Decision Memorandum on Action and for Application of:
Categorical Exclusion 516 DM2, Appendix 1, 1.12 – Hazardous Fuel Reduction
(PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION)
Bureau of Land Management

Project Name: Bryant Mountain Fuels Treatment CX Log #: OR-014-CX-05-10

Project Location: Pope North: T40S, R12 E. Sec. 24, 25 and T40S R13E, Sec.30; HP 29 and 92; T40S R12E. Sec. 13,24; FTZ 139: T40S R12E Sec. 24, 25 and T40S R13E Sec. 19,30; Wright Creek: T39S. R11E. Sec. 33,34; Pope West: T41S. R13E. Sec 6; Captain Jack: T 40S. R12E. Sec. 24, R13E Sec19.

BLM Office: Lakeview District, Klamath Falls Resource Area (KFRA) County: Klamath County, OR

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION (Including Purpose and Need)

The project includes performing mechanical shearing, piling and burning of Western Juniper on 997 acres of BLM land on Bryant Mountain. This project is being undertaken to reduce hazardous fuel loading and decrease the risk of wildfire. Some units will include removal of cut material as described below.

The project consists of six separate units: Pope North (199 acres), HP 29 and HP 92 (52 acres), FTZ 139 (191 acres), Wright Creek (213 acres), Captain Jack (306 acres) and Pope West (36 acres). See attached general location map and unit maps.

Specific objectives for these units are:
- Reduce major losses of sustainable ecosystem resources due to catastrophic wildfire, which result from heavy fuel loading and vegetation changes in the ecosystem
- Restore rangeland ecosystem by removing invasive juniper trees, allowing for greater browse areas for rangeland species
- Shear, pile and burn western juniper on BLM land with no disturbance to adjacent private lands
- Allow for utilization where feasible and there is a demand
- Prevent the spread of weed species as detailed in Appendix C
- Treat hazardous fuels with no disturbance to cultural resource sites
- Follow the fuels programmatic consultation (1-10-06-I-0104) for all federally threatened and endangered species (Bald Eagle). Refer to Appendix A for Wildlife Project Design Features.
- Reserve from cutting all juniper greater than 24” DBH and those possessing characteristics described in Appendix E, regardless of size

Mechanized equipment will be used to shear trees and stack felled trees into piles for burning. In sensitive riparian areas surrounding Captain Jack Lake, hand cutting and piling will be utilized to reduce potential environmental impact. In all units, the attached Project Design Features (PDFs) detailed in Appendices A (Wildlife), D (Vegetation) and F (Soils Quality) and the mitigation in Appendices B (Water and Fish) and C (Weeds) will be incorporated to minimize negative environmental effects.

The units proposed for treatment were also considered for utilization by the KFRA interdisciplinary team. The team reviewed the units based on the Juniper Utilization Criteria (revised April 2006). Three units, Pope North, FTZ 139 and Captain Jack, meet the KFRA juniper utilization criteria so they are approved for utilization of entire trees or just the larger severed tree boles for commercial use (logs, chips, firewood). Although this document authorizes utilization of the cut material from these three units, market demand will determine if the material can be removed in a timely manner. If the material is not utilized within two years after cutting, it will be piled and burned on site.
IMPLEMENTATION DATE

This project is expected to be implemented within 3 to 5 years depending on funding, contracting and weather.

