

EA Number: OR-014-01-06

PROJECT TITLE/TYPE: Miners Creek Culvert Removal and Road Decommissioning.

PROJECT LOCATION: Township 38S, Range 6E, Sections 33 and 34; Roads 38S-6E-33.02 and 38-6E-33.04; a portion of U.S. Timberland Road #101-03 (see attached map).

BLM OFFICE: Klamath Falls Resource Area, Lakeview District

LEASE/SERIAL/CASE FILE #: N/A

APPLICANT (if any): N/A

CONFORMANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAND USE PLAN: This proposed action is subject to one or more of the following land use plans.

Name of Plans: FSEIS (Northwest Forest Plan) November 1994; Lower Spencer EA; Klamath Falls Resource Area Record of Decision (ROD) and Resource Management Plan (RMP) (June 2, 1995). (KFRA ROD/RMP); Final Klamath Falls Resource Area Management Plan and EIS (FEIS) (Sept. 1994) (KFRA FEIS): Klamath Falls Resource Area Integrated Weed Control Plan EA (July 21, 1993). Spencer Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan (June 1994)

Additional information supporting this environmental assessment can be found in the Spencer Creek Pilot Watershed Analysis of August 1995 (Spencer Creek WA).

The BLM is authorized through Section 124 of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act of 1997 to enter into watershed restoration and enhancement agreements that restore and maintain fish, wildlife, and other biotic resources on private land to benefit these resources on public land within the watershed. The intent of this project is to partner with US Timberlands, to remove all human caused fish and aquatic species migration barriers, and reduce sedimentation potential in Miners Creek.

PURPOSE and NEED FOR ACTION:

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to restore fish passage and improve habitat for aquatic species, especially redband trout in Miners Creek.

Following are from applicable sections in the RMP:

The RMP “responds to dual needs: the need for forest habitat and the need for forest products” (RMP, pg. 1-3). “The need for forest habitat is . . . for a healthy forest ecosystem with habitat that will support populations of native species and includes protection for riparian areas and waters.”

Watershed Restoration (RMP, Pg. 9) Watershed restoration will be an integral part of a program to aid recovery of fish habitat, riparian habitat and water quality. The most important components of a watershed restoration program are control and prevention of road related runoff and sediment production. Focus watershed restoration on removing some roads and where needed, upgrading those that remain in the system. (RMP, Pg. 9). Contribute substantially to the achievement of SEIS ROD objectives, including...restoration and protection of riparian zones (RMP, page 12-18).

Water and Soils (RMP, Pg. 28-31) As directed by the Clean Water Act, comply with state water quality requirements to restore and maintain water quality to protect the recognized beneficial uses for the Spencer Creek Watershed. Design and implement watershed restoration projects that promote long-term ecological integrity of ecosystems.

Roads (RMP, Pg. 14-16) Determine the influence of each road on the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives through watershed analysis. Meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives by:

- Reconstructing roads and associated drainage features that pose a substantial risk.
- Prioritizing reconstruction based on current and potential impacts to riparian resources and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected.
- Closing and stabilizing, or obliterating and stabilizing roads based on the ongoing and potential affects to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and considering short-term and long-term transportation needs. Design and construct new culverts...and improve existing culverts, bridges, and other stream crossings determined to pose a substantial risk to riparian conditions. Minimize sediment delivery to streams from roads. Provide and maintain fish passage at all road crossings of existing and potential fish bearing streams.

Need: Miners Creek is habitat for Klamath redband trout, Pacific giant salamander, and introduced brook trout, and at least one species of cold water dependent aquatic snail. Two BLM road crossings on Miners Creek block upstream fish passage on 0.3 miles of perennial stream and approximately 1 mile of intermittent stream. Miners Creek is 303D included on the 1998

