**2.9 Resource Protection Measures \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Resource protection measures (also known as mitigation measures) are designed to avoid or

substantially reduce a project's significant adverse environmental effects. The following resource

protection measures have been incorporated into Alternatives B and C. These measures are in

addition to Standards and Guidelines contained in the Klamath LRMP and approved Best

Management Practices (BMPs).

**2.9.1 Wildlife**

**2.9.1.1 Northern Spotted Owls**

 No activities will occur between February 1 and September 15 within an active NSO

70-acre nest core.

 Noise-producing activities that are above ambient noise levels will not occur between

February 1 and July 9 within 0.25 mile of an occupied activity center or unsurveyed

suitable nesting/roosting habitat.

 No activities that remove or downgrade suitable NSO habitat will occur between

February 1 and September 15 within 0.5 mile of an occupied activity center or unsurveyed

suitable nesting/roosting habitat.

 Burning will not occur between February 1 and July 31 within 0.25 mile of an occupied

activity center or unsurveyed suitable nesting/roosting habitat if the following conditions

are met, seasonal restrictions may be waived:

 A topographic feature buffers the activity center or unsurveyed suitable

nesting/roosting habitat from smoke, or burning is conducted uphill of the known

activity center or unsurveyed suitable nesting/roosting habitat.

AND

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 Smoke is managed so that light to moderate dispersed smoke may be present within

a canyon or drainage but dissipates or lifts within 24 hours.

 Ignition will be discontinued if heavy, concentrated smoke begins to inundate the

0.25-mile buffer late in the afternoon.

 There will be no seasonal restrictions on burning or use of mechanized equipment if

protocol surveys are current and negative.

 As an option to full protocol surveys, burning or other activities that will not remove or

downgrade suitable NSO habitat may occur in spring if three surveys are completed in the

year-of-action implementation and meet the following standards: (1) the first and second

surveys begin after March 1 and are separated by a minimum of five days; (2) the third

survey occurs after April 15; and (3) no owls are detected. If an NSO is detected during any

of the surveys, no burning may occur within 0.25 mile of the activity center between

February 1 and July 31, and no activities that create noise above ambient levels may occur

within 0.25 mile of the activity center between February 1 and July 9, unless surveys

determine *Non-Nesting* status. To determine *Non-Nesting* status, two observations of the

owl(s) are required during the nest survey period (April 1 to June 1). Observations must be

at least three weeks apart, with the second observation occurring after April 15.

 New temporary roads will be located to avoid trees larger than 20 inches dbh, where

feasible.

 No more than 50 percent of the suitable habitat within a home range will be treated

(thinning, underburning, and other fuels treatments) in a given year.

**2.9.1.2 Northern Goshawk**

 A seasonal restriction of March 1 to August 31 will apply to all activities (including

activities that degrade or are beneficial) that modify habitat within 0.5 mile, or create

smoke or noise above ambient levels within 0.25 mile of historic sites or any additional

nest sites that are discovered in the Assessment Area.

 If protocol-level surveys indicate that an historic site is not occupied by breeding

goshawks, seasonal restrictions may be waived.

**2.9.1.3 Peregrine Falcon**

 A seasonal restriction of February 1 to July 31 will apply to all activities that create noise

above ambient levels within 0.25 to 0.5 mile (dependent on topographic features) of any

active eyries that may be discovered in the Assessment Area.

**2.9.1.4 Bald Eagle**

 A seasonal restriction of January 1 to August 31 will apply to all activities that modify

habitat within 0.5 mile, or that create smoke or noise above ambient levels within 0.25 mile

of historic sites or any additional nest sites that are discovered in the Assessment Area.

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**2.9.2 Fisheries**

**2.9.2.1 Streamside Protection**

 Except where a masticator is used, fuel treatments on all units may occur within 30 feet of

intermittent or perennial streams less than 1-foot wetted width.

 Handpiling and pile burning may occur within 15–30 feet of intermittent or small perennial

streams in areas where treatment units are not located on granitic soils, or where the

sideslopes entering intermittent and small perennial channels do not exceed 35 percent, or

where soil cover estimates within 15 feet of the intermittent or small perennial streams are

greater than 50 percent. For perennial streams greater than 1-foot wetted width, handpiling

with no burning may occur within 15–30 feet of the streambank. The guidelines for this to

occur are as follows:

 Demonstrate through a series of appropriately placed plots that estimated soil cover

exceeds 50 percent within the adjacent 15-foot no-handpile buffer (15 feet adjacent to

streambank);

 Handpiles will be spread out and not be “stacked” above one another where, during

burning, they could connect and affect a greater area than anticipated; or a linear area is

developed that will increase the potential for erosion to occur;

 Handpiles will be small in size—6 feet or less in diameter; and

 Handline construction in riparian vegetation shall be avoided where practical.

