



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT
GRANTS PASS RESOURCE AREA
2164 NE Spalding Ave
Grants Pass, OR 97526**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION AND DECISION RECORD

**DOUGLAS COMPLEX AND BIG WINDY COMPLEX
SUPPRESSION REHABILITATION
LOG DECK REMOVAL**

DOI- BLM-OR-070-2013-011-CX

A. Background

Land Use Allocation: Matrix and Late Successional Reserve (LSR)

Location: Grants Pass Resource Area, Willamette Meridian (W.M):

- T32S, R7W, Sections 9, 15, 17, 21
- T32S, R8W, Sections 29, 35
- T32S, R9W, 13, 24, 33
- T33S, R6W, Sections 19
- T33S, R8W, Sections 1-5, 12, 13, 17, 20, 23, 25, 26
- T34S, R9W, Section 6

The Douglas Complex, comprised of the Dad's Creek, Farmer Gulch and Rabbit Mountain fires, resulted from a dry lightning storm on July 26, 2013. The fires burned in steep, rugged terrain near the communities of Leland, Wolf Creek, and Glendale. The fire perimeter (48,679 acres) is comprised of BLM managed lands (25,352 acres), State of Oregon managed lands (319 acres), and private lands (23,008 acres). The Douglas Complex burned in Matrix and Late Successional Reserve Land Use Allocations.

The Big Windy Complex, comprised of the Big Windy, Jenny, and Calvert Peak fires, also resulted from lightning on July 26, 2013. The fires burned in steep, rugged terrain near the community of Galice. The fire perimeter (28,328 acres) is comprised of BLM managed lands (26,620 acres), State of Oregon managed lands (6 acres), private lands (9 acres) and Forest Service managed lands (64 acres). The Big Windy Complex burned in the Late Successional Reserve Land Use Allocation mostly on BLM managed lands.

Both the Douglas and Big Windy Complexes burned within mixed conifer stands (predominantly Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine) as well as young conifer plantations, oak woodlands, hardwood stands, and other non-commercial forest land. Fire severity was mixed, ranging from low to

high. While the majority of fire severity was low to moderate, stand replacement fire occurred in young managed stands as well as older forest.

During the fire suppression activities, existing roads were day-lighted to provide for improved fire suppression control lines, and trees were felled and/or pushed over to facilitate tractor fire line construction. To avoid the creation of fuel accumulations near active fire or along established fuel breaks, many of the felled trees on BLM land were decked and/or individually placed adjacent to existing roads during fire mop-up and rehabilitation actions. Tractor fire lines within the Late-Successional Reserve were rehabilitated according to the Medford District Resource Management Plan guidelines.

Purpose and Need of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the project is to capture the economic value of the merchantable material generated as a result of fire suppression activities. In addition, return the BLM infrastructure to the pre-suppression status to remove existing and future hazardous conditions to the public and reciprocal right users. Left in place the logs would be subject to theft, bug and pest infestation. Merchantable values need to be captured before further deterioration occurs.

Description of the Proposed Action

The proposed action is to remove log decks that were created during fire suppression along BLM roads: 32-7-8, 32-7-15.2, 32-7-19.3, 32-7-21, 32-7-21.1, 32-7-21.2, 32-8-26, 32-8-29, 32-8-35.2, 32-9-13.1, 32-9-14.1, 32-9-14.2, 32-9-24.2, 33-6-19, 33-8-3.1, 33-8-7, 33-8-13, 33-8-13.1, 33-8-17.1, 33-8-21.1, 33-8-24, 33-8-26, 34-8-1, 34-9-21, 34-9-6, (see attached map). While the majority of the logs have been limbed and cut to length, additional log processing (e.g. limbing and bucking to desired lengths) may be necessary. These actions may be accomplished using chainsaws or tracked processing equipment. Log removal would be accomplished using either a self-loading log truck or tracked/rubber tire loader. Material left over from processing activities would be lopped and scattered or piled and burned. There would be no ground or habitat disturbance as there would be no new temporary or permanent road construction or log skidding, and all equipment operations would occur on existing roads.

Project Design Features

Project Design Features (PDFs) are specific measures included in the site-specific design of the Proposed Action to minimize adverse impacts on the human environment. Additional PDFs are contained under Best Management Practices (BMP), Appendix D, in the RMP. Additional PDFs may be incorporated into project design based on site-specific assessment.