Oregon DEQ list of water quality impaired streams for sediment impacts. The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) provides guidance for BLM on conditions for aquatic species habitat protection, fish and aquatic species passage, and connectivity of habitats. The Spencer Creek Pilot Watershed analysis included recommendations to reduce sedimentation to Miners Creek and Spencer Creek by closing or obliterating roads and removing excess stream crossings (page 5-43, Restoration Opportunities 3 and 5). Two culverts on secondary roads block fish passage and limit distribution and movements of other aquatic organisms. A decommissioned road crossing at the mouth of Miners Creek on private forestland is potentially inhibiting fish passage and is in an unstable condition. According to the ACS, new projects should be designed to withstand a theoretical 100-year flood event. During a flood event on January 1, 1996, flow at the top of the Miners Creek culverts exceeded capacity and over-topped the road, causing damage and delivery of road surface material (red cinder) and other fine sediment into Miners Creek. This provided good evidence that these culverts are undersized and are a high risk of failure during moderate flood events. The flood was estimated to be a 50-year return interval flood event in nearby Spencer Creek (USFS gage site).

DESCRIPTION of PROPOSED ACTION:

Two existing undersized culverts on Miners Creek would be removed. The stream channel at the crossings will be stabilized so that erosion potential and sedimentation are minimized. Rock and step pools would be installed where necessary to stabilize sediment accumulated behind the culverts and to provide habitat and fish passage in the stream. A third rock step pool would be installed at the mouth Miners Creek at Spencer Creek on private timberlands below BLM project area. The rocks on private timberlands would be installed to improve fish passage and prevent channel head-cutting. Approximately 1.2 miles of BLM road in the inner gorge of Miners Creek would be obliterated and/or decommissioned. A total of 3.2 miles of road in Section 33 would be obliterated or decommissioned. Roads affected would be Road #38S-6E-33.02 (upper culvert) and #38-6E-33.04 (lower culvert). Approximately 0.3 miles of private commercial forestland road would be decommissioned at the mouth of Miners Creek by installing roadblocks.

DESIGN FEATURES OF PROPOSED ACTION

The following definitions are from the Western Oregon Transportation Management Plan, June 1996:

“Barricading” means to block vehicle access to a road by installing a large log, dirt berm, trench or other obstacle which eliminates motor vehicle access.

“Decommission” means that the road would be closed to motor vehicles on a long-term basis, but may be used again in the future. The road would be prepared to avoid future maintenance needs and would be left in an “erosion-resistant” condition by establishing cross drains and removing fills in stream channels and potentially unstable areas. The road would be barricaded. Slash and/or small diameter trees placed on road and seeded with grass

“Full Decommission” means that there is no future need for the road. The road surface would be ripped, seeded, mulched and planted to reestablish vegetation. Cross drains, fills in stream channels and potentially unstable fill areas would be removed to restore natural hydrologic flow. The road would be barricaded or similarly blocked with natural materials such as dirt berms, logs, and boulders. Slash and/or small diameter trees placed on road and planted with native species.

“Obliteration” means that the natural contours of the land would be restored.

The proposed action generally follows these definitions, but there are some minor modifications due to specific conditions on the ground. Areas within 100 feet of stream crossings would generally fall under the definition of Obliteration.

- Slash and/or small diameter trees placed on road and seeded with native grass and planted with native conifer tree species.

- To preclude the establishment of invasive, nonnative plant species, areas of newly disturbed mineral soil would be sown with native plant seed.

- All instream work would occur during the recommended Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife instream work period (July 1 - September 15).

- Road crossing removals on all fish-bearing streams would be designed to maintain natural streambed substrate and site gradient where feasible, to minimize long-term maintenance needs;

- Step Pools are defined as strategically placed rocks that maintain water sufficient water depth and jump heights for migrating fish. Jump heights are no more than six inches high. The width of “step pools” would approximate the mean bankfull width in reference reaches near the crossing sites.

- Excessive Sediment accumulated behind culverts would be removed to prevent downstream migration of sediment and upstream headwall migration.

- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) turbidity standards shall be met by pumping water with a portable water pump (likely less than 1 cubic foot per second during construction) around the work area through collapsible fire hose while conducting instream work.

- Work would be temporarily suspended if rain saturates soils to the extent that there is potential for environmental damage, including movement of sediment from the road to the stream.

- Waste material from road crossing removal shall be used to fill road cuts to approximate

original topography. Any excess waste material would be transported to existing stockpile area outside of riparian reserve areas.

