

2007 AOP Public Comments and Responses

Klamath-Lake District

Proposed Management Prescription

COMMENT: In the Sick Puppy Pre-Op report, reword the paragraph about the large white firs to make it clearer how many will be cut and how many will be left.

RESPONSE: Because cut and leave decisions are made during marking based on individual tree characteristics and on the immediate stand conditions, it is not possible to specify numbers. However, the district will reword the paragraph to make it clearer how these decisions will be made.

COMMENT: In the Sick Puppy Pre-Op report, why reduce white fir to 30% of stocking above the 5000' elevation level when the natural condition was for significant levels of white fir?

RESPONSE: The district believes that 30% of the basal area in white fir is closer to the natural condition than the current condition, which is closer to 75% white fir. Past harvest and fire exclusion have caused the current imbalance. At 5000' to 5500' on this site fire would still have maintained a preponderance of ponderosa pine. At lower elevations, white fir is kept below 10% of basal area.

COMMENT: In all three operations, if cull logs are yarded back out into the unit, orient the logs perpendicular to the slope. This aids in creating microsites for several organisms.

RESPONSE: This is a good practice on steep slopes, however not likely to have significant value on the relatively flat terrain in these three sale areas.

COMMENT: Should Stand 182 be reclassified as a modified shelterwood, since so much true fir is being retained?

RESPONSE: The modified clearcut designation fits ODF's definition. Harvest Type definitions can be found here: [http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE FORESTS/planning.shtml#Harvest Type Definitions](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/planning.shtml#Harvest_Type_Definitions). ODF's recognized Harvest Types do not include a modified shelterwood designation.

COMMENT: It may be beneficial to include prescribed fire in future prescriptions related to ponderosa pine.

RESPONSE: The District has, and will continue to look at the use of prescribed fire as a tool for stand management. We currently have an employee that is working towards certification that will allow him to write as well as oversee prescribed burns.

Klamath-Lake District continued

Roads and Related Projects

COMMENT: None

RESPONSE:

Slope Stability and Geotechnical Issues

COMMENT: None

RESPONSE:

Recreation Resources

COMMENT: The AOP states that the District strategy is to have the forests available for informal dispersed recreation, and not to promote increases on recreation use, yet you are allowing the construction of two yurts for the Klamath Outdoor Science School (KOSS). I believe this contradicts the Forest Management Plan strategy for “informal dispersed recreation” based on size, scope and location of KOSS.

RESPONSE: KOSS is not being developed as a recreation facility. It is an educational facility. The size and location of KOSS will have minimal, if any impact on informal dispersed recreation. The public is still free to utilize the whole forest for recreational opportunities.

Other Resource Considerations

COMMENT: None

RESPONSE:

COMMENT: None

RESPONSE:

Other Issues

COMMENT: In the Lame Beavers Pre-Op report, Desired Future Condition/Vision, you discuss the vision for the stands at age 60 without stating the current stand age.

RESPONSE: The current stands are well over 100 years. This is a modified clearcut so the discussion is about the new stand 60 years from the completion of this operation.

COMMENT: Within the Integrated Forest Management Operation's it is stated the district will pursue a project to create a pump chance/wildlife pond. I am not familiar with the term "pump chance".

RESPONSE: The AOP will be revised to clarify the meaning of the term. A pump chance is a small pond used to fill wildfire engines.

COMMENT: Stand Information tables might be more useful if this tabular data was displayed in graphical form using the Stand Visualization System.

RESPONSE: At this time, the standardized format for preparing the reports does not allow for this data to be presented in a graphical format. However, the district will explore adding this format to the report in future years.

COMMENT: Market materials removed from the lodgepole pine stand sale in any available market, not just the chip market specifically.

RESPONSE: This comment refers to the existence of a new facility to process poles. We are already doing this on the ground. The AOP wording will be changed to reflect this market opportunity.

COMMENT: Establish photomonitoring points prior to management activities as well as after.

RESPONSE: Our current stand inventory protocol includes taking photos from plot center each time and inventory is completed. This provides us with the suggested data.

COMMENT: Provide a projection for overall income and expense for a ten year period.

RESPONSE: Because these plans deal with a one year sale period, it is beyond the scope of this report to provide this information for a period covering ten years.