Wildlife

Northern Spotted Owl

Disturbance

- Work activities that produce noise above ambient levels would not occur within specified distances (see table below) of any nest site or activity center of known pairs and resident

single between 1 March and 30 June (or until two weeks after the fledgling period) unless protocol surveys have determined the activity center to be not occupied, non-nesting or failed in their nesting attempt.

Noise Disturbance Distance Buffers for the Northern Spotted Owl

Type of Activity	Zone of Restricted Operation
Helicopter or single-engine airplane	360 feet
Chainsaws	195 feet
Heavy Equipment	105 feet

Fuels

Activity Fuels and Prescribed Fire

- Merchantable sawlogs would be removed and any remaining debris at the landing sites would be lopped & scattered. A hand pile burn treatment would be recommended if lop and scatter approach creates a continuous pattern of fuels.
- Hand piles would be at least 5 feet tall and at least 6 feet in diameter. Each hand pile would be covered with a large enough piece of 4 mm. black plastic to ensure successful ignition (generally 5 ft x 5 ft or large enough to cover 90% of the pile). All 4 corners and the middle of plastic sheets shall be anchored with slash or other debris. To minimize scorch and mortality, hand piles would not be placed adjacent to or within 10 feet of leave trees or large woody debris.
- Slash piles at landings would have a minimum 10 foot area on the ground cleared of slash, other vegetation, litter, and debris to prevent escaped fire. Each landing pile would be covered with at least a 4 mm black plastic to ensure a dry ignition point (generally 10 ft x 10 ft or large enough to cover 80% of the pile). All 4 corners and the middle of plastic sheets shall be anchored with slash or other debris. To minimize scorch and mortality, landing piles would not be placed adjacent to or within 15 feet of leave trees. To facilitate desired consumption, landing piles would be as free of dirt as reasonably possible.
- Slash piles would be burned in the fall to spring season after one or more inches of precipitation have occurred. Patrol and mop-up of burning piles would occur when needed to prevent treated areas from reburning or becoming an escaped fire.
- Slash piles would be located on existing disturbed areas such as dozer lines or landing areas. Piles would not be located on the road prism.
- All prescribed burning would be managed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Oregon Smoke Management Plan administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry and the regulations established by the Air Quality Division of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Cultural

- If cultural resources are discovered during project implementation the project would be redesigned to protect the cultural resource values present, or evaluation or mitigation procedures would be implemented based on recommendations from the Resource Area Archaeologist, with input from interested federally recognized Tribes, and concurrence from the Field Manager and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Landings

- Silt fencing or other sediment control measures would be properly placed and maintained during use and periods of non-use, to keep eroded material onsite that have the potential to release eroded fines into a stream or wet area, directly or via draws or ditch lines.
- Landings, and other areas of exposed soils resulting from this activity, would be rehabilitated by properly installing and/or using water bars, berms, sediment basins, hay bales, wood straw, small dense woody debris, seeding and/or mulching, to reduce sediment runoff as directed by the Authorized BLM Officer.
- Bare soil areas disturbed following this action would be covered with seed and mulch. Seed and straw used for rehabilitation would be an approved species, and certified weed free, to prevent the further spread of noxious weeds. All seeding would be contingent on seed availability.
- Runoff water would be diverted away from headwalls, slide areas, high landslide hazard locations or steep erodible fill slope during rehabilitation of landings.
- Activities during dry conditions within the wet season (generally October through May) that have the potential to release sedimentation into a stream or wet area via ditchlines or other means, would have silt fencing or other sediment control measures in place during periods of non-use if they are ¹hydrologically connected to streams.

Road haul and maintenance

- All equipment and vehicles driving road systems 34-8-1; 34-9-21, and 34-8-36 and operating at Log Deck #7 would need to be free of all soil before entering. Equipment and vehicles would only need to be washed once prior to project work as long as the vehicles and equipment adhere to the proposed haul routes identified. Water would need to come from a clean source that is uninfested, such as municipal. All equipment and vehicles would need a formal inspection before proceeding, which can be done by the Authorized Officer. The checklist for this inspection is attached in the Decision Record. The said roads and log deck mentioned would need to adhere to mitigation measure #11, defined in the POC FSEIS, 2004 Record of Decision.

¹*Hydrologically Connected* = where drainage features are connected to stream channels via surface water flow routes, including headwater springs.

