

Categorical Exclusion Documentation for All Projects Other Than Hazardous Fuels and Fire Rehabilitation Projects

A. Background

BLM Office: Marys Peak Resource Area

Lease/Serial/Case File No: _____

Categorical Exclusion Number: DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2011-0004-CX **Date:** 1/11/2012

Proposed Action Title/Type: Rockhouse Early-Seral Enhancement

Location of Proposed Action: Township 8 S, Range 6 W, Section 5 Polk County

Land Use Allocation(s): Adaptive Management Area and Riparian Reserve

Description of Proposed Action:

Rockhouse Creek Early-Seral Enhancement: The proposed action is to perform density management on one forest stand approximately 38 years old and 54 acres in area. No new road construction will occur. Current stand exam data shows that the stand is overstocked and lacking vigor and structural diversity. The goal of the project is to slow the spread of laminated root rot (*Phellinus weirii*), increase stand structural and species diversity, and enhance individual tree characteristics (crown size, branch size, growth and vigor), thereby putting the stand on a trajectory to develop old-growth characteristics.

Proposed Action

Density management will be implemented in the upland portions of the unit (outside of Riparian Reserves) to accelerate development of late-successional stand characteristics; such as large trees, tree species diversity, and multi-layered canopy. The primary objective for the Adaptive Management Area (AMA) land use allocation is to implement activities that are beneficial to the creation of late-successional habitat. Approximately 87 trees per acre will be retained and canopy closure reduced to about 65 percent.

In Riparian Reserves (RR), associated “no-harvest” buffers will be established on all intermittent streams within the unit boundaries. No perennial streams are within unit boundaries. The buffers will be a minimum slope distance of 50 feet in width, measured from the top of the stream bank, in consideration of a variety of factors, including unique habitat features, streamside topography, and vegetation. Susceptibility of streams to solar heating will also be considered in determining specific buffer widths.

Trees designated for cutting and removal will be felled away from these “no-harvest” buffers. Within the RR, but outside of the “no-harvest” buffers, a variable spacing marking prescription will be employed to retain approximately 87 trees per acre and encourage accelerated growth of the trees as a future source of large wood for instream recruitment.