PLAN CONFORMANCE

The proposed project has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with one or more of the following BLM plans, programmatic environmental analyses or policies:

Klamath Falls Resource Area Plans

Klamath Falls Resource Area Fire Management EA (OR-014-94-09; 1994)
Integrated Weed Control Plan (IWCP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) OR-014-93-09

District and Regional Plans

Northwest Forest Plan (1994)
Klamath Interstate Habitat Management Plan (1982)
Western Oregon Transportation Management Plan (1996; Updated 2002)
Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands in Thirteen Western States FEIS and ROD (1991)
Supplement to the Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program FEIS and ROD (1987)
Rangeland Reform ’94 FEIS and ROD (1995)

LIMITATIONS

There are a number of limitations on the use of this hazardous fuels reduction CX. The project:

a) shall not exceed 1,000 acres for mechanical methods (crushing, piling, thinning, pruning, cutting, chipping, mulching, and mowing) and shall not exceed 4,500 acres for prescribed fire,
b) shall be conducted in wildland-urban interface or in Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Regime Groups I, II, or III outside the wildland-urban interface.
c) shall be identified through a collaborative framework as described in A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan,
d) shall be conducted in accordance with BLM and DOI procedures and applicable land/resource management plans (refer to Plan Conformance section above),
e) shall not be conducted in wilderness areas or where it would impair the suitability of WSA’s for preservation as wilderness,
f) shall not include the use of herbicides or pesticides,
g) shall not involve the construction of new permanent roads or other new permanent infrastructure,
h) may include the sale of vegetative materials if the primary purpose is hazardous fuels reduction.

**COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT**

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further analysis or documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM2, Appendix 1, 1.12 (Mechanical Treatment/Prescribed Fire) if it does not meet any of the following Exceptions (listed in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2; IM No. OR-2002-130).

Will the proposed action meet the following Exceptions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exception</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?</td>
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<td>2. Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics or features, or on special designation areas such as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks. This also includes significant caves, ACECs, National Monuments, WSAs, RNAs.</td>
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<td>3. Have highly controversial environmental effects (40 CFR 1508.14)?</td>
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<td>4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks?</td>
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<td>5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?</td>
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<td>6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but significant cumulative environmental effects? This includes connected actions on private lands (40 CFR 1508.7 and 1508.25(a)).</td>
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<td>7. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? This includes Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, or historic properties.</td>
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<td>8. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed as Federally Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species? This includes impacts on BLM-designated sensitive species or their habitat. When a Federally listed species or its habitat is encountered, a Biological Evaluation (BE) shall document the effect on the species. The responsible official may proceed with the proposed action without preparing a NEPA document when the BE demonstrates either 1) a “no effect” determination or 2) a “may effect, not likely to adversely effect” determination.</td>
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<td>9. Fail to comply with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (water resource development projects only)?</td>
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<td>10. Violate a Federal, State, Local, or Tribal law, regulation or policy imposed for the protection of the environment, where non-Federal requirements are consistent with Federal requirements?</td>
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11. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E)) not already decided in an approved land use plan? ( ) (X)  

12. Have a disproportionate significant adverse impacts on low income or minority populations; Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice)? ( ) (X)  

13. Restrict access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites; Executive Order 13007 (Indian Sacred Sites)? ( ) (X)  

14. Have significant adverse effect on Indian Trust Resources? ( ) (X)  

15. Contribute to the introduction, existence, or spread of: Federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act); or invasive non-native species; Executive Order 13112 (Invasive Species)? ( ) (X)  

16. Have a direct or indirect adverse impact on energy development, production, supply, and/or distribution; Executive Order 13212 (Actions to Expedite Energy-Related Projects)? ( ) (X)  

The proposed action would not create adverse environmental effects or meet any of the above exceptions.  

**DOCUMENTATION OF RECOMMENDED MITIGATION**  

Note: although none of the conditions for the above exceptions are met, the resources discussed are potentially affected. Mitigation Measures and Project Design Features below are applied to prevent the adverse conditions discussed in the exceptions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exception No.</th>
<th>Can Be Mitigated</th>
<th>Cannot Be Mitigated</th>
<th>Mitigation Measures and/or Project Design Features</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Cultural sites will be flagged and avoided.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>The criteria and project design features (PDFs) as described in the fuels programmatic consultation (1-10-06-1-0104) will be followed for all federally threatened and endangered species (Bald Eagle) within the project area and Bureau sensitive species, if found. See Appendix A for Project Design Features.</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>See Appendix C for weed mitigation measures.</td>
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</table>

**Additional meadow/riparian area mitigation:**  
In order to protect meadow areas, heavy equipment and vehicles would not be driven or parked in the meadow. Where treatment of encroaching juniper is needed along the edge of the meadow, treatment with equipment shall not occur when the soils in the meadow exceed 20% moisture content. Treatment along the edge of Captain Jack Lake below the high water mark will be done by hand - Refer to Appendix B for mitigation pertaining to fuels treatments within Riparian Reserves with No Listed Fish Species.  