- Haul would not occur on hydrologically connected rocked or natural surfaced roads when water is flowing in the ditchlines or during any conditions that would result in any of the following; surface displacement such as rutting or ribbons; continuous mud splash or tire slide; fines being pumped through road surfacing from the subgrade and resulting in a layer of surface sludge; road drainage causing a visible increase in stream turbidities, or any condition that would result in water being chronically routed into tire tracks or away from designed road drainage during precipitation events. Hauling on natural surface or rocked roads would not resume for a minimum of 48 hours following any storm event that results in ½ inch or more precipitation within a 24 hour period, and until road surface is sufficiently dry to prevent any of the above conditions from reoccurring, and as approved by the authorized officer.
- Natural surface and rocked haul routes and related ditchlines that could deliver sediment into Oregon Coast coho and Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts coho critical habitat would have sediment barriers (e.g., hay bales, silt fence, settling ponds) installed to prevent sediment from reaching these streams. Specifically these sediment barriers would be applied to BLM roads #32-8-26.
- Sediment barriers would be placed by the purchaser according to specifications and locations outlined by the BLM fish biologist, engineer, and contract administrator. These barriers would be maintained and monitored (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality ODEQ Erosion and Sediment Control Manual 2005) by the purchaser and contract administrator during haul route usage.
- Road surface would be maintained by applying appropriate gradation of aggregate and suitable particle hardness to protect road surfaces from rutting and erosion for off season haul where runoff drains to wetlands, riparian management areas, floodplains and waters of the state. If appropriate gradation of aggregate and suitable particle hardness to protect road surfaces cannot be achieved to protect water quality, hauling would be limited to the dry season and/or sediment control devices would be installed maintained all stream crossings, and culvert outlets with the riparian reserve.
- Roads would be bladed and shaped to conserve existing aggregate surface material, and retain or restore the original cross section. Berms and other irregularities would be removed that impede effective runoff or cause erosion. During road improvement activities it would be ensured that surface runoff is directed into vegetated, stable areas to the extent practical.
- Approved road surface stabilizers/ dust control additives would be applied as necessary where haul roads are located near residences and where needed to reduce surfacing material loss and buildup of fine sediment that can enter into wetlands, floodplains and waters of the state.
- Non-emergency road maintenance work would occur during the dry season (generally between May 15 and October 15). Certain activities (blading of aggregate roads, rocking, brushing, cross drain installation) would be permitted during the wet season (generally

Oct 15 -May 15) when conditions are dry. If these activities would occur within 200 ft of streams, sediment control devices would be placed and maintained as necessary to prevent action related stream sedimentation. Stored sediment behind erosion control devices would be removed from channel and disposed of in a stable location outside the Riparian Reserve.

- No ditch maintenance would occur during the wet season unless for safety or resource protection. Work would be suspended during precipitation events or when observations indicate that saturated soils exist to the extent that there is visible runoff or a potential for causing elevated stream turbidity and sedimentation. Emergency road work could occur during the wet season. Sediment control measures would be evaluated and implemented if necessary, where ditchline blading is required within 200 feet of streams.
- Waste material from road maintenance activities would be placed on stable disposal areas a minimum of 200 feet from any stream and in a location where sediment-laden runoff can be confined. Where necessary, provide erosion control to minimize sediment delivery to streams. Implement sediment reduction techniques such as settling basins, brush filters, sediment fences and check dams to prevent or minimize sediment conveyance to streams.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

The proposed action is in conformance with the following plans:

- the *Final-Medford District Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision* (EIS, 1994 and RMP/ROD, 1995);
- the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (Northwest Forest Plan FSEIS, 1994 and ROD, 1994) including Aquatic Conservation Objectives;
- the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Management of Port-Orford-Cedar in Southwest Oregon* (FSEIS, 2004 and ROD, 2004); and
- *Medford District Integrated Weed Management Plan Environmental Assessment (1998)* and tiered to the *Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program* (EIS, 1985)
- *Final SEIS for Amendment to the Survey & Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* (2000), and the *ROD and Standards and Guidelines for Amendment to the Survey & Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines* (2001);

The Douglas Complex and Big Windy Complex Suppression Rehabilitation Log Deck Removal project is consistent with the 2001 Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, as incorporated into the Medford District Resource Management Plan.

On December 17, 2009, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington issued an order in *Conservation Northwest, et al. v. Rey, et al.*, No. 08-1067 (W.D. Wash.) (Coughenour, J.), granting Plaintiffs' motion for partial summary judgment and finding a

variety of NEPA violations in the BLM and USFS 2007 Record of Decision eliminating the Survey and Manage mitigation measure.