-Disturbed soils, including excavated road crossing fill will be seeded with native grass/forb seed mix. Appropriate areas will be planted with conifer seedlings (Ponderosa pine, sugar pine, and Douglas fir) based on recommendation of the Resource area silviculturist. Step pool structures and surrounding streambanks will be stable such that no further erosion control measures are needed.

-Heavy equipment activity would adhere to the following procedures:

- Heavy equipment will be cleaned and inspected before moving onto the project site in order to remove oil and grease, noxious weed plant parts and seed, and excessive soil.
- Hydraulic fluid and fuel lines on heavy mechanized equipment must be in proper working condition in order to minimize leakage into streams.
- Waste diesel, oil, hydraulic fluid and other hazardous materials and contaminated soil near the stream will be removed from the site and disposed of in accordance with DEQ regulations.
- Equipment refueling will be conducted within a confined area outside the stream channel such that there is minimal chance that toxic materials could enter a stream.
- Equipment containing toxic fluids would not be stored within 100 feet of a stream channel anytime.
- Work would be temporarily suspended if monitoring indicates that rainstorms have saturated soils to the extent that there is potential for road damage and for excessive stream sedimentation.
- Side casting of excavated material will be avoided where it would adversely affect water quality or weaken stabilized slopes.
- If project activities result in the discovery of new cultural resource sites, all ground disturbing activity shall cease and the Resource area Archeologist shall be notified. Resumption of activities in that area will be allowed only after all necessary mitigation fieldwork has been conducted.
- Work would not commence until appropriate state and Federal instream work permits are secured.

ALTERNATIVES:

ALTERNATIVE 1 - Maintain current road access from Spencer Creek Hookup Road. Repair decommissioned road crossing on private land, replace existing culverts on Roads 38S-6E-33.02 and 38S-6E-33.04 with open arch style culverts to allow improved fish passage and have theoretical 100 year flood event capacity. Improve road surface by placing crushed rock on erosive cinder road surface in the immediate vicinity of the road crossing. Add cross drainage culverts as necessary on crossing approach to prevent direct inboard ditch delivery to Miners Creek. Preliminary engineering studies show that this alternative is feasible. This alternative

would not address issues of high road density or the impacts of multiple stream crossings on the delivery of sediment to streams. Maintenance would still be required on roads and stream crossings. Approximate cost = \$100,000 - 150,000

ALTERNATIVE 2 (PROPOSED ACTION) - Maintain access to the east side of Miners Creek via the Keno access road only. Repair decommissioned road crossing on private land, remove existing road culverts on roads 38-6E-33.02 and 38-6E-33.04, obliterate and fully decommission approximately 1.2 miles of BLM road, and re-contour area near stream crossings to a more natural grade. Approximately 0.3 miles of UST Road #101-03 would be decommissioned. This would restore the drainage to its natural gradient and block vehicular traffic to reduce the potential for erosion and eliminate maintenance. Approximate cost = \$30,000 - 45,000.

Road density reductions resulting from this project and the related Lower Spencer Road Treatment DNA (Documentation of NEPA adequacy), are presented in the following table at three spatial scales.

Geographic Scope	Road Mileage and Density Reductions from Proposed Obliteration and Decommissioning					
	Existing		Lower Spencer DNA	Miners Creek EA	Cumulative	
Lower Spencer EA Area	123mi.	5.3mi/mi ²	14.5mi	2mi	16.5mi	4.6mi/mi ²
Miners Creek Subwatershed	31mi	4.9mi/mi ²	2.5mi	1.8mi	4.3mi	4.2mi/mi ²
T38S - R6E - Section 33	6.6mi	6.5mi/mi ²	1.5mi	1.7mi	3.2mi	3.3mi/mi ²

NO ACTION - Two stream crossings of Miners Creek Road would remain in place blocking upstream migration for fish and other aquatic organisms including macroinvertebrates and Pacific giant salamanders. Road surface and drainage features would remain inadequate to prevent the periodic delivery of fine sediments to Miners Creek. Culverts would continue to be undersized and have a risk of failure during moderate and high flood events.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT:

The area proposed for treatment is shown on the attached map. The proposed treatment area totals approximately 3 acres in T38S, R6E, Section 33.