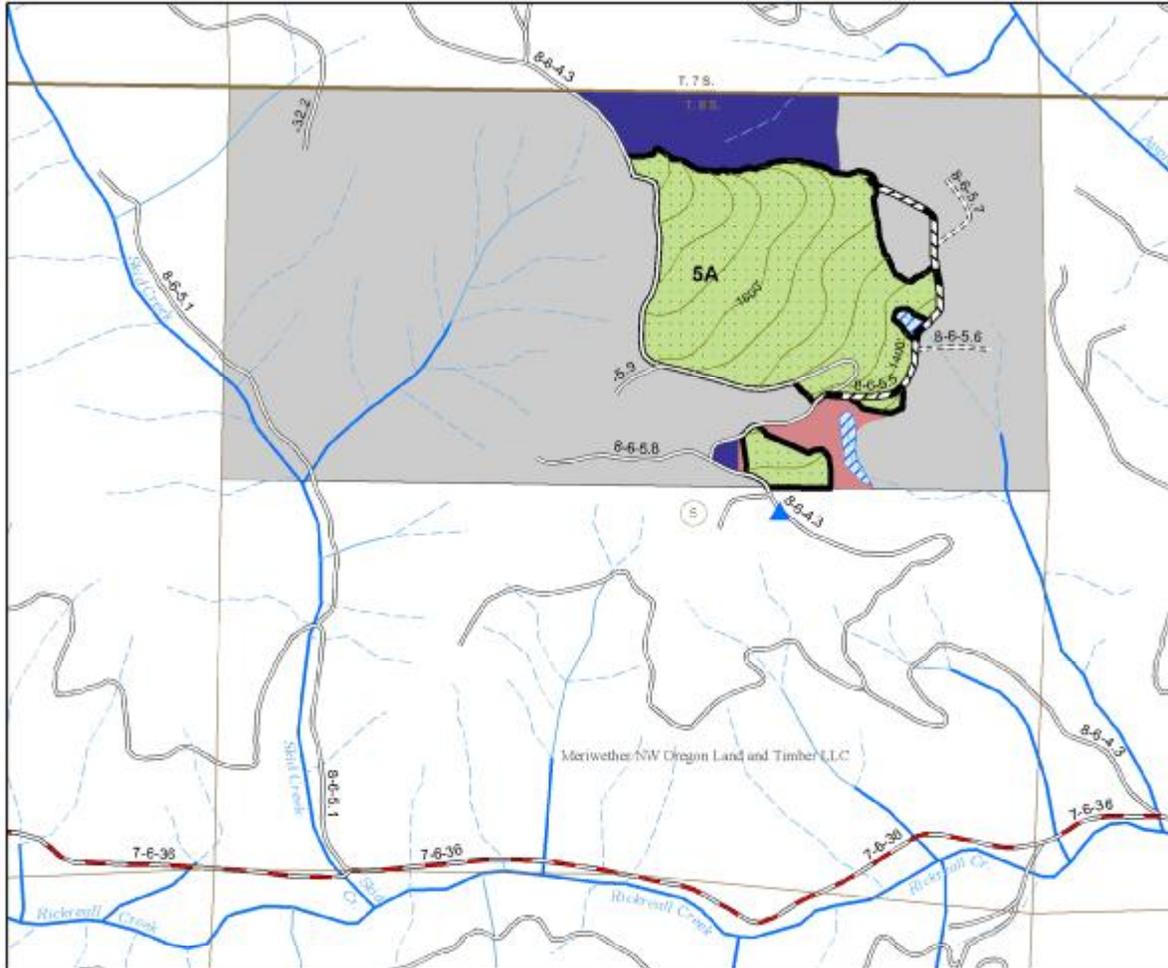
Approximately 0.35 miles of road will be renovated. No new road construction will occur.

ROCKHOUSE PROJECT MAP

Rockhouse Project

T. 8 S., R. 6 W., Section 5, W.M. - SALEM DISTRICT - OREGON

5/10/2011



- | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| ●—● Gate | — Highway | — Perennial Fishbearing | □ EA Unit Boundary | ■ Rockhouse Units |
| ▽ Other Closure Device | — Major Access Road | — Perennial Non-fishbearing | □ Yarding Method | |
| ■ No Bridge | — Intermediate Road | — Intermittent Fishbearing | □ Ground-Based Yarding | |
| ▲ Culvert to be Installed | — Minor Road | — Intermittent Non-fishbearing | □ Dropped Areas | |
| | --- Impassable Road | — Perennial Waterbody | ■ Logging Feasibility Problem | |
| | --- Decommissioned Road | — Intermittent or Seasonal Waterbody | ■ Poor Stocking | |
| | | | ▨ Stream Protection Zone | |

Notwithstanding to the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data, it is made available for use or aggregate use with other data. Original data was compiled from multiple source data and may not meet U.S. National Map Accuracy Standards of the Office of Management and Budget. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notice. For additional information, contact the Bureau of Land Management.



Project Design Features

Table 1: Season of Operation or Operating Conditions

Season of Operation or Operating Conditions	Applies to Operation	Objective
During periods of low soil moisture, generally July 15 to October 15	Ground-based yarding (Tractor)	Minimize soil erosion/compaction
During periods of low soil moisture, generally June 15 to October 31	Ground-based yarding (Harvester/Forwarder) and (Hydraulic Loader) and machine chipping and/or piling	Minimize soil erosion/compaction
During periods of dry weather and low soil moisture, generally May 1 to October 31	Timber hauling on the following roads: # 8-6-4.3, 8-6-5.5, 7-6-36	Minimize soil erosion/stream sedimentation

To protect water quality, minimize soil erosion as a source of sedimentation to streams and to minimize soil productivity loss from soil compaction, loss of slope stability or loss of soil duff layer

All project activities will utilize the Best Management Practices (BMPs) required by the Federal Clean Water Act (as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987). The BMPs listed below will be applied to this project (2008, FEIS, Appendix I). Road renovation will occur on approximately 0.35 miles of the 8-6-5.5 road.