Judge Coughenour deferred issuing a remedy in his December 17, 2009 order until further proceedings, and did not enjoin the BLM from proceeding with projects. Plaintiffs and Defendants entered into settlement negotiations that resulted in the 2011 Survey and Manage Settlement Agreement, adopted by the district court on July 6, 2011.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion on April 25, 2013, that reversed the District Court for the Western District of Washington's approval of the 2011 Survey and Manage Settlement Agreement. The case is now remanded back to the District Court for further proceedings. This means that the December 17, 2009, District Court order which found National Environmental Policy (NEPA) inadequacies in the 2007 analysis and records of decision removing Survey and Manage is still valid.

The project may proceed even if the District Court sets aside or otherwise enjoins use of the 2007 Survey and Manage Record of Decision. This is because the Douglas and Big Windy Complex Suppression Rehabilitation Log Deck Removal Project meets the provisions of the last valid Record of Decision, specifically the 2001 Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (not including subsequent Annual Species Reviews).

C. Categorical Exclusion Determination:

The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under Department Manual 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4 Section C:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 (C) (2) – *“Sale and removal of individual trees or small groups of trees which are dead, diseased, injured, or which constitute a safety hazard, and where access for the removal requires no more than maintenance to existing roads”*

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 apply.

NEPA Categorical Exclusion Review:

1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

Yes No

Remarks: Log Removal would occur in rural forested areas well away from communities and presents no public health or safety hazard.

2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resource; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order

11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.

Yes No

Remarks: There are no unique geographic characteristics, historical or cultural resources, parks, recreation or refuge lands, etc. that would be affected. No direct effects to nesting adult birds, nests and eggs, or fledgling birds would be expected from the removal of decked and individually placed logs as there would be no modification or removal of forest habitat associated the log removal.

3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].

Yes No

Remarks: The environmental effects of removing decked and individually placed logs adjacent to existing roads are not highly controversial. The Medford ROD/RMP authorizes this activity, and as such, there is no unresolved conflict regarding other uses of these resources.

4. *Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.*

Yes No

Remarks: Removing logs along existing roads is a long-standing practice that has not been demonstrated to have highly uncertain or potentially significant effects, or involve unique or unknown risks.

5. *Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.*

Yes No

Remarks: The removal of decked and individual logs is addressed in and authorized by the ROD/RMP. As such, this project represents implementation of the land use plan decision, not a decision in principle on future actions. Removing logs along existing roads has been widely practiced on BLM and Forest Service lands throughout western Oregon and has not been shown to have potentially significant impacts.

6. *Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.*

Yes No

Remarks: The BLM has conducted this type of activity in the past with no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effects.

7. *Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.*

Yes No

Remarks: The removal of the decked and individual logs would not affect any known cultural resources. The proposed project would occur along existing roads and does not involve any new ground disturbance such as new road construction or log skidding. The logs would be removed with either a self-loading log truck or tracked/rubber tire loader. Cultural

resource work for this project was completed in accordance with the National Cultural Programmatic Agreement and Protocol for Managing Cultural Resources on Lands Administered by the BLM in Oregon to fulfill Section 106 Consultation responsibilities with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

If cultural resources are discovered during project implementation the project would be redesigned to protect the cultural resource values present, or evaluation or mitigation procedures would be implemented based on recommendations from the Resource Area Archaeologist, with input from interested federally recognized Tribes, concurrence from the Field Manager and SHPO.

8. *Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.*

Yes No

Remarks: Removing fire-suppression created logs would not affect nesting, roosting, and foraging opportunities for the northern spotted owl. Log removal would occur outside of the spotted owl nesting season when in close proximity to spotted owl sites so that potential disruption is avoided.

Sediment would not be expected to enter coho critical habitat (CCH) as a result of haul, maintenance of haul roads, or rehabilitation of landings. Due to dry condition haul, properly functioning cross drains or sediment barriers installed, where needed, to prevent sediment delivery into CCH. Project activities would follow all provisions of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Subchapter D) and Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ's) provisions for maintenance of water quality standards. Removal of the logs would have no effect on streamside shading, and consequently no effect on stream temperatures. There would be no effect to Oregon Coast (OC) coho and Southern/Oregon Northern California Coastal coho (SONCC) salmon, critical habitat designated for OC and SONCC salmon, or Essential Fish Habitat designated for Oregon Coast coho and Chinook salmon.