**Additional soils quality mitigation:**  
Refer to Appendix F for PDFs and BMPs to be implemented to maintain soil quality.
SURVEYS AND CONSULTATION

Surveys and/or consultation may be needed for special status plants and animals, for cultural resources, and other resources as necessary (appropriate fields are Initialed and Dated by responsible resource specialist):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surveys:</th>
<th>1) are completed</th>
<th>2) will be completed</th>
<th>3) are not needed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SS Plants</td>
<td>W 4/17/06</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS Animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultation:</td>
<td>1) is completed</td>
<td>2) will be completed</td>
<td>3) is not needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS Animal Consultation</td>
<td>MD 4/19/06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Botanical Consultation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural Consultation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(SS = Special Status)</td>
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Remarks:

PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

US Fish and Wildlife Service (Covered by programmatic fuels consultation)
Klamath Tribes via Tim Canaday
Oregon Department of Forestry

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS and CX DETERMINATION

The proposed action would not create adverse environmental impacts or require the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). The proposed action has been reviewed against the criteria for an Exception to a categorical exclusion (listed above) as identified in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, and does not meet any Exception. The application of this categorical exclusion is appropriate, as there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action is, therefore, categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation.

Prepared By: Justin Pyle, Don Hoffheins

Reviewed By: Full Interdisciplinary Team (see routing sheet)

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<tr>
<th>Approved By:</th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Signature)</td>
<td>Jon Raby</td>
<td>Acting Manager</td>
<td>4/27/06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Don Hoffheins

CX-05-10_Bryant Mountain Fuels Treatment
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OPPORTUNITY

Appeal

Any party that is adversely affected and determined to be a party to the case, may appeal the implementation of the proposed action to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. A notice of appeal must be filed in this office at the address below within 30 days of receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the action is in error.

Address for filing an Appeal:  Appeals Coordinator, Klamath Falls Resource Area, 2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25, Klamath Falls, OR 97603.

An appellant may also file a petition for a stay (suspension) of this action during the time that the appeal is being reviewed by the Board pursuant to Part 4, Subpart B, 43 CFR Part 4.21. The petition for a stay must accompany the notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must be submitted to each party named in this decision, to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, and the Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. The appellant has the burden of proof of demonstrating that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

a) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
b) The likelihood of the appellant’s success on the merits,
c) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
d) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

CONTACT PERSON

For additional information concerning this project, contact: Justin Pyle, Klamath Falls Resource Area, 2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603 or telephone: 541-883-6916.
Appendix A

Pertinent Wildlife Project Design Features (PDFs)
From the 2006 Fuels Programmatic Consultation

The following list of Project Design Features (PDFs) is a partial listing of the PDFs used on the Klamath Falls Resource Area fuels program projects. These PDFs were developed through consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) completed March 2006. This list includes only those PDFs pertinent to species federally listed as threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidates for such listing, and their habitats. Additional project design features are applied to each project on a case by case basis for the protection/management of other species of wildlife and other resources.

General Design Features:

- A wildlife biologist will approve the annual fuels reduction plan and fuels personnel will be informed about T&E concerns.
- For each selected fuels reduction unit, the wildlife biologist will provide input to the appropriate treatment and provide any T&E concerns associated with that unit.
- For each selected prescribed burn unit, a plan will be completed that details the preferred weather conditions, the range of conditions that will allow burning and the methods of control needed. Emergency and escaped fire conditions and control methods are also discussed.
- An annual monitoring report will be generated to inform FWS of the completed projects from the previous year and proposed fuel treatment projects for the upcoming year.