- Implement erosion control measures such as waterbars, slash placement and seeding in skid trails where the potential for erosion and delivery to waterbodies, floodplains and wetlands exists (BMPs R22, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 86). Construct waterbars on skid trails using guidelines in Table I-21, page 289, Appendix I.
- Scatter treatment debris on disturbed soils and water bar any yarding trails that could erode and deposit sediment in water bodies, floodplains, and wetlands (TH 18, 19, S 4).
- Plan use on existing and new skid trails to be less than 10 percent of the harvest area (TH 9).
- Limit width of skid trails to what is operationally necessary for the equipment (approximately 12 foot width) (TH 10).
- Ensure one-end suspension of logs during ground based skidding (TH 11).
- Limit conventional ground-based equipment to slopes less than 35 percent (TH 14).
- Skid and harvest roads will be blocked where they access main vehicular roads following completion of ground-based yarding (TH 21).
- Other ground-based yarding equipment could be utilized as long as it meets BMPs and results in equivalent or less than the level of impacts analyzed for the project (TH 15).
- Fell harvested trees away from stream channels when possible (TH 17, S3).
- During periods of rainfall when water is flowing off road surfaces, the contract administrator may restrict log hauling to minimize water quality impacts, and/or require the purchaser to install silt fences, bark bags, or apply additional road surface rock (R 73).
- Repair damaged culvert inlets and downspouts to maintain drainage design capacity (R 39, 43).
- Landings should be kept to the minimum size needed to accomplish the job and use existing road surfaces as much as possible (TH 13, R1, 4, 6).

- Mechanical equipment used for machine piling or biomass production will not operate on slopes steeper than 35 percent unless the equipment is specifically designed to operate on steeper slopes and is approved by the Authorized Officer (TH 15).

To contain and/or reduce noxious weed infestations on BLM-managed lands using an integrated pest management approach

- All soil disrupting equipment will be required to be clean and free of dirt and vegetation as directed by the contract administrator (SP 1).
- All large areas of exposed mineral soil (roads to be renovated, cat/skid trails, landings), as determined by the contract administrator will be grass seeded with Oregon Certified (blue tagged) red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), applied at a rate equal to 40 pounds per acre or sown/planted with other native species as approved by the resource area botanist. Prior to applying seed, the contractor will supply the BLM with the seed certification (blue tag) and seed label (R 97).

To meet the objectives of the Riparian Reserves

- Stream protection zones (SPZs) where no cutting, yarding, and/or fuels treatments is permitted will be established along all streams and identified wet areas within the harvest areas. These zones will be a minimum of approximately 50 feet from the high water mark. Stream protection zone width will be established through shade sufficiency analysis (TH 7).
- From the SPZ to the upper edge of the Riparian Reserve, stand density will be reduced using the same prescription used on the upland forest, though additional trees will be left as necessary to maintain 50% canopy cover in the secondary shade zone (S 9).
- To protect water quality, all trees within one tree height of SPZs will be felled away from streams. Where a cut tree does fall within a SPZ, the portion of the tree within the SPZ will remain in place (TH 17, S 3).
- No refueling will be allowed within 150 feet of any standing or running water (SW 8, 9, SP 1, RST 10).
- Hand piling of fuels intended for burning is prohibited closer than 100 feet from any stream channel.
- Mechanical fuels treatment will be prohibited closer than 200 feet from any stream channel.