There are no known federally listed plant species occurrences within or adjacent to the project locations. The nearest known occurrence of Gentner's fritillary is over eight air miles south of the project area. If undocumented occurrences of Gentner's fritillary are located beneath decked logs, then removal of those logs would have a beneficial effect and allow for recovery of the site.

Rogue River stonecrop, a Bureau sensitive and state candidate plant species, is known to occur within close proximity to log decks; however, this species is associated with rock outcrops and unlikely to occur within proposed disturbance footprints. Removal of the logs would not further impact any undocumented special status plant or fungi sites.

9. *Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.*

Yes No

Remarks: The project conforms to direction from the Medford District ROD/RMP for management of public lands on the Medford District. The ROD/RMP complies with all applicable laws, such as the Federal Land Policy Management Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, and others.

10. *Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).*

Yes No

Remarks: No potential impacts have been identified by the Medford District BLM, either internally or through public involvement in BLM project planning over the years which would indicate that the removal of the logs would have a disproportionate impact on low-income or minority populations in Josephine County, Oregon.

11. *Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).*

Yes No

Remarks: No sites of sacred, religious or ceremonial value have been identified in the resource area.

12. *Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or nonnative invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).*

Yes No

Remarks: There are currently noxious weeds in the project areas. Noxious weeds will be controlled in cooperation with BLM botanists and the action will not contribute to introduction, continued existence or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.

Reviewers:

Michael W. Crawford 11-14-13
Fisheries Date

Bryan L. [Signature] 11/6/13
Botany Date

Mary Hayden 9/23/13
Cultural Resources Date

Sean D. Hoyle 4/12/13
Planning/NEPA Date

Eileen Freeman 11/14/13
Engineering

[Signature] Reed 11/14/13
Wildlife Date

[Signature] 11/14/13
Soils/Hydrology Date

[Signature] 11/15/13
Visual Resources / Recreation Date

Michael B. Merri 11/14/13
Fuels Date

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT OFFICE
GRANTS PASS RESOURCE AREA
2164 NE Spalding Ave
Grants Pass OR 97526

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DECISION RECORD

**DOUGLAS COMPLEX AND BRIMSTONE COMPLEX SUPPRESSION
REHABILITATION LOG DECK REMOVAL**

DOI- BLM-OR-070-2013-011-CX

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is to remove the log decks that were created during fire suppression activities along BLM roads: 32-7-8, 32-7-15.2, 32-7-19.3, 32-7-21, 32-7-21.1, 32-7-21.2, 32-8-26, 32-8-29, 32-8-35.2, 32-9-13.1, 32-9-14.1, 32-9-14.2, 32-9-24.2, 33-6-19, 33-8-3.1, 33-8-7, 33-8-13, 33-8-13.1, 33-8-17.1, 33-8-21.1, 33-8-24, 33-8-26, 34-8-1, 34-9-21, 34-9-6, (see attached map). Any additional log processing (e.g. limbing and bucking to desired lengths) would be accomplished using chainsaws or tracked processing equipment. Log removal will be accomplished using either a self-loading log truck or tracked/rubber tire loader. There will be no ground or habitat disturbance as there would be no new temporary or permanent road construction or log skidding, and all equipment operations would occur on existing roads. Material left over from processing activities would be lopped and scattered or piled and burned.

Decision and Rationale

Based upon the attached Categorical Exclusion, it is my decision to authorize the removal of decked logs as described in the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action has been reviewed by the Grants Pass Resource Area staff and appropriate Project Design Features, as specified in the Categorical Exclusion Documentation, will be incorporated into implementation of the Proposed Action.

Based on the attached NEPA Categorical Exclusion, I have determined the Proposed Action involves no significant impact to the environment and no further environmental analysis is required.

Administrative Remedy

The decision described in this document is a forest management decision and is subject to protest by the public. In accordance with Forest Management Regulations at 43 CFR Subpart 5003 Administrative Remedies, protests of this decision may be filed with the authorized officer, Allen Bollschweiler, within 15 days of the publication date of the first timber sale advertisement in the *Grants Pass Daily Courier, Grants Pass, Oregon*. While similar notices may be published

in other newspapers, the date of publication in the *Grants Pass Daily Courier* will prevail as the effective date of this decision.

43 CFR § 5003.3 subsection (b) states: "Protests shall be filed with the authorized officer and shall contain a written statement of reasons for protesting the decision." This precludes the acceptance of electronic mail (email) or facsimile (fax) protests. Only written and signed hard copies of protests that are delivered to the Grants Pass Resource Area office, 2164 NE Spaulding Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526 will be accepted.

