



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Grants Pass Resource Area
2164 N.E. Spalding
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1790 (ORM070)
DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA

JUL 30 2014

Dear Interested Party:

As the Grants Pass Resource Field Manager, I have signed Decision Record (DR) #2 for the Revised Wolf Pup Project (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA). This will withdraw DR #1 which was signed on August 4, 2010 and authorized 220 acres of commercial thinning.

The Douglas Complex Fire burned a portion of the acres authorized in the Revised Wolf Pup DR#1. As of July 26, 2013, 97 acres had been logged and 123 acres remained unlogged. The Douglas Complex Fire altered the conditions of the 123 unlogged acres and the analysis completed in the Revised Wolf Pup Project Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA) no longer represents the conditions on the ground. The 123 acres that were not logged are incorporated into and analyzed in the Douglas Fire Complex Recovery Project EA (DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2014-006-EA).

In accordance with the BLM Forest Management Regulations 43 CFR §5003.2 (a & c), the effective date of the decision, as it pertains to actions described above that are not part of an advertised timber sale, is the date of publication of this Notice of Decision in the *Grants Pass Daily Courier* newspaper on July 31, 2014. Any protest must be made within 15 days of the publication of this Notice of Decision. Any contest of this decision should state specifically which portion or element of the decision that is being protested and cite the applicable regulations. 43 CFR § 5003.3 subsection (b) states: "Protests shall be filed with the Authorized Officer and shall contain a written statement of reason for protesting the decision." This precludes the acceptance of electronic mail (email) or facsimile (fax) protests. Only written and signed hard copies of the protests delivered to the Grants Pass Interagency Office will be accepted; the address is 2164 NE Spalding Ave, Grants Pass, OR 97526. Hardcopies of any documents listed in this decision are available at the address listed above, or on the Medford District's website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>.

If no protest is received by the close of business (4:30 p.m.) within 15 days after the Notice of Decision is published, the decision will become final. If a timely protest is received, the decision will be reconsidered in light of the statement of reasons for the protest and other pertinent information available and the Grants Pass Resource Area will issue a protest decision. For more information about this project contact Leah Schofield at (541) 471-6504.

Sincerely,

Allen Bollschweiler
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area

Decision Record #2
Revised Wolf Pup Project
Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Medford District, Grants Pass Resource Area

Introduction

This decision authorizes the withdraw of Decision Record #1 for the Revised Wolf Pup Project, dated August 4, 2014.

Background

The Wolf Pup Timber Sale Project Environmental Assessment (EA) documented the analysis of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) proposal to harvest trees on BLM-administered lands. The Wolf Pup Project EA (EA# OR118-08-014) was initially released in October of 2009. This initial EA included 352 acres of thinning. In August of 2010, the BLM revised the EA and rereleased the Revised Wolf Pup Project EA (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA). This revised EA included 220 acres of thinning on Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.

The reduction in unit acreage from the 352 acres of thinning (2009 EA) to 220 acres of thinning (2010 EA) was the result of the following factors: Stands 160 years and older were not proposed for treatment in the Revised Wolf Pup Project. Activities no longer included in the proposal are referred to as "deferred." Structurally complex stands suitable for northern spotted owl habitat (Recovery Action 32 stands) were deferred. Red Tree Vole sites (2001 Survey and Manage Record of Decision) found through protocol surveys (BLM 200a, BLM 2003) were deferred from the Revised Wolf Pup Project units, per Management Recommendations (BLM 2000b). Vascular and nonvascular botany surveys were conducted in compliance with the 2001 Survey and Manage (S&M) protocol. Surveys revealed no new Survey and Manage (S&M) or Sensitive or Strategic vascular plant sites within Revised Wolf Pup Project units. One documented nonvascular S&M Category B species (*Chaeotheca ferruginea*) was located within an Ecological Protection Zone (no-treatment buffer along streams, springs, seeps and wet areas), which met the recommended buffer radius for this species. A greenhouse gas and carbon storage analysis has been added since it was raised during the EA comment period.