A description of the proposed treatment area and the resources affected is found in the Lower Spencer Creek Forest Health Treatments Environmental Assessment, OR014-96-02, and in the Spencer Creek Pilot Watershed Analysis, August 1995. The treatment watershed is 6.32 square miles (4045 acres).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives relative to the following critical resource values were evaluated. The following is a summary of the results:

Critical Element/ Resource Value	Affected		Critical Element/ Resource Value	Affected	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Air Quality		X	T & E Species		X
ACEC/RNAs		X	Wilderness		X
Cultural		X	Wild & Scenic		X
Farmlands, Prime/Unique		X	Hazardous Wastes		X
Floodplains		X	Water Quality	X	
Native American Cultural/ Religious Concerns		X	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	X	
Low Income/ Minority Populations		X	Noxious Weeds		X
Survey and Manage	X				

EFFECTS OF PROPOSED PROJECT TO SURVEY AND MANAGE SPECIES:

Surveys were completed to protocol for Category A aquatic mollusk species during the spring of 2001. In conjunction with these surveys 6 aquatic mollusk sites were found within the project area. Species found included cold- water dependent *Fluminicola* species. Samples have not been identified to species and therefore will be treated as Survey and Manage Category A species in considering possible impacts due to the implementation of this project.

Alternative 1 and the Proposed action would maintain and restore aquatic and possibly expand aquatic mollusk habitat by restoring natural stream features. Short term impacts of project work for both alternatives could cause in stream sedimentation and turbidity that will effect aquatic mollusks in direct contact with flows originating upstream of the culvert crossings. However, the mollusk sites extend well beyond the stream channel in seeps and springs adjacent to the stream

and would be expected to re-colonize the stream after project work is complete. Project work could be mitigated to have minimal effects on mollusk populations.

The No Action Alternative would have no short- term impacts on the aquatic mollusk sites. In the long term mollusk habitat would be affected by the degradation of water quality through sedimentation and the risk of culvert failure.

IMPACTS TO AQUATIC CONSERVATION STRATEGY (ACS) OBJECTIVES:

1. The Proposed Action and alternatives would have a neutral or beneficial effect and would maintain the distribution, diversity, and complexity of watershed and landscape-scale features to ensure protection of the aquatic systems to which species, populations, and communities are uniquely adapted.
2. The Proposed Action and Alternative 1 would maintain and restore the existing spatial and temporal connectivity within and between watersheds. Drainage network connections would be restored by decommissioning stream crossings. The culverts would continue to block movements of aquatic species preventing connectivity under the No Action alternative.
3. The Proposed Action and Alternative 1 maintain and restore the physical integrity of the aquatic system. Improvements in stream channel and bank stability would be expected from decommissioning stream crossings and restoring natural drainage features. The No Action Alternative could accelerate or intensify localized effects to physical integrity until stabilized through natural erosion processes.
4. The Proposed Action and Alternative 1 would maintain and restore water quality necessary to support healthy riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems. The actions taken under the Proposed Action or Alternative 1 (maintaining roads and replacing culverts) would have neutral to beneficial effects, by restoring the natural drainage features, and reducing the likelihood sediment transport and increased surface runoff. Water quality would continue to be degraded by sediment under the No Action Alternative.
5. The Proposed Action and Alternative 1 would maintain and restore the sediment regime under which this aquatic ecosystem evolved. Overall reductions in sediment inputs to aquatic systems are expected from the Proposed Action and Alternative 1. Risk of sedimentation under any alternative would be expected to be low because the project would occur during periods of low flow. The No Action Alternative would continue to input sediment to the aquatic system. Under the No Action alternative, the risk of culvert failure and associated sedimentation and degradation would remain high.
6. The Proposed Action and Alternative 1 would maintain in-stream flows sufficient to create and sustain riparian, aquatic and wetland habitats and to retain patterns of sediment, nutrient, and wood routing. Decommissioning Roads and culvert removal under the Proposed Action would

have a beneficial effect to instream flows by reducing direct delivery of ditchline flows to streams. Replacing the culverts and reconstructing the road under Alternative 1 would have a neutral to beneficial effect over the current condition. The No Action Alternative would allow current failures to continue.