Situations that will trigger re-initiation or further discussions with FWS:

- If an eagle nest is occupied, then spring burning will not be allowed until site-specific discussions/consultations are completed with FWS.
- The need to construct fire lines directly adjacent to or crossing a stream occupied by fish, especially suckers.
- Emergency situations that go outside planned operations (e.g. escaped fire in eagle or owl areas, retardant spill near riparian zones, newly discovered nest sites near or in burn units). *(FOR ESCAPED FIRE EMERGENCIES, CONSULTATION CAN OCCUR AFTER THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTION.)*
- Re-initiation of consultation will occur concurrent with or after BLM takes Emergency action to contain a spill or escaped fire. The requirement to re-initiate consultation shall not preclude the BLM from taking immediate, emergency action to prevent additional resource damage resulting from an accident or escaped prescribed fire.
- If the level or rate of habitat modification or disturbance will exceed any of the levels described in the Biological Assessment (BA) and associated Biological Opinion (BO).
- If the project does not meet the criteria discussed in the BA or are beyond the scope of the PDFs.

For fuel treatment units adjacent to or containing Bald Eagle nest sites:

- No fuel treatments will be planned within the core area (as identified by the BLM wildlife biologist) of a bald eagle nest site during the nest season. Nesting season is considered January 1st – August 15th. The wildlife biologist may adjust these dates if the young have fledged prior to Aug. 15th (usually the fledging date plus 2 weeks). The core area will consist of the withdrawn area around the nest and the disturbance area around the nest. Generally the disturbance area is considered ¼-mile or ½ mile line-of sight. This distance may vary depending on topography and site-specific information.
- Smoke management will be planned in such a way to avoid adverse effects of residual smoke on
active or possibly active nest sites adjacent to burn units.

- A BLM wildlife biologist will be consulted about eagle use of the area before the fuel treatments are initiated to ensure the eagle situation is closely monitored.
- A biologist/designee will monitor the nest area during the burns to ensure that objectives and PDFs are met (smoke management, fire intensity, etc).
- In areas where prescribed fire activities are being planned, remove the brush, ladder fuels and large down woody material within the dripline (approximately 30+ ft.) of the eagle nest trees and potential or identified perch/roost trees to reduce ladder fuel. Personnel will be required to complete one or more of the following:
  a) Pull back of 10 and 100 hour fuels 30’ from the base of the nest trees/perch trees
  b) Construct fire line around the nest trees/perch trees
  c) Use foam, water, or other retardants to protect the nest tree (foam would not be allowed if the nest tree is in a riparian zone).
  d) Ladder fuels would be removed from the dripline (30ft.)
  e) “Slashbust” or mow problem fuels.
- Fuel treatments can proceed in the core area, if no nesting has occurred by May 15. There is no documented bald eagle incubation initiation after May 1 in Oregon (Frank Isaacs, e-mail to Broyles June 13, 2005, on file at BLM. If the nest is occupied or spring burning is preferred because of excess fuel loading or to meet other resource objectives, then spring burning will not be allowed until site-specific discussions/consultations are completed with FWS on this matter.
- Aircraft used during prescribed fire operations would maintain a buffer >1/2 mile distance from the nest during the nesting season (this distance may vary if topographical features allow). No buffer would be necessary outside the nesting season. This 1/2 mile restriction would be waived immediately, if necessary, if the burn boss declares an escaped fire or if there is a need to waive the restriction for a medical evacuation.
- In cases when verifying nesting status is necessary prior to activities taking place, survey protocols used by Oregon Eagle Foundation annual bald eagle survey will be followed.