The protest must clearly and concisely state which portion or element of the decision is being protested and the reasons why the decision is believed to be in error. 43 CFR § 5003.3 subsection (c) states: "Protests received more than 15 days after the publication of the notice of decision or the notice of sale are not timely filed and shall not be considered." Upon timely filing of a protest, the authorized officer shall reconsider the project decision to be implemented in light of the statement of reasons for the protest and other pertinent information available to her. The authorized officer shall, at the conclusion of the review, serve the protest decision in writing to the protesting party(ies). Upon denial of a protest, the authorized officer may proceed with the implementation of the decision as permitted by regulations at 5003.3(f).

This categorical exclusion will be posted on the District internet website <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/plans/index.php>.

For additional information concerning this decision or administrative remedies please contact Leah Schofield, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, telephone (541) 471-6504, 2164 NE Spaulding Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526.

Implementation Date:

A Notice of Decision will be published in the Grants Pass Daily Courier on November 28, 2013. If no protest is received by the close of business (4:30pm,) within 15 days after publication of the Notice of Decision in the Grants Pass Daily Courier, the decision will become final.

Decision

I have reviewed the Proposed Action in accordance with the above criteria and have determined that the proposed action would not involve any significant environmental impacts. Therefore, the actions do not meet any of the criteria for exception and are categorically excluded from future environmental review.



Grants Pass Resource Area
Field Manager

11 / 22 / 13

Date

Port Orford Cedar Risk Key Analysis for Douglas and Big Windy Complex Suppression Rehabilitation Log Deck

(Risk Key is from Alternative 2 of the FSEIS for Management of Port

QUESTION		DOI- BLM-OR-070-2013-011-CX																										
1a.	Are there uninfected POC within, near ¹ , or downstream of the activity area whose ecological, Tribal, or product use or function measurably contributes to meeting land and resource management plan objectives?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	
1b.	Are there uninfected POC within, near ¹ , or downstream of the activity area that, were they to become infected, would likely spread infections to trees whose ecological, Tribal, or product use or function measurably contributes to meeting land and resource management plan objectives?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	
1c.	Is the activity area within an uninfested 7 th field watershed ² as defined in Alternative 6	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y
<i>If the answer to any of the three questions is yes, continue.</i>		<i>If the answer to all three questions, 1a, 1b, and 1c, is no, then risk is low and no POC management practices would be required.</i>																										
2.	Will the proposed project introduce appreciable additional risk ³ of infection to these uninfected POC?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
		<i>If no, then risk is low and no POC management practices are required.</i>																										
		**Management Practices by Road/Road System																										
<i>If yes, apply management practices from the list below [within FSEIS] to reduce the risk to the point it is no longer appreciable, or meet the disease control objectives by other means, such as redesigning the project so that uninfected POC are no longer near or downstream of the activity area. If the risk cannot be reduced to the point it is no longer appreciable through practicable and cost-effective treatments or design changes, the project may proceed if the analysis supports a finding that the value or need for the proposed activity outweighs the additional risk to POC created by the project.</i>		32-7-8	32-7-15.2	32-7-19.3	32-7-21	32-7-21.1	32-7-21.2	32-8-26	32-8-29	32-8-35.2	32-9-13.1	32-9-14.1	32-9-14.2	32-9-24.2	33-6-19	33-8-3.1	33-8-7	33-8-13	33-8-13.1	33-8-17.1	33-8-21.1	33-8-24	33-8-26	34-8-1 (#11)	34-9-21 (#11)	34-9-6	34-8-36 (#11)	

1 - In questions 1a and 1b, "near" generally means within 25 to 50 feet downslope or 25 feet upslope from management activity areas, access roads, or haul routs; farther for drainage features; 100 to 200 feet in streams.