7. The Proposed Action and Alternatives would have a neutral effect and would maintain the timing, variability, and duration of flood plain inundation and water table elevation in meadows and wetlands. Meadows and Seeps in the vicinity will be beneficially affected by culvert removal and road obliteration.

8. The Proposed Action and Alternatives would have a neutral effect and would maintain the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities in riparian areas and wetlands sufficient to sustain the present physical complexity and stability of the riparian areas. Road surfaces would be restored to natural upland and riparian vegetation.

9. The Proposed Action and Alternatives would have a neutral effect and would maintain habitat to support well-distributed populations of native plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate riparian-dependent species. Aquatic species distribution will increase by having migration barriers removed. Under the no action alternative, barriers to migration for aquatic dependent species would continue to impede aquatic species movements and upstream habitats would not support well distributed plant and animal populations.

Based on the above analysis of the effect on attainment of the ACS objectives, the Proposed Action and alternatives are consistent with the ACS and the objectives for Riparian Reserves and would not prevent or retard attainment of any of the ACS objectives.

IMPACTS TO THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AND SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN:

There is a historic spotted owl site present in the project area. The East Miners Creek site (# 3252) was first detected in 1992 and produced 7 young in five years. The site has been unoccupied for the last three years. The original nest site is located above the road at the east edge of the proposed project. Even if the nest was occupied, road traffic would not be expected to disturb the pair due to adequate screening between nest site and road. The project will also be accomplished in late summer, after the critical nesting period.

The RMP allows road maintenance activities (such as grading, ditch cleanout, etc.) to occur even within the core areas if activity will not be of long duration or extreme noise. The proposed action would involve similar activities.

No owl habitat will be disturbed. The restoration of the stream may create an area for new habitat, however the recovery will take several years and the potential habitat area will be small and negligible to the owl. This project will constitute a “no effect” on spotted owls or owl habitat

and will not need further consultation.

There are no other threatened or endangered species or species of special concern in the area that would be negatively affected by this project.

NOXIOUS WEED CONSIDERATIONS:

See Project Design Features that include procedures to prevent import and spread of noxious weeds.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS:

This analysis incorporates the analysis of cumulative effects in the *USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl, February 1994, (Chapter 3 & 4)*, the *Klamath Falls Resource Area RMP/EIS November, 1994 (Chapter 4)*, and the *Lower Spencer Environmental Assessment*.

These documents analyze most cumulative effects of timber harvest and other related management activities. None of the alternatives would have cumulative effects on resources beyond those effects analyzed in the above documents. The following supplements those analyses, providing site-specific information and analysis particular to the alternatives considered here. The proposed action would contribute cumulatively to a reduction in existing roads within the Riparian Reserve of the Spencer Creek Watershed, which would benefit both terrestrial and aquatic species. The reduction in existing road within the Riparian Reserve would contribute to the restoration and cumulative recovery of the physical and functional nature of the stream and riparian system within the watershed by improving the connectivity of the stream system. The proposed action would contribute to a decreased risk of sediment input into the stream system within the watershed in the long term and would decrease the required road maintenance required in the long term to meet water quality objectives (reduce sedimentation). No cumulative negative impacts are anticipated from the proposed action except for a decrease in potential recreational access. The proposed action does not change the legal status of public access to the parcels of land. Visual resources would be improved with road decommissioning along Miners Creek.

DESCRIPTION of MITIGATION MEASURES and RESIDUAL IMPACTS:

Refer to project design features listed above to reduce the impacts of sedimentation. As an additional measure to protect aquatic snails, a sediment trap would be installed directly downstream of each construction site while instream work is occurring. A plastic dam would be installed using straw bales to capture sediment during construction. The dam and any captured sediment would be removed at the end of each construction day. Some short-term sedimentation

during and following construction first high flow event is expected. Some short-term sedimentation is expected during and following construction and during the first high flow event. Residual impacts should diminish to near zero following the first several flushing events.

