

REGIONAL ECOSYSTEM OFFICE

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 11, 2016

TO: Chris Foster, South River Field Office Manager, Roseburg District,
Bureau of Land Management

FROM: George McFadden, REO Representative

SUBJECT: Regional Ecosystem Office Review of Stouts Creek Fire Salvage Project

Summary: The Regional Ecosystem Office (REO) interagency Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) Work Group has concluded its review of the documents provided by the BLM South River Field Office of the Roseburg District regarding proposed activities of the South Umpqua River Galesville Late Successional Reserve (RO#223). The REO, based upon the review by the LSR Work Group, concurs with the BLM South River Field Office finding that their proposed actions are consistent with the Standards and Guidelines (S&G's) under the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) for the South Umpqua River Galesville Late Successional Reserve.

Basis for the Review: Salvage actions are to be reviewed by the Regional Ecosystem Office under the Guidelines for Salvage on Page C-14 of the S&G's for the NWFP and the Late Successional Reserve Assessment (LSRA) for the South Umpqua River Galesville LSR. The salvage of hazard trees adjacent to existing roads is permitted under Item 6 of the Guidelines for Salvage on Page C-15 of the Standards and Guidelines for the Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan. The salvage of dead trees in areas of stand replacement disturbance is permitted if the salvage is greater than 10 acres in size in Item 1 of the Guidelines for Salvage on Page C-14 of the Standards and Guidelines for the Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan.

Project Scope and Description: The Stouts Creek Fire burned a total of 26,428 acres on BLM, US Forest Service and privately managed lands. A total of 5,539 acres was on BLM managed lands, all of which are within the South Umpqua River Galesville Late Successional Reserve. The salvage is proposed in an area where the Stouts Creek Fire burned with high severity creating an area of almost complete mortality of the existing stands.

The BLM is proposing to fell and remove snags and hazard trees on 27 acres that are between 1.5 and 2.5 tree heights distance from existing roads in the fire area and fell and remove snags on 43.5 acres that are within 200 feet on either side of a 1 mile stretch of the ridge line in T 31 S., R. 03 W., W.M. (Unit 31-3-13A). This salvage operation will eliminate potential overhead safety issues within the salvage area should a future fire line need to be constructed in the area.

The project is located in the South Umpqua River Galesville Late Successional Reserve, The South River Field Office staff presented their proposal to the Late Successional Work Group during the August 2, 2016 LSR Work Group meeting.

Review of the Project: Activities reviewed by the LSR Work Group are from the July 7, 2016 report provided by the BLM and the Request for Concurrence presented to the Late Successional Work Group during the August 2, 2016 LSR Work Group meeting. The Work Group's review was based on the information within these documents and clarification provided during the meeting with the LSR Work Group.

Conclusion: Based upon the interagency REO LSR Work Group review, the REO concurs with the Field Office's conclusion that the activities proposed in the South Umpqua River Galesville Late Successional Reserve Project are consistent with the NWFP.

If you have questions regarding this review, please contact Doug Young at 503-808-2014.



George McFadden
BLM REO Representative to the REIC

cc: Michelle Calvert, South River BLM
Doug Young, LSR Workgroup, FS

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