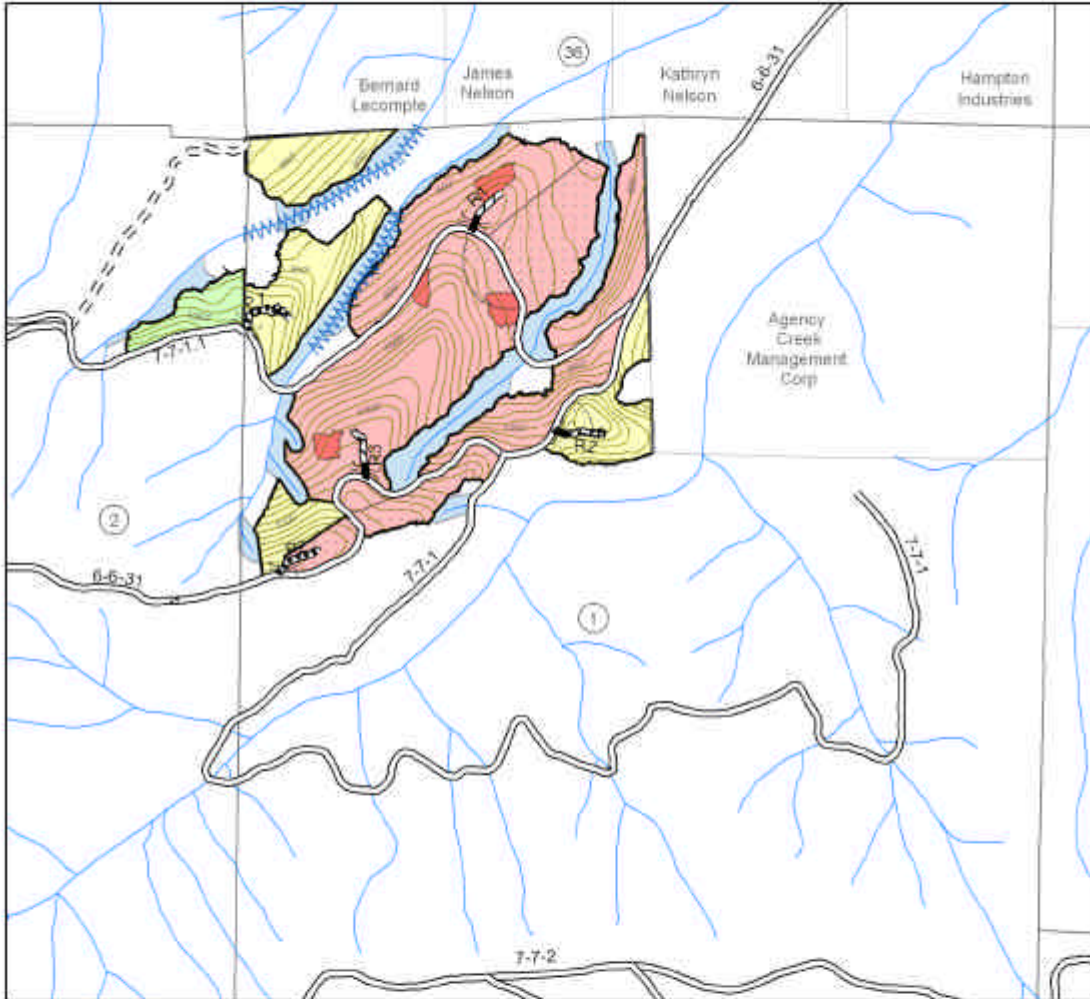
Josh Wilson
Signature of the Responsible Official

9-25-07
Date

NEUMAN ROAD PROJECT MAP

Selected Action

T. 7 S., R. 7 W., Sections 1 & 2, W. M. - SALEM DISTRICT - OREGON



LEGEND

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Streams | Barrier to be constructed following harvest operations | Ground-Based Yarding |
| Found Corner | Full Suspension Required Over Stream | Skyline Yarding |
| Existing Road | Road to be constructed and decommissioned | Unit 1A - 70 acres |
| OHV Trail | Road to be renovated and decommissioned | Unit 1B - 27 acres |
| 20' Contours (in Units) | Stream Protection Zone | Unit 2A - 4 acres |
| | EA Unit Boundary | Patch Cut Areas |

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data. Original data was compiled from multiple source data and may not meet U.S. National Mapping Accuracy Standard of the Office of Management and Budget.