To protect stand diversity and enhance wildlife habitat

- Priorities for tree marking will be based on Marking Guidelines. Tree selection will be designed to leave a range of diameter distribution, maintain or increase the proportion of minor species, create variable density of leave trees, and retain legacy and wildlife tree structure while meeting target densities. Residual tree densities will average 120 sq. ft. (square feet) basal area and approximately 87 trees per acre (TPA).
- Understory conifers less than 5 inches diameter breast height outside bark (DBHOB) will be excluded from harvest.
- The following special habitat components will be protected and released (live structure only), unless they pose a safety risk or affect access and operability: remnant and stand-age snags; remnant and stand-age coarse woody debris (CWD); remnant live trees, hollow trees (live and dead), stand-age trees which were open-grown (wolf); older cohorts with full live crowns; trees with deformities like broken/dead tops, forked tops, or witches' brooms. Any special habitat component felled or moved will remain on site within the project area.
- Additional trees will be reserved around large snags (greater than 14 inches DBHOB and 30

feet in height) to protect them from logging operations and reduce the likelihood of their cutting for worker safety reasons.

- Except in yarding corridors/skid trails, and road prisms; grand fir, western hemlock, bigleaf maple, Pacific madrone, Pacific yew, western redcedar, and red alder will be retained to maintain tree species diversity and increase the proportion of minor species. With exceptions noted above only Douglas-fir will be removed for early-seral enhancement purposes.
- In areas infected with *Phellinus weirii*, all Douglas-fir trees (the most susceptible species) will be removed within 50 feet of dead or symptomatic trees. If openings greater than approximately 0.5 acre are created, the need for planting will be evaluated following harvest. If needed, seedlings of non-susceptible or immune tree species will be planted.
- Any Continuous Vegetation Survey plot reference trees will be reserved from harvest to aid in plot relocation for future plot measurements.
- Clumps would be retained through variable density thinning and would not exceed 0.1 acre in size. However, several areas would remain untreated due to logging infeasibility and riparian buffers.
- Additional trees will be cut around the largest diameter trees with the fullest live crowns to maintain their open-grown, wolf- tree structure. Additional trees will also be cut to release relatively large Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*) trees to add to structural diversity.
- Any plus trees (trees selected for genetic traits) and their reference trees, and bearing trees will be reserved from harvest.
- Any tree found to have a stick or ball nest will be protected, regardless of tree or nest size.

To reduce fire risk, protect air quality, and manage fuels

- A Prescribed Fire Burn Plan will be initiated and signed by the Authorized Officer prior to any prescribed burning activity.
- Burning would be conducted in accordance with the Salem District RMP, Oregon State Implementation Plan, and Oregon Smoke Management Plan as administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry and would comply with provisions of the Clean Air Act. It would be conducted under good atmospheric mixing conditions to lessen the impact on air quality in Smoke Sensitive Receptor Areas.
- Swamper burning, or hand, machine, and landing pile construction and burning may be used individually or in combination in areas where fuel loading is heavy, the fire risk is determined to be high, or site preparation is required to help facilitate tree planting in *Phellinus weirii* pockets.
- Large woody debris would not be piled.
- Hand piles and machine piles would be located at least ten (10) feet from green trees to minimize damage, or on top of Bigleaf maple stumps to help prevent re-sprouting.
- Landing piles would be located as far as possible from reserved trees to minimize damage.
- Hand, machine, and landing piles would be covered with .004 mil. thick black polyethylene plastic and shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in size to facilitate the consumption of fuels during the high moisture fall/winter burning periods.
- Lopping and scattering of fuels would be incorporated in areas where fuel loading is relatively heavy, but not heavy enough to warrant piling and burning.
- Pullback of fuels would be incorporated in areas where fuel loading is relatively light, (especially along roads) and not heavy enough to warrant piling and burning.
- Utilization of small diameter slash for firewood or energy production from biomass would be incorporated where appropriate.

- The Density Management project areas may be posted with signs to notify the public of harvest, log hauling activities, or biomass utilization.

To protect Special Status Species

- For any listed botanical species whose characteristics make locating them with field surveys practical, clearances will generally be done by field surveys using intuitive controlled methods, field clearances, field reconnaissance, inventories, and/or habitat examinations. Clearances for fungi are considered "not practical" and surveys are not required. If any new sites are located they would be managed according to bureau policy.