Consultation requirements in emergency situations (escaped RX fire etc.):

Project design features listed above are meant to apply to planned operations, not emergencies. In the event of an emergency on a BLM operation, the BLM, its cooperators, and its contractors are authorized to take emergency action to address the emergency situation without first consulting with the FWS. Emergency consultation may be necessary, but it can occur after the situation is under control.

DO NOT WAIT FOR CONSULTATION TO BE STARTED OR COMPLETED BEFORE TAKING NECESSARY ACTION TO ADDRESS AN EMERGENCY.
Appendix B

Water and Fish Mitigation For units adjacent to or containing riparian areas or fish habitats:
Objectives of fuels treatments within riparian reserves (RRs) are: protection of vegetation and soils from catastrophic fire, (including overhead canopy for stream shading); restoration of riparian areas to the potential natural community for the site; increased productive vigor vegetation within the riparian areas; and retention and protection of coarse woody debris (CWD) and overhead cover for stream function and aquatic habitats.

From the Klamath Falls Resource Area Resource Management Plan, "Riparian Reserves are lands along streams and unstable and potentially unstable areas where special standards and guidelines direct land use."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 6-2. Riparian reserve types and widths KFRA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riparian Reserve Type</td>
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<td>Fish-bearing streams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perennial non-fish-</td>
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<tr>
<td>bearing streams and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermittent (seasonal)</td>
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<td>non-fish-bearing streams and Constructed ponds and reservoirs and Wetlands greater than one acre</td>
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<td>Wetlands less than one acre and Unstable or potentially unstable areas</td>
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<td>Lakes and natural ponds</td>
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<td>Springs</td>
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Riparian areas, for the purposes of these PDFs are defined as lands adjacent to perennial and intermittent streams, springs, lakeshores, wetlands, and reservoirs. Riparian areas have vegetation and soil with physical characteristics showing permanent surface or subsurface water influence.
Streams covered under these PDFs include perennial streams, (streams that generally flow year round) and intermittent streams (streams that generally run for at least 30 days per year and have a definable channel and evidence of annual scour or deposition).

Wetlands are areas that are inundated by surface or ground water and support vegetation adapted for saturated soil conditions.

There should be an opportunity on a case-by-case basis to assess the affect of the buffer width on riparian areas and aquatic species and habitats.

**Mechanical fuels treatments in riparian reserves:**

- Treatments methods that would disturb the least amount of soil (yarding over snow or frozen ground, limiting activities to the dry season, pulling line to each tree, and minimizing skid trails) would be used in the RRs.
- No ripping, piling, or mechanical site preparation (except for designated skid trails crossings, roads, or yarding corridors) would occur in RRs.
- For slopes along streams that are > 30%, a no mechanical entry would occur from the natural topographic break to the riparian area within the riparian reserve.
- In areas where a topographic break is not evident the following guidelines would be implemented for Intermittent, Perennial, and/or fish bearing streams:
  - Slopes < 20% - 50 foot no entry buffer would be established from the edge of the riparian area.
  - Slopes > 20% – 50 to 100 foot no entry buffer would be established from the edge of the riparian area depending on slope (hydrologist will define).
- Stream crossings:
  - Cross streams only at designated crossings.
  - Cross stream at right angles.
  - Minimize number of crossings.
  - Locate crossings in areas with minimum relative slope. Crossings should not occur on slopes > 30%.
  - Minimize number of passes.
  - Rehabilitate (ruts, disturbed soils, etc.)
- Hand treatments would be performed within the no-mechanical-entry zones to meet fuels management objectives.