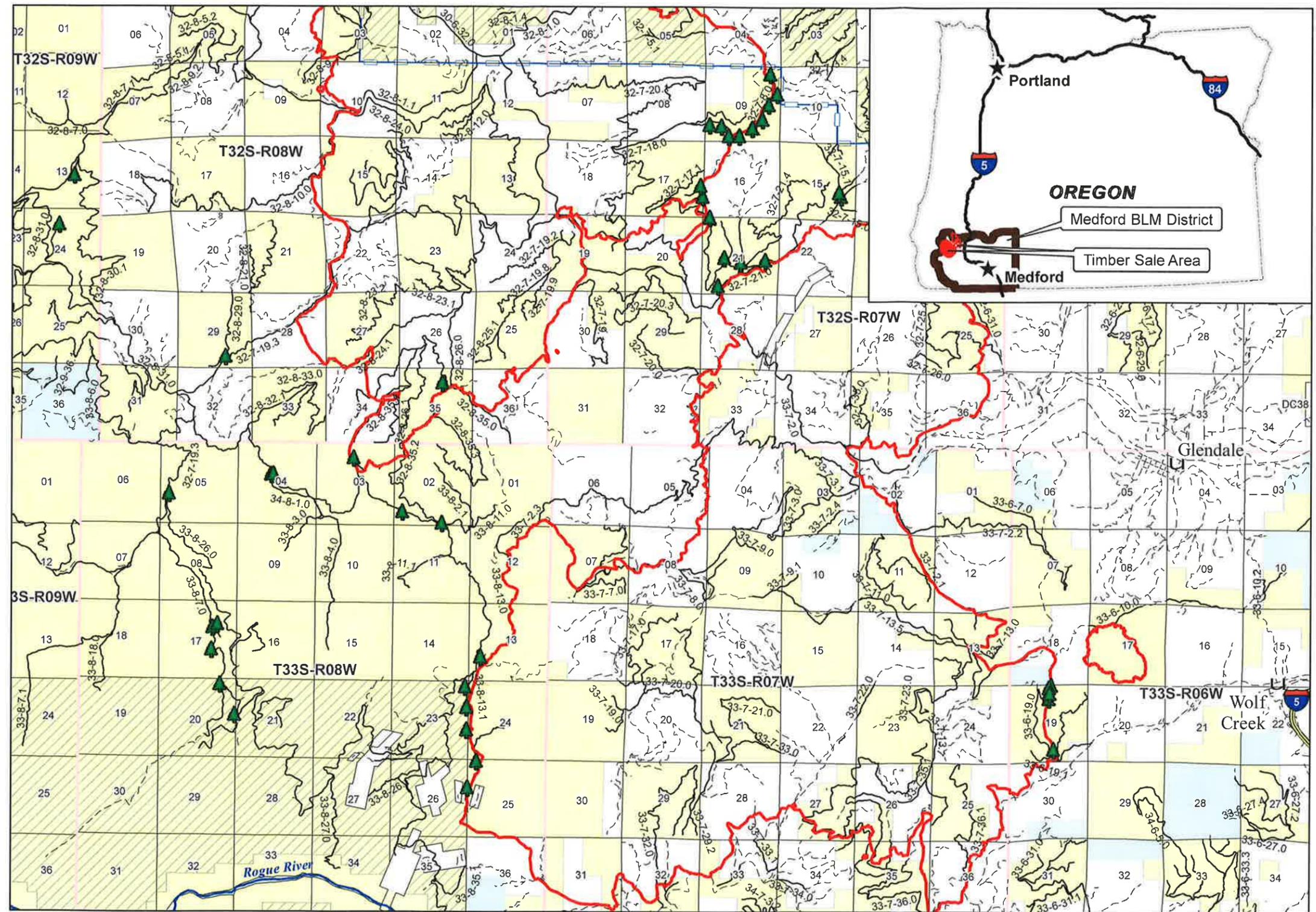
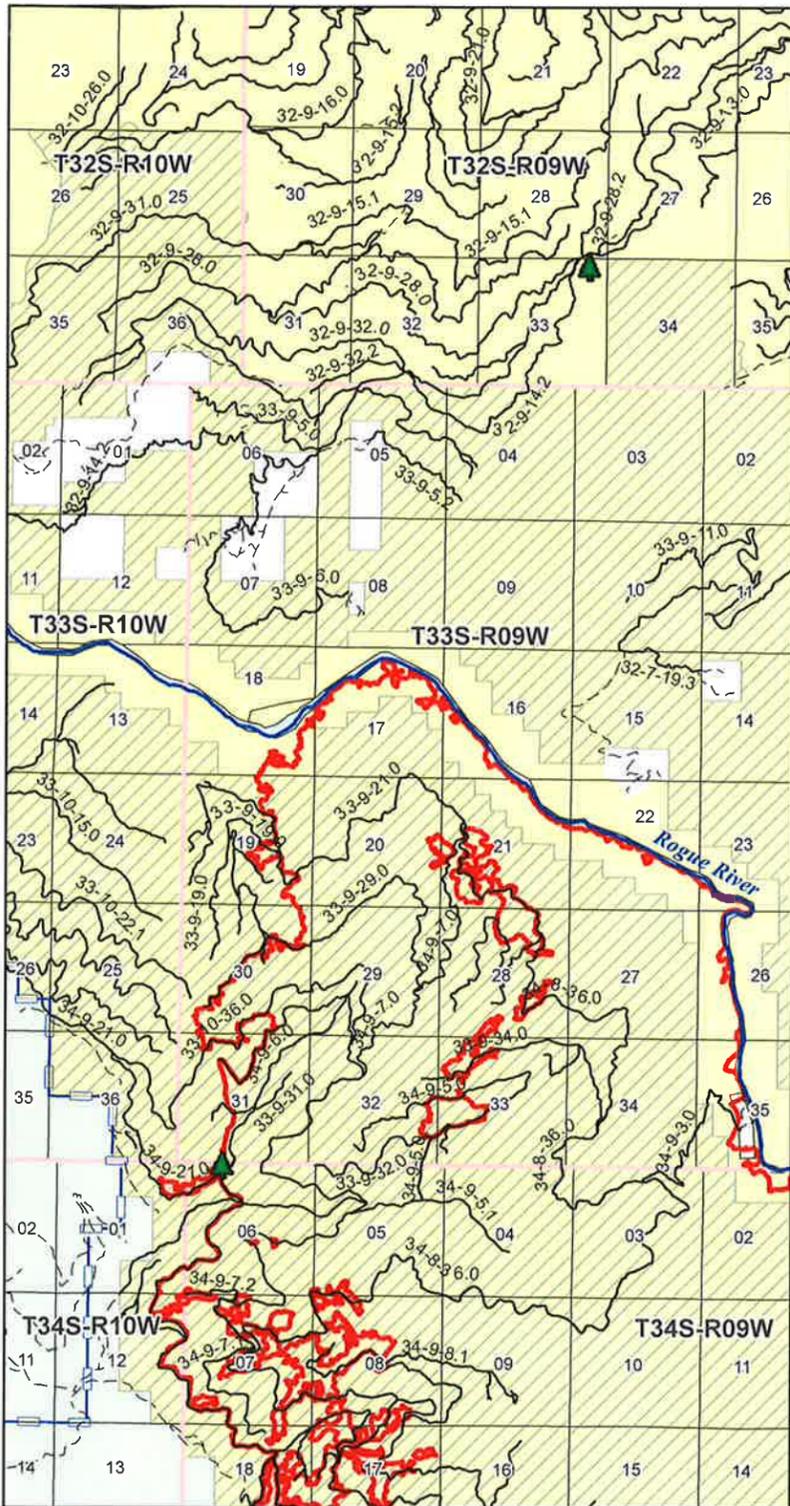
2 - Uninfested 7th field watersheds are listed on Table A12-2 [of FSEIS] as those with at least 100 acres of POC stands, are at least 50% federal ownership, and are free of PL except within the lowermost 2 acres of the drainage.