Based upon a review with agency direction and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) adequacy a decision was made by the (Former) Glendale Resource Area Field Manager to provide a revised EA (DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2010-008-EA) for the Wolf Pup Project. The revised EA updated the Proposed Action, silvicultural prescription, and EA map; addressed consideration of public comments on the original EA (EA# OR118-08-014); revised the analysis for 2001 S&M species, and portions for northern spotted owl, air quality, and fire hazard; and adds an analysis for greenhouse gas and carbon storage, western bluebird, pileated woodpecker, and bats identified as a point of interest during the original EA comment period.

The Decision Record for the Revised Wolf Pup Project (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA) was signed on August 4, 2010 by the Glendale Resource Area Filed Manager. That Decision Record authorized 220 acres of thinning in Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan and 1995 Medford District Resource Management Plan. A Notice of Sale was advertised in the *Grants Pass Daily Courier* on August 18, 2010 and initiated the protest period for the project. No protests were received.

The Wolf Pup Project was auctioned for sale at the Medford District Office on September 16, 2010. The sale was purchased by Rough and Ready Lumber Company. Harvest of the project began March 18, 2011. On November 6, 2012 the Revised Wolf Pup timber sale was suspended due to cultural resource issues. The suspension remained in place until a majority of the units were cleared for operation. At that time 97 acres had been logged.

On July 26, 2013, a large lightning storm moved through southwest Oregon and ignited more than 60 fires. Many of the fires were contained within a few days; however, some fires resisted containment. A few of these fires grew into the Douglas Complex Fire. The Douglas Complex Fire burned a portion of the acres analyzed in the Revised Wolf Pup Project EA (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA). As of July 26, 2013, 97 acres had been logged and 123 acres remained unlogged.

The Douglas Complex Fire altered the conditions of the 123 acres and the analysis completed in the Revised Wolf Pup Project EA (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA) no longer represented the conditions on the ground. The 123 acres that were not logged are incorporated into and analyzed in the Douglas Fire Complex Recovery Project EA (DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2014-006-EA).

Decision

This decision will withdraw the Wolf Pup Project Decision Record #1 (August 4, 2010).

By withdrawing the authorization for the remaining 123 acres, no further treatment actions as analyzed in the Revised Wolf Pup Project EA (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA) shall be implemented.

Decision Rationale

I have determined that the Douglas Complex Fire altered the conditions of the 123 unlogged acres and have rendered the analysis completed in the Revised Wolf Pup Project EA (DOI-BLM-M080-2010-008-EA) no longer valid.

Authorization

It is my decision to withdraw Decision Record #1 for the Wolf Pup Timber Sale.



Allen Bollschweiler,
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area

7/30/14

Date

Administrative Remedies

In accordance with the BLM Forest Management Regulations 43 CFR §5003.2 (a & c), the effective date of the decision, as it pertains to actions described above that are not part of an advertised timber sale, is the date of publication of this Notice of Decision in the *Grants Pass Daily Courier* newspaper. Any protest must be made within 15 days of the publication of this Notice of Decision. Any contest of this decision should state specifically which portion or element of the decision that is being protested and cite the applicable regulations. 43 CFR § 5003.3 subsection (b) states: "Protests shall be filed with the Authorized Officer and shall contain a written statement of reason for protesting the decision." This precludes the acceptance of electronic mail (email) or facsimile (fax) protests. Only written and signed hard copies of the protests delivered to the Grants Pass Interagency Office will be accepted; the address is 2164 NE Spalding Ave, Grants Pass, OR 97526. Hardcopies of any documents listed in this decision are available at the address listed above, or on the Medford District's website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>.

If no protest is received by the close of business (4:30 p.m.) within 15 days after the Notice of Decision is published, the decision will become final. If a timely protest is received, the decision will be reconsidered in light of the statement of reasons for the protest and other pertinent information available and the Grants Pass Resource Area will issue a protest decision. For more information about this project contact Leah Schofield at (541) 471-6504.