**Ignitions within the riparian reserves:**

- Ignition of broadcast fires should not occur within a minimum of 50 feet from the stream channel within the riparian reserves. (The specific distance for lighting fires within the RR will depend on topography, habitat, ignition methods, and fuel moisture.)
- Ignition line location nearest the stream should be based on topography and ignition methods and should be sufficient to protect water quality, CWD, and stream overhead cover. If CWD directly touches the high water mark of the stream, or the CWD may be affected by high flows, don’t ignite it. If there is a thick vegetation cover that extends out from the stream to the line of ignition then move the line of ignition into the forest stand, away from the stream.
- Mobile ignition methods, i.e. ping-pong ball ignition, ignition distance from the stream
  - 50 feet on slopes of 35 percent or less.
  - Slopes greater than 35 percent - increase ignition distance to 100 feet.
- Ignition line location near large open meadows, associated with the stream channels located at the toe of the slope above the meadow elevation as much as possible to protect meadow vegetation.
• When igniting fuels on the lower end of the window of moisture content, increased ignition spacing from stream would be recommended to further protect CWD and overhead cover components.

Roads and temporary fire trail access in riparian reserves:
• No new roads will be constructed within the RR unless they replace an existing road that is causing more resource damage. If possible, use new technology construction methods for building temporary roads into treatment units (including but not limited to wood chip constructed roads)
• Use of existing roads and landings within the RR will be reviewed and approved by the resource advisor.
• Minimal or no grading of the existing roads will be done to maintain the existing ground cover and vegetation and to decrease sediment movement.

Chemical fire retardants in riparian reserves:
• No use of chemical retardants would occur within the full width of the riparian zone (per KFRA RMP.)
• In cases of escaped or wildfire control, soap based retardants may be applied to within 50 feet of a stream that contains water.

Streamside pumping sites:
• Pumping on small streams should not reduce the downstream flow of the stream by more than half the flow.
• If possible, avoid the construction of temporary pump chances. When necessary use temporary plastic dams to create chances and remove these dams when not actively pumping.
• All pumping located on fish bearing streams must have a screen over the intake to avoid entrainment of small fish.
• The pump intake should be suspended near the thalweg (deepest/highest quantity of flow) of the stream. Avoid placing pump intakes on the substrate or edges of the stream channel.

Post-fuels treatments for access roads and temporary fire trails:
• Install drainage dips, or water bars, in accordance with RMP BMPs to reduce surface run-off.
• A layer of duff (average of ½ inch after final burn) will be retained to protect soil from erosion during the wet season.
• Mulch and seeding or other methods of soil stabilization should be applied to any exposed soil surfaces prior to the wet season to reduce surface erosion.
• Surface roads in accordance with RMP BMP’s (Roads C-1-8) for all naturally surfaced roads not proposed for decommissioning or closure.
• Design blockages (close or decommission) upon completion of treatments to minimize non-authorized use of roads and trails within treatment areas.
• Placement of residual slash on trails upon completion of mechanical treatments should occur.
Appendix C
Weed Mitigation Measures

All vehicles and equipment will be cleaned off prior to operating on BLM lands. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.

High concentrations of noxious weeds in the immediate area of mechanical operations shall be mowed to ground level prior to the start of project activities.

All equipment and vehicles operating off of main roads shall be cleaned off prior to leaving the job site when the job site includes noxious weed populations. Removal of all dirt, grease, and plant parts that may carry noxious weed seeds or vegetative parts is required and may be accomplished with a pressure hose.
## Appendix D
### Vegetation Treatment Design Features

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<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Cut</th>
<th>Leave</th>
<th>Spacing/tree density</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curlleaf mountain mahogany</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leave live &amp; dead brush</td>
<td>Leave All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bitterbrush</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leave live &amp; dead brush</td>
<td>Leave All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prunus/cherry/plum</td>
<td>All of these species</td>
<td>Leave All</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponderosa pine</td>
<td>Thin trees less than 8” DBH</td>
<td>All trees greater than 8” DBH</td>
<td>18’ spacing between retained trees</td>
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<td>Ponderosa pine</td>
<td>Prune limbs to a fire safe height on trees 8” DBH and larger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniper</td>
<td>All trees not possessing characteristics described in Appendix D</td>
<td>All trees possessing characteristics described in Appendix D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniper</td>
<td>Prune limbs to a fire safe height on Junipers 24” DBH and larger and all other leave trees</td>
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<td>Aspen or other hardwoods</td>
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<td>Leave</td>
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<tr>
<td>White fir/Ponderosa Pine/Incense Cedar</td>
<td>Thin to spacing</td>
<td>Priority leave tree species: Ponderosa Pine, Incense Cedar, White Fir</td>
<td>18’ spacing between retained trees</td>
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DBH = diameter at breast height