An Oregon Division of State Lands (DSL) Fish Habitat Enhancement General Authorization Permit application has been applied for. Work would not commence until a permit is issued by DSL.

MONITORING:

Barricaded and decommissioned roads would be revisited one year and three years after work is completed. Visual evidence of erosion, rilling, and/or any rutting from unanticipated vehicle access would be documented and roadblock maintained as necessary. Performance of step pool design will be monitored annually in the Spring following the first three years after construction for erosion or stability problems and will be maintained or repaired if necessary to ensure fish passage.

Mollusks: Surveys for aquatic mollusks would be done in Miners creek to monitor re-colonization of aquatic mollusks in the project area. Surveys would be done in the Spring of the first three years following construction.

PERSONS/AGENCIES CONSULTED:

Chris Sokol, Forester, U.S. Timberlands
Roger Smith, Klamath District Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Doug Laye, Wildlife Biologist, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Sue Mattenburger, Hydrologist, US Fish and Wildlife Service

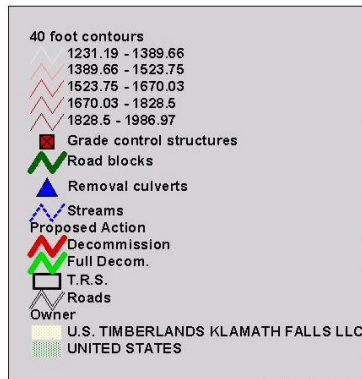
PREPARERS:

Each of the interdisciplinary team members listed below contributed to and reviewed this EA and concurs with its contents.

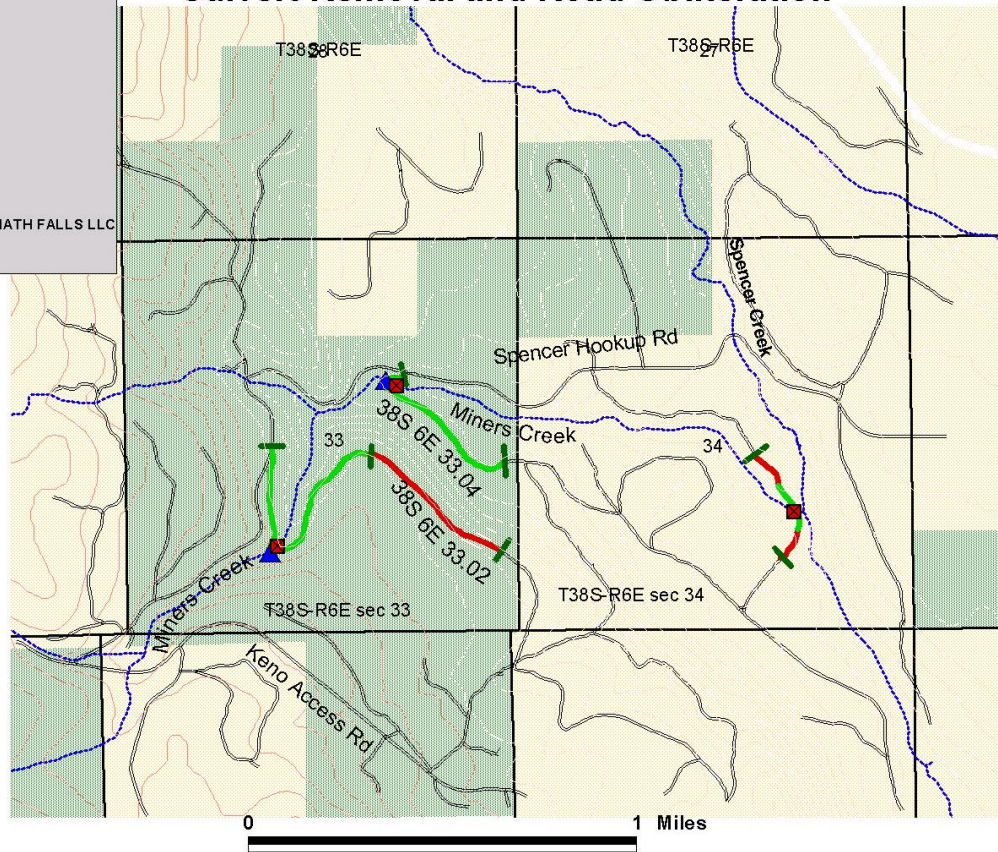
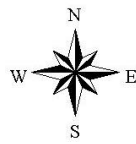
Kathy Lindsey
Dana Eckard
Joe Foran
Bill Johnson
Mike Bechdolt
Lou Whitteaker