To protect Cultural Resources

- The project area occurs in the Oregon Coast Range. Survey techniques are based on those described in Appendix D of the Protocol for Managing Cultural Resource on Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon. Post-project survey will be conducted according to standards based on slope defined in the Protocol appendix. Project activities will be suspended if archaeological or historical materials are discovered during project work until an archaeologist can assess the significance of the discovery.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

The Salem District initiated planning and design for this project to conform and be consistent with the Salem District's 1995 Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (1995 RMP). Following the March 31, 2011 decision by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Douglas Timber Operators et al. v. Salazar, which vacated and remanded the administrative withdrawal of the Salem District's 2008 Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (2008 ROD/RMP), we evaluated this project for consistency with both the 1995 RMP and the 2008 ROD/RMP. Based upon this review, the selected alternative contains some design features not mentioned specifically in the 2008 ROD/RMP. The 2008 ROD/RMP did not preclude use of these design features, and the use of these design features is clearly consistent with the goals and objectives in the 2008 ROD/RMP. Accordingly, this project is consistent with the Salem District's 1995 RMP and the 2008 ROD/RMP.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

Adaptive Management Area LUA: Implement a subset of the specific management opportunities that were identified to be consistent with AMA objectives (RMP pp.19-20):

- › Restore and maintain late-successional forest conditions which serve as habitat for late-successional forest species and which are consistent with marbled murrelet guidelines.
- › Provide a stable timber supply.

Manage mid-seral stands in RR LUA (RMP pp.9-15) to:

- › Enhance or restore habitat (e.g. CWD, snag habitat, in-stream large wood) for populations of native riparian-dependent plants, invertebrates, and vertebrate species (RMP p.6).

- › Improve structural and spatial stand diversity on a site-specific and landscape level in the long-term (RMP pp.11, 26, D-6).
- › Apply silvicultural treatments to restore large conifers to Riparian Reserves (RMP p.7).

C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9 C. (7) which allows for harvesting live trees not to exceed 70 acres, requiring no more than 0.5 mile of temporary road construction.

Table 2: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)		
Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
<p>2.1/ Have significant impacts on public health or safety?</p> <p>Rationale: The proposed action will have no impacts on public health or safety therefore will have no significant impacts on public health or safety. All activities associated with the proposed timber sale will be conducted in a forested location outside of population centers and will conform to established Occupational Safety and Health Administration rules concerning health and safety.</p>		No
<p>2.2/ Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as: historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, national natural landmarks, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, national monuments, migratory birds, other ecologically significant or critical areas?</p> <p>Rationale: The project area is not located in any park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, or national natural landmarks. There are no floodplains, prime farmlands, wetlands, national monuments, or other ecologically significant or critical areas present in the project area. Timber harvest may alter but will not eliminate the ability of the stand to provide habitat for migratory birds, nor appreciably alter the function or abundance of mid-seral forest habitat provided by BLM-administered lands in the watershed.</p>		No
<p>2.3/ Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2) (E)]?</p> <p>Rationale: The effects of the proposed action are not controversial and there are no unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. Past experience has shown that the environmental effects of early-seral enhancement in young forest stands are not highly controversial. The ROD/RMP established the land use allocation and goals for the affected lands. As such, there are no unresolved conflicts regarding other uses of these resources.</p>		No
<p>2.4/ Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?</p> <p>Rationale: Past experience from this type of activity has shown no highly uncertain, potentially significant, unique or unknown risks.</p>		No
<p>2.5/ Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?</p>		No