 Logs will be suspended when being yarded across channels. Skid trail crossings of

localized, hydrologically disconnected ephemeral channels (no Riparian Reserves present)

will be uncommon and in such cases require remedial shaping.

**2.9.2.2 Underburning**

 No more than 10 percent of a 6th-field watershed will be burned in any one year in order to

minimize the potential for cumulative adverse effects when underburning.

 Handlines in Riparian Reserves will be waterbarred and covered with organic material

immediately following prescribed burning, when safe to do so.

**2.9.2.3 Mastication**

The following guidelines will apply when a masticator is used:

 Soil moisture will be below 18 percent.

 The track-mounted excavator will not operate within 50 feet of any perennial/intermittent

stream less than 1-foot wetted width; however, the arm of the masticator may reach within

this 50-foot buffer to treat competing vegetation (approximately a 30-foot reach). For

perennial streams greater than 1-foot wetted width, a 100-foot buffer will be designated.

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 The track-mounted excavator will not operate beyond break in slope of any inner gorge.

 Dry intermittent streams may be crossed by the track-mounted excavator/masticator at

designated sites only after field review and approval by district fisheries biologist and/or

hydrologist. No perennial streams will be crossed.

**2.9.2.4 Water Drafting**

All project water drafting will follow National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(NOAA)-Fisheries Water Drafting Specifications (USDC NMFS 2001), including, but not limited to

the following:

 Drafting will not reduce the stream flow by more than 10 percent.

 When water is drafted, intakes will be screened with 3/32-inch mesh (for rounded or square

openings) or 1/16-inch mesh for slotted opening.

 Pumping rate shall not exceed 350 gallons per minute or 10 percent of the stream flow.

 Pumping will be terminated when the water tank is full.

 Water drafting sites for dust abatement on roads will occur at designated sites for that

purpose. Erosion-control measures will be employed on the access and/or main road to

prevent water leakage from causing stream sedimentation. Hazardous material spill

prevention and containment equipment will be present on water trucks. Water trucks and

pumping equipment will be in a well-maintained condition, free of fluid leaks, and have

hoses in good operating condition.

**2.9.2.5 Special Areas**

Refer to the Fish Biological Assessment / Biological Evaluation in the Eddy Gulch LSR project

record for detailed information on “Areas With Watershed Concerns” and the cumulative watershed

effects (CWE) analysis conducted for the project. Based on CWE assessments and field reviews, the

proposed Eddy Gulch LSR Project treatment units were located and designed to avoid and protect

sensitive areas in these watersheds to ensure cumulative effects do not result in adverse effects on

Proposed (or Listed) anadromous fish or their habitat. The proposed treatments were designed to

reduce the effects of wildfire but would not reduce CWEs due to existing main roads located in

Riparian Reserves.

**2.9.2.6 Riparian Reserves**

 The Riparian Reserves have been mapped (Maps A-12a and A-12b). The Klamath LRMP

defines standard slope distance for Riparian Reserves as two site-potential tree heights or

300 feet for anadromous and resident fish-bearing streams (whichever is greater) and one

site-potential tree height or 150 feet for nonfish-bearing streams (whichever is greater).

This project defines one site-potential tree height as 170 feet on each side of a qualifying

stream channel. Therefore, the Riparian Reserve width is 340 feet for fish-bearing streams

and 170 feet on each side of an active stream channel for nonfish-bearing streams.

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 As a handline is being built into a draw, stop building the handline within 25 feet of the

wetted edge of the channel to minimize disturbed soil adjacent to the stream.

 Prescribed fire will be ignited in a manner that minimizes the potential for moderate- or

high-intensity burns.

 When underburning in Riparian Reserves, at least 90 percent of the large woody debris will

not be consumed, both standing and on the ground.

 All entry to waterways occupied by spawning anadromous fish or where eggs would be

incubating, as determined and indicated by a fisheries biologist, is prohibited. Restricted

time periods are generally from October 15 through June 15. Additional restrictions may be

appropriate for waterways containing Spring Chinook Salmon and summer-run steelhead,

as determined by the District Fisheries Biologist. (The focus is protection of spawning and

incubating eggs.)