Mike Cutler
Janice Cutler
Andy Hamilton
Tim Canaday
Tom Cottingham
Linda Younger

Molly Juillerat
Scott Senter
Mike Turaski
Gayle Sitter
Scott Snedaker
Brian McCarty



Miners Creek Culvert Removal and Road Obliteration



REFERENCES:

USDI-BLM. 1994. Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl.

USDI-BLM. 2001. Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines. Portland, Oregon

USDI-BLM. June 1996. Oregon State Office: Western Oregon transportation management plan.

USDI- BLM. Jan. 2001 Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines Aquatic Mollusk Survey Protocol, Version 2.0 (October 29, 1997)

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Klamath Falls Resource Area**

**Finding of No Significant Impact Miners Creek Culvert Removal
and Road Decommissioning Project - EA OR 010-01-06**

Background:

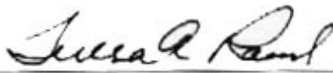
The Interdisciplinary Team for the Klamath Falls Resource Area, Lakeview District, Bureau of Land Management has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) and analyzed a proposal to conduct aquatic habitat restoration in Miners Creek, a tributary to Spencer Creek and the Klamath River. The proposed project area is located in Township 38S, Range 6E, Section 33 and 34. This proposed project is being planned under the direction of the Klamath Falls Resource Management Plan Record of Decision (1995). The project will contribute to meeting the goals of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy to improve habitat conditions for native aquatic species. The BLM is authorized through Section 124 of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriation Act of 1997 to enter into watershed restoration and enhancement agreements that restore and maintain fish, wildlife, and other biotic resources on private land to benefit these resources on public land within the watershed. The intent of this project is to partner with US Timberlands, to remove all human caused fish and aquatic species migration barriers, and reduce sedimentation potential in Miners Creek.

The primary goal of the proposed project is to improve fish passage and reduce sedimentation and potential culvert failure along the lower portion of Miners Creek. The issues addressed in the EA concern potential impacts to fish habitat and water quality as it affects aquatic life and humans in the proposed project area. The design features of the Proposed Action and alternatives are described in the attached Miners Creek Culvert Removal and Road Decommissioning EA. Anticipated impacts to the environment will not be significant. The Proposed Action and alternatives are in conformance with the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994), and the Klamath Falls Resource Management Plan Record of Decision (1995). The anticipated environmental effects contained in this EA are based on research, professional judgement, and experience of the Interdisciplinary (ID) team and Klamath Falls Resource Area staff. No significant adverse impacts are expected to: (1) Threatened or Endangered species, (2) Flood plains or Wetlands/Riparian areas, (3) Wilderness Values, (4) Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, (5) Cultural Resources, (6) Prime or unique Farmland, (7) Wild and Scenic Rivers, (8) Air Quality, (9) Native American Religious Concerns, (10) Hazardous or Solid Waste, (11) Environmental Justice and (12) Water Quality.

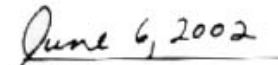
Determination:

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment (EA), and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the proposed action or alternatives will not have significant environmental impacts beyond those already addressed in the Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning

Documents (April 1994), and the Klamath Falls Resources Area Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (June 1995). This EA is in conformance with the Klamath Falls Resources Area Resource Management Plan, and does not constitute a major federal action having significant effect of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement, or a supplement to the existing RMP or Environmental Impact Statement, is not necessary and will not be prepared.



Teresa A. Raml
Field Manager, Klamath Falls Resource Area


Date