Table 2: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)		
Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion	Yes	No
<p>Rationale: Early-seral enhancement is addressed and authorized under the existing ROD/RMP, and as such, this project will represent implementation of that land use plan decision, not a decision in principle on future actions. Early-seral enhancement is a silvicultural practice, the application of which is based on forest stand conditions. It has been widely used on BLM and Forest Service lands throughout Oregon and has not been shown to have potentially significant impacts.</p>		
<p>2.6/ Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?</p> <p>Rationale: There are no cumulative effects associated with the proposed action, therefore there are no significant cumulative effects as a result of these actions. The project will not alter the forest age class distribution of BLM lands in the watershed, nor will it create canopy gaps across an area sufficient to alter timing or magnitude of peak and base flows in the watershed. There will be no increase in road density or flow routing by roads which will affect stream flows. “No harvest” buffers on intermittent and perennial streams will preserve streamside shading and maintain stream temperatures and filter any sediment-laden over land flow.</p>		No
<p>2.7/ 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?</p> <p>Rationale: Surveys conducted by the BLM have not identified any cultural or historical resources that will be affected by the proposed action.</p>		No
<p>2.8/ 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?</p> <p>Rationale: Fish: A determination has been made that the proposed action ‘may affect’ Upper UWR winter steelhead. The ‘may affect’ determination is primarily due to the proximity of listed fish adjacent to proposed haul routes in the Rickreall Creek Watershed. Informal consultation with NMFS was completed on ESA listed UWR winter steelhead on June 13, 2011.</p> <p>The proposed action will have ‘no effect’ to UWR Spring Chinook salmon and Oregon chub. Generally, the ‘no effect’ determination is based on the distance upstream of project activities (approximately 25 miles) from ESA listed Chinook salmon critical habitat and historic habitat for Oregon chub. Consultation with NMFS is not required for UWR Spring Chinook salmon, or with USFWS for Oregon chub for these projects.</p> <p>Wildlife: The location of this isolated parcel of very young forest, which is surrounded by young forests on private lands, currently provides no suitable habitat for listed wildlife species. There would be no modification of suitable habitat and no disturbance of adjacent habitats. Therefore, this action would have no effect on any federally listed wildlife species or any designated critical habitat. Consultation under Section 7 of the ESA is not required. The proposed action would likely provide a long-term positive benefit to spotted owl and marbled murrelet habitat conditions by developing suitable nesting structure sooner than if left untreated.</p>		No
<p>2.9/ Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?</p> <p>Rationale The proposed action follows all known Federal, State, or local or Tribal laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment. The proposed</p>		No

Table 2: Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances Review (43 CFR 46.215)		Yes	No
Will the Proposed Action documented in this Categorical Exclusion			
action is in conformance with the direction given for the management of public lands in the Salem District ROD/RMP, which complies with all applicable laws such as the Federal Land Policy Management Act, Endangered Species Act, Historic Preservation Act, Clean Water Act and others.			
2.10/ Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		No	
Rationale: The proposed action is not anticipated to have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations and low-income populations.			
2.11/ 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)?		No	
Rationale: There are no identified sacred, ceremonial or religious Indian sites within the project area.			
2.12/ Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native 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)?		No	
Rationale: The entire project area has been included in the Marys Peak integrated pest management plan over the past several years. Scotch broom has been targeted for pulling and Scotch broom and Armenian blackberries were sprayed in the project area in May of 2010 and will receive follow-up treatments in the 2011 and will be monitored for the need for treatment in subsequent years. All soil disrupting equipment will be required to be clean and free of dirt and vegetation as directed by the contract administrator and areas of disturbed soil will be sown with seed to limit habitat available to noxious weed species.			

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 DM2 (see Table 2, above) apply.

I considered and reviewed the effects of the following additional elements of the environment required by management direction. Table 3 shows the effects of the proposed action on these elements of the environment.

Table 3: Elements of the Environment

Elements of the Environment	Remarks
Energy (Executive Order 13212)	This project is in compliance with this direction because this project will not interfere with the Energy Policy (Executive Order 13212).