 Where more than 80 percent shade exists, at least 80 percent shade on the water will be

retained after treatment.

 Larger conifers (greater than 20 inches dbh) felled within perennial stream channels or

inner gorges, will be left. However, slash will be minimized in the stream channel.

 BMPs and Wet Weather Operation Standards (USFS 2002) will be implemented during all

activities.

 No new landings will be constructed in Riparian Reserves.

**2.9.3 Water Resources**

 Implement BMPs.

 Water drafting sites for dust abatement on roads will occur at designated sites for that

purpose. Erosion-control measures will be employed on the access and/or main road to

prevent water leakage from causing stream sedimentation. Hazardous material spill

prevention and containment equipment will be present on water trucks. Water trucks and

pumping equipment will be in a well-maintained condition, free of fluid leaks, and have

hoses in good operating condition.

 Refueling and maintenance of project motorized equipment, including helicopters, will

occur at least 200 feet away from any channel (USFS 2003).

 Mulch or slash any skid trails on slopes over 35 percent. Slash or certified straw will be

placed on them to achieve a 70–80 percent soil cover.

 The new temporary roads will be closed (hydrologically restored) at project completion.

The temporary roads will be outsloped (as necessary), covered with slash (if needed), and

blocked after use (prior to the first winter after use). Road closure includes obliteration

(recontouring) of temporary road segments; removal of berms and fills, any constructed

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stream crossing (none anticipated), tillage or scarification of compacted areas, waterbars,

and slash or mulch cover of disturbed areas to 70 percent.

 Apply erosion control measures to the new temporary roads and former logging access

routes that will be used during the project.

**2.9.4 Soils**

 Reuse existing skid trails and landings.

 No new full-bench skid trails will be built.

 Skid trail locations will be agreed to by the Forest Service.

 Prevent road or landing runoff from entering skid trails.

 Minimize soil erosion by water barring all skid trails.

 Ground-based yarding equipment is restricted to slopes less than 35 percent; however,

there may be short sections of skid trails that could be over 35 percent slope and could use

the scarps (the steeper slope) to connect one flat bench to another flat bench.

 Mulch or slash those short sections of skid trails on slopes over 35 percent. Slash or

certified straw will be placed on them to achieve a 70–80 percent soil cover.

 No more than 15 percent of any treatment unit should be disturbed by primary skid trails,

cable corridors, and landings.

 Conduct skidding operations during dry soil conditions (sufficiently dry to 10-inch depth)

or follow wet weather logging guidelines.

 Track-mounted masticators can operate up to 45 percent slopes when soil is dry down to

10 inches or follow wet weather logging guidelines.

 Deck logs on existing road prism versus constructing new landings.

 Burn during spring-like conditions, in any season, to minimize the consumption of litter

and coarse woody debris (down logs greater than 20-inch diameter). No direct firing on

coarse woody debris.

 Retain existing levels or a minimum of 5 logs/acre of coarse woody debris (down logs

great than 20-inch diameter) for soil productivity needs.

 Protect existing coarse woody debris by having ground-based equipment avoid the largerdiameter

logs as much as practical.

 Post-treatment total soil cover will be 70–80 percent, depending on slope steepness and soil

texture.

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 Retain at least 50 percent soil cover as fine organic matter (less than 3-inch materials) in all

treatment units.

 M Units 15, 17, 21, 22, 30, and 80 will be monitored for detrimental disturbance and/or

compaction and will be subsoiled if detrimental disturbance exceeds 15 percent in each

unit.

 Coordination. During implementation of this project, the project leader will coordinate with

personnel from earth science and fire/fuels regarding protection of soils and unstable areas.

**2.9.5 Geology**

 Layout cable corridors to maximize log suspension and minimize surface disturbance to

small areas of wet soil that occur in some thinning units.

 Mulch or slash any skid trails on slopes over 35 percent. Slash or certified straw will be

placed on them to achieve a 70–80 percent soil cover.

 Use existing landings whenever available and design for stable cuts and fills to ensure that

no sediment from landings is delivered to streamcourses.

 Scatter slash to 80 percent ground cover on any wet areas disturbed by yarding.

 Use all available tools in planning prescribed burning to avoid high-severity fire on active

landslides and other unstable areas. This includes close coordination between fire and

watershed personnel during field layout of burn units to identify unstable areas that are at

risk of burning at high severity.