3 - Appreciable additional risk does not mean "any risk." It means that a reasonable person would recognize risk, additional to existing uncontrollable risk, to believe mitigation is warranted and would make a cost-effective or important difference (see Risk Key Definitions and Examples for further discussion.)

*Activities within these sections should incorporate management activities regardless of POC occurrence within the individual stand due to access routes containing POC

**Management practices: 1) project scheduling, 2) utilize uninfested water, 3) unit scheduling, 4) access, 5) public information, 6) fuels management, 7) incorporate POC objectives into prescribed fire plans, 8) routing recreation use, 9) road management measures, 10) resistant POC planting, 11) washing project equipment, 12) logging systems, 13) spacing objectives for POC thinning, 14) non-POC special forest products, 15) summer rain events, 16) roadside sanitation, and 17) site-specific POC management

Douglas Complex and Big Windy Complex Fire Suppression-Created Log Deck Removal



- Legend**
- Suppression-cut Log Location
 - Bureau of Land Management Medford District Boundary
 - Fire Perimeter
 - Bureau of Land Management Road
 - County or Private Road
 - Rogue River
 - Township Range
 - Section
 - Bureau of Land Management Matrix Land Use Allocation
 - Bureau of Land Management Late-Successional Reserve Land Use Allocation
 - U.S. Forest Service
 - State
 - Local Government
 - Private

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1 inch = 7,500 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 and may be updated without notification.

Map created by S. QueenFoster
 October 24, 2013