Elements of the Environment	Remarks
Essential Fish Habitat (Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Cons. /Mgt. Act)	Protection of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as described by the Magnuson/Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act and consultation with NMFS is required for all projects which may adversely affect EFH of Chinook and coho salmon. The proposed project is not expected to adversely affect EFH due to distance of all activities associated with the project from occupied habitat. Consultation with NMFS on EFH is not required for this project.
Hazardous or Solid Wastes	This project will have no effect on this element because no Hazardous or Solid Waste will be stored or disposed of on BLM lands as a result of this project.
Special Status (except T/E) or other rare or uncommon species/habitat	There are no known sites of any special status vascular plant, lichen, bryophyte or fungal species from within the treatment area. Thinning dense stands of conifers generally leads to greater forest stand structure and layering of vegetation which will improve habitat for the establishment of bureau special status species over time. Field surveys were completed in the summer of 2010.

The proposed action has no effect on the elements of the environment described above; therefore there is no potential for significant impacts. Project Design Features are described in section A under the description of the Proposed Action. No additional mitigation measures are required.

D. Scoping Comments

Scoping for this project was performed under the Rickreall Creek Watershed Restoration Project, which includes six other proposed timber sales. The scoping letter, dated August 19, 2010, was sent to 24 potentially affected and/or interested individuals, groups, and agencies. Two responses were received during the scoping period. No comments, concerns, or issues were raised specific to the Rockhouse timber sale that would necessitate additional NEPA analysis.

E. Signature

Specialist Review and Concurrence

Resource	Name	Initial
Aquatic/Fisheries	Scott Snedaker	<i>SMS</i>
Botany	Ron Exeter	<i>RLE</i>
Cultural Resources	Heather Ulrich	<i>HAU</i>
Engineering	Mellissa Rutkowski	<i>MAR</i>
Fire Hazard/Air Quality	Kent Mortensen	<i>KCM</i>
Harvest Systems	Andy Frazier	<i>AFF</i>
Hydrology/Soils	Steve Wegner	<i>SJW</i>
NEPA Compliance	Stefanie Larew	<i>SNL</i>
Recreation	Traci Meredith	<i>TMM</i>
Silviculture/Riparian Ecology	Hugh Snook	<i>HWS</i>
Wildlife	Scott Hopkins	<i>DSH</i>

Authorized Official: Diane Morris
Name: Diane Morris
Title: Marys Peak Resource Area Field Manager

Date: 1/11/2012

Contact Person: For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Stefanie Larew, Natural Resource Specialist, Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Rd SE, at (503) 375-5601.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SALEM DISTRICT, MARYS PEAK RESOURCE AREA

Decision Record

Based on the attached Categorical Exclusion Documentation DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2011-0004-CX, I have determined that the proposed action, early-seral enhancement on one forest stand approximately 38 years-old and 54 acres in area involves no significant impacts to the human environment and requires no further environmental analysis.

It is my decision to perform early-seral enhancement on 54 acres, as described in the attached Categorical Exclusion Documentation DOI-BLM-OR-S050-2011-0004-CX.

Administrative Review Opportunities

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 5003, protests of this decision may be made within 15 days of the publication of a notice of decision in a newspaper of general circulation. The notice for this decision will appear in the Polk County Itemizer-Observer newspaper on January 18, 2012. The planned sale date is February 15, 2012.

To protest this decision, a person must submit a written protest to Diane Morris, Marys Peak Field Manager, 1717 Fabry Rd SE., Salem, Oregon 97306 by the close of business (4:30pm) on February 2, 2012. The regulations do not authorize the acceptance of protests in any form other than a signed, written, and printed original that is delivered to the physical address of the advertising BLM office.

The protest must clearly and concisely state the reasons why the decision is believed to be in error. Any objection to the project design or my decision to go forward with this project must be filed at this time in accordance with the protest process outlined above. If a timely protest is received, I will consider the decision in light of the statements of reasons for the protest and other pertinent information available and shall serve a decision in writing on the protesting party. (42 CFR 5003.3).

Implementation: This project will be implemented February, 2012.

Contact Person: For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Stefanie Larew, Natural Resource Specialist, Salem District Office, 1717 Fabry Rd SE, Salem, Oregon, 97306, or at (503) 375-5601.

Authorized Official: Diane Morris Date: 1/11/2012
Diane Morris
Marys Peak Resource Area Field Manager