 Maintain 60 percent tree canopy on units identified as having higher slope stability risk.

 Close temporary roads. This includes removal of berms and fills, removal of any

constructed stream crossing (none anticipated), tillage or scarification of compacted areas,

waterbars, and slash or mulch cover of disturbed areas to 70 percent.

 Asbestos. The Forest Service will provide a description of health hazards from asbestos

exposure and maps to contractors identifying areas that may have asbestos and suggest they

may consider sealed cabs on their equipment. If timber haul routes change during project

implementation, any additional roads would be checked against the bedrock map to

determine if they are underlain by ultramafic rock, and the asbestos standards applied. Dust

abatement is required on all roads underlain by ultramafic rocks, and it is recommended

that masticators have positive-pressure climate-controlled sealed cabs.

 Coordination. Following award of the contract for this project, personnel from earth

science, timber administration, and fire will coordinate details of implementation, including

protection of unstable areas during logging and burning activities.

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**2.9.6 Botany**

**2.9.6.1 Forest Service Sensitive Plants**

The measures required for *Cypripedium fasciculatum* (CYFA) and *Cypripedium montanum*

(CYMO2) populations include the following:

 Avoid direct ground disturbance to plants: exclude mastication and hand-thinning in FRZs,

RS treatments, and Riparian Reserves and exclude fireline construction (including handline

and machine-constructed firelines) in Rx Units within 25 feet of population boundaries;

exclude mechanical treatment and yarding within population boundaries.

 Maintain shade from overstory canopy cover: exclude mechanical harvest activities within

one site tree distance on slopes to the south and southwest of populations and allow harvest

activities to north and northeast of populations with trees felled away from populations.

 Avoid high-temperature burns from slash pile burning treatment: exclude all piling and

burning of slash in FRZs within 25 feet of population boundary.

 Allow prescriptive burning (in FRZs and Rx Units) within population boundary outside of

active growing season (September 2 to March 31); where conditions allow for burning

during the active growing season (April 1 to September 1), mitigate to exclude burning of

plants with either (i) use of fire retardant foam applied outside of the population boundary,

or (ii) construction of a fireline (handline) 25 feet outside of population boundary.

The measures required for the two *Ptilidium californicum* (PTCA5) populations include the

following:

 Avoid all direct disturbance to PTCA5 substrate trees: exclude mastication in RS

treatments within 25 feet of substrate tree.

 Avoid harvest of PTCA5 substrate trees in RS treatments.

 Allow all prescriptive fire in FRZs but protect the lower bole of the PTCA5 substrate tree

from all fire treatments, including treatment of slash: mitigate with either (i) the use of fire

retardant foam applied in a buffer around the tree, or (ii) construction of a fireline

(handline) in a buffer around the tree.

 Maintain shade from overstory canopy cover in population: exclude mechanical harvest

activities within one site tree distance on slopes to the south and east of populations, and

allow harvest activities to north and northeast of populations with trees felled away from

populations.

Resource protection measures are not required for the *Smilax jamesii* population.

**2.9.6.2 Sensitive Fungi**

The six Forest Service Sensitive Fungi that are assumed to be present occur in the wetter

environments of riparian areas and uplands within 25 feet of the riparian vegetation. This habitat is

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present in Riparian Reserves inside proposed FRZs and Rx Units, and does not occur in proposed

M Units or RS treatments. RPMs are not proposed for the six Forest Service Sensitive Fungi. Instead,

RPMs for Riparian Reserves are incorporated into the Proposed Action. The RPMs are designed to

protect fish and water resources and would also provide benefits to Sensitive fungi and habitat.

**2.9.6.3 Noxious Weeds**

**Prevention**

 Require all contractors and permittees to clean equipment prior to entering National Forest

System lands and when moving within a treatment unit from known noxious weed sites.

follow Provision B6.35 Equipment Cleaning (summarized below):

- Vehicles used off roads shall not be used in the Assessment Area if it was last

operated in an area infested with one of more invasive species of concern areas

without having cleaned such equipment of seeds, soil, vegetative matter, and other

debris that could contain or hold seeds. Equipment shall be considered clean when a

visual inspection does not disclose seeds, soil, vegetative matter, and other debris that

could contain or hold seeds.

 Flag noxious weed populations on the ground prior to project implementation to avoid all

proposed project ground-disturbing activities.