- Will leave all juniper possessing characteristics described in Appendix D.
- Also will leave wildlife tufts of ¼ acre, of the thickest brush/tree stands in the project area.
- Will remove brush surrounding Ponderosa Pine trees if it creates ladder fuels in stands of 8” DBH or larger.
Appendix E
Characteristics of Old Juniper

Juniper that originated in the “presettlement” period, before 1870, is desirable for its wildlife and cultural values. It is assumed that these trees are growing on sites that they are adapted to, since they began growing there under “natural conditions” when natural processes (including lightning fires) determined vegetation patterns. Older junipers are usually found in rocky areas where vegetation is sparse and natural fire frequency is low. Some typical characteristics of older juniper are:

- Crown is flat, rounded, broad at top, or irregular (as opposed to the more pointed tops of younger trees)
- Spike top
- Numerous dead branches
- Branches covered with a coarse, bright yellow-green lichen (Letharia, or wolf lichen)
- Large diameter lower branches
- Large diameter trunk relative to height
- Trunk has spirally-twisted bark, deep furrows
- Hollow trunk

It is rare for an older juniper to have all of the above features, but more commonly will have at least three or four. Also, older juniper trees are not always the largest trees; on drier, rocky sites, they can be short, stubby, gnarly trees.

Appendix F
Soils Quality PDFs and BMPs

Soil Quality PDFs and BMPs (BMPs are from KFRA RMP Page D-11)
- Limit detrimental soil conditions to less than 20 percent of the total acreage within the activity area. Use current soil quality indicators to monitor soil impacts. Sites where the 20 percent standard is exceeded will require treatment, such as ripping, backblading or seeding.
- Retain and establish adequate vegetative cover in accordance with RMP BMP’s to reduce erosion.
- Retain enough small woody (dead and down) material to sustain soil nutrients. See RMP BMP’s for specifications. In ponderosa pine forest land, nine tons per acre of duff and litter (approximately ½ inch deep).
- Seed and/or mulch exposed and disturbed soil surfaces with native seed when seed is available.
- Recommend placement of residual slash on trail upon completion of mechanical treatments.
- Limit mechanical operations to soil moistures below 20 percent at a six inch depth. Even lower soil moisture levels are preferable on fragile soils.
- Cable yarding and restricted use of mechanized equipment is required on slopes that are greater than 35 percent.
- Construct fireline by hand on slopes greater than 35 percent.
- Hand pile and burn within 100 feet of Riparian Reserves.
SURVEYS AND CONSULTATION

Surveys and/or consultation may be needed for special status plants and animals, for cultural resources, and other resources as necessary (appropriate fields are Initialed and Dated by responsible resource specialist):

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(SS = Special Status)

Remarks:

PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

US Fish and Wildlife Service (Covered by programmatic fuels consultation)
Klamath Tribes via Tim Canaday
Oregon Department of Forestry

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS and CX DETERMINATION

The proposed action would not create adverse environmental impacts or require the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). The proposed action has been reviewed against the criteria for an Exception to a categorical exclusion (listed above) as identified in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, and does not meet any Exception. The application of this categorical exclusion is appropriate, as there are no extra ordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action is, therefore, categorically excluded from additional NEPA documentation.

Prepared By: Justin Pyle, Don Hoffheins

Reviewed By: Full Interdisciplinary Team (see routing sheet)

<table>
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<th>Name: Jon Raby</th>
<th>Title: Resource Area Manager</th>
<th>Date: 7/27/06</th>
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