 Avoid proposed ground-disturbing project treatments in units known to contain noxious

weeds: these treatments include road construction, mastication, prescribed fire, and fireline

construction (both hand and machine firelines and piling and burning of slash). See Table 6

in the Botanical Resources Report for weed sites and proposed treatment unit locations.

 Require the use of certified weed-free seed and straw to restore areas of ground

disturbance.

 Mastication equipment will be brought in clean (debris free) and not be staged in areas

known to have noxious weed infestations.

 Mastication treatment areas will be surveyed for new noxious weed populations after

mastication treatments occur.

 New noxious weed populations, resulting from project implementation, will be treated and

monitored.

**Control**

 Conduct post-treatment surveys in proposed treatment units and use site-specific

evaluations to determine appropriate treatment to control any weed sites located.

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**Monitoring**

 Monitor mechanical treatment units and RS treatments for noxious weeds, as part of the

Klamath National Forest noxious weed program, after the proposed project treatments are

completed or as long as it takes vegetation to recover from disturbance (as measured by

ground duff cover and forb and shrub layer cover).

**2.9.7 Heritage Resources**

 Heritage resource sites have been flagged and will be avoided. “Avoid” means that no

activities associated with the project that may affect heritage resource sites shall occur

within a site’s boundaries.

 If previously unrecorded heritage resources are discovered during project implementation,

the Archaeologist for the Salmon River and Scott River Ranger Districts will be contacted

immediately. The heritage resources will be recorded, clearly delineated, and protected.

**2.9.8 Air Quality**

 Burn plans, which include smoke management plans, will be written prior to

implementation of prescribe burn treatments. The burn plans will identify and comply with

policies and regulations of the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District and

Northeast Plateau Air Basin.

**2.9.9 Scenery**

**Resource protection measures for project activities visible from Sensitive Viewing Locations:**

 **Stump treatments.** In M Units where excessive stump contrasts would otherwise appear

visually dominant (and therefore not meet the Partial Retention Visual Quality

Objectives/VQOs), apply a low cut stump height of less than 4–6 inches within 75 feet of

the road/trail edge. Where additional contrast reduction is needed to retain a dominantly

natural-appearing roadside setting (Partial Retention Visual Quality Objective/VQO),

visible stumps within this view zone shall be fully or partially concealed by application of

dirt, duff, and woody debris.

 **Thinning by cable.** Minimize the difference in stand densities within and on either side of

a cable corridor. Cover soil disturbance in cable corridors with debris, as needed, to retain a

dominantly natural appearance (Partial Retention Visual Quality Objective/VQO) when

viewed from sensitive viewpoints.

 **Treatment of activity debris.** Smooth turn piles or any other soil disturbance from

machine piling within 75 feet from roads.

 **Retain visibly distinctive trees.** In M Units, retain visibly distinctive trees, such as those

with atypical forms, distinctively colored or textured bark (such as large ponderosa pine or

madrone), evidence of earlier fires (catfaces), acorn granaries, or colorful seasonal leaves

(such as black oak, big leaf maple, Pacific dogwood).

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 **Road actions.** Implement closure of new temporary roads, former logging access routes,

and spurs to appear largely natural and not attract attention. Preferably, this is through the

use of natural-appearing native boulder groupings, logs, and natural-appearing landforms,

rather than unnatural-appearing dirt piles, trenches, signs, or gates.

**2.9.10 Recreation**

Measures to ensure the safety and convenience of the public include:

 Traffic Safety and Control Plans prior to commencing project operations. The Plan will

provide for public safety on Forest Service controlled roads and trails open to public travel.

 Roads and trails open to the public will be kept open or only closed for short durations.

Project activities will minimize conflicts with public use on weekends and holidays.

 Dispersed campsites will be maintained in a usable condition if possible; however, they are

not protected nor managed as developed sites.

 Warning signs will be posted on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail during any adjacent

project activities. Any damage to the trail will be immediately repaired.

**2.10 Seasonal Constraints on Operations**

**in the Eddy Gulch LSR Project Assessment Area \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The following analysis of the Limited Operating Periods (LOPs) identified in the resource

protection measures was prepared to identify constraints that could affect implementation of the

Proposed Action.

 **Sensitive plants.** Burning during the growing season is restricted where Region 5 Sensitive

plants occur; mitigation will be to flag and avoid for all types of treatments. The majority

of populations are very small (less than 100 individual plants) and will not substantially

reduce the number of acres treated.

 **NSO core areas.** All M Units can be harvested without constraint of an LOP, except

M Units 19 and 69, which occur in two NSO core areas (assuming they are occupied) and

cannot be harvested between February 1 and September 15.

 **NSO and northern goshawk activity centers.** LOPs restrict burning within 0.25 mile of

an occupied or unsurveyed NSO or northern goshawk activity center (resulting in a

125-acre area) during spring. Except for the 125-acre buffered area, which generally occurs

in the lower portion of concave watersheds, the majority of the remaining units can be

burned, with proper smoke dispersal (Table 2-8). A number of these buffered areas are

unoccupied, and as long as surveys are conducted and the activity center remains

unoccupied, the LOP would not apply.

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**Table 2-8.** Percent of FRZs and Rx Units that would not be affected by LOPs.

**Prescribed**

**Burn Area**

**Total**

**Acresa Available for Spring Burning**

**Percent**

**Available**

**for Burningb**

Rx Unit 1 and FRZs 2 and 4 2,575 Everything except 125 acres (NSO nest buffer) immediately

north of Black Bear Ranch and northwest of Road 1E001.

90

Rx Unit 2 and FRZ 3 1,972 Everything, except 125 acres (NSO nest buffer) in E ½ sec

24 and SE ¼ sec 18 and 125 acres (northern goshawk nest

buffer) on Forest Service land adjacent to Black Bear Ranch.

81

Rx Unit 3 and FRZ 7 2,833 Everything except 250 acres (NSO and northern goshawk nest

buffers) along Matthews Creek.

86

Rx Unit 4, FRZs 5, 6, 9,

and 11

4,318 Two separate polygons: western polygon is constrained by

3 NSO nest buffers; eastern polygon, everything except

125 acres at the end of 39N46.

83

Rx Unit 5 and FRZs 12 and 16 2,370 No restrictions. 100

Rx Unit 6, FRZs 13 and 15 1,450 Everything except 125 acres (NSO nest buffer) in the NE

¼ sec 19.

90

Rx Unit 7 and FRZ 14 1,384 Everything except 125 acres (NSO nest buffer) in E ½ sec 20

and W ½ sec 21.

88

Rx Unit 8 863 No restrictions. 100

Rx Unit 9 and FRZ 20 2,247 Everything except 250 acres (2 NSO nest buffers). 78

Rx Unit 11 251 No restrictions. 100

Rx Unit 12 521 Southern portion between 39 road and 39N27. 20

**Total 20,784**

**Notes:**

a. Acreage includes Rx Unit and adjacent FRZ.

b. Percent available for burning = Total Areas – (125-acre nest buffer (nests) + 125 acres/nest) to allow for location of control

points and smoke dispersal.

 **NSO habitat.** No more than 50 percent of NSO nesting/roosting/foraging (n/r/f) habitat

can be adversely affected in a 7th-field watershed (less than 3,500 acres) by mechanical

treatment or burning in a single year. M Units generally avoid NSO habitat; therefore, the

majority of treatment will be mastication or burning. For planning purposes assume each

NSO home range (1.3-mile radius = 3,400 acres) occurs in a separate watershed, and NSO

home ranges in the Eddy Gulch LSR have an average of 1,643 acres of n/r/f habitat or

48 percent of the home range within a 7th-field watershed. Thus, within NSO home ranges,

approximately 1,640 acres (820 acres n/r/f + 820 acres nonhabitat) could be burned

annually.

 **Fisheries water quality.** Project activities are scheduled to occur between April 15 and

October 15. This period may be extended on either end of the stated seasonal range based

on occurrence of all of the following criteria: (1) a long-term dry weather forecast, (2) the

ability to winterize activities at the end of the day, (3) acceptance of recommendations

from the district fisheries biologist and/or hydrologist (after meeting the first two criteria),

and (4) authorization by the District Ranger (after meeting the first three criteria). Wet

Weather Operation Standards (USDA Forest Service 2002a) will be followed whenever

activities occur outside of the normal operating season (USDA Forest Service 2002). All

landing, skid trail, and temporary road construction, road closure, and road re-conditioning

will be conducted during the appropriate periods of weather and soil moisture to ensure

BMP attainment and the avoidance of adverse effects on listed species (USDA Region 5

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Soil Quality Handbook 1995b and BMP 5.6 in Appendix D of the Fish Biological

Assessment / Biological Evaluation for this project). Favorable forecast periods will also be

of a suitable length to allow completion or winterization of the task undertaken before

precipitation events occur.