

## APPENDIX 2 – ISSUES GENERATED THROUGH SCOPING

Issue	Public Issue Statement	Response
<b>Diameter Limits / Legacy Trees</b>	<p>We expect the Forest Service to maintain all current old growth characteristics and trees with older qualities (thick bark, yellowing bark, a flat top, asymmetric crown, broken tops, forked tops, etc.</p>	<p>In some cases, trees over 12-inch dbh have insect and disease problems that are contributing to the overall hazardous fuels problems. Maintaining all trees over 12-inch dbh does not meet the purpose and need: (1) to reduce hazardous fuel loads and fuel ladders to reduce fire behavior on National Forest System lands adjacent to Camp Baldwin and nearby private land as well as adjacent lands to the east of the National Forest System boundary; or (2) changing existing fire condition class around Camp Baldwin, private lands, and adjacent private land east of National Forest System boundary to a more historic condition. Whenever possible, large trees were retained in the unit prescriptions. See Alternatives Considered, but Eliminated from Detailed Study section of Chapter 2 and Vegetation Resources section of Chapter 3.</p>
	<p>Successful fuel reduction should prioritize the small diameter in-growth around the ponderosa pine trees, and leave all the larger diameter trees.</p>	
	<p>A higher diameter limit for grand fir would make sense than for ponderosa pine. A 16 inch diameter limit for ponderosa allows you to remove a considerable amount of the post fire suppression in-growth and greatly reduce the fire potential.</p>	
<b>Forest Plan Amendment</b>	<p>With regards to the Visual Resource Management changes (FW-556 &amp; 557), the proposed change adds a human disturbance to a list of natural “catastrophes.</p>	<p>The Forest Plan is intended to be “living” document that provides direction for the management of Mt. Hood National Forest. The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) allows Forest Plans to be amended “from time to time when . . . conditions in a unit have significantly changed.” Hazardous fuels reductions projects were not emphasized in the Forest Plan. As such, the standards and guidelines may not always apply to these projects.</p> <p>In order to achieve the visual quality objective of retention as stated in the Forest Plan, the Forest Service would not be able to enter scenic viewshed at all. Currently, the visual standards are not being met because of previous management activities and fire</p>
	<p>Bark does not think it is appropriate to change language in the LRMP as needed for this or any logging project.</p>	
	<p>We do not support the amendment to the forest plan. Scenic Viewshed" areas in the Mount Hood Forest Plan are not "no touch" areas, and could have a fuels reduction occur without harming the visual qualities. Again, as long as only the smaller diameter trees are being taken out, the visual impact will not be excessive. If the logging is heavy enough to impair the scenic quality significantly, then the proposed logging is too heavy.</p>	

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	<p>It is highly inappropriate to amend the 1990 Mt. Hood Forest Plan in a piecemeal fashion . . .</p> <p>The visual aspect of the Mt. Hood Forest seen from hiking trails is very important to hikers such as Mazamas.</p>	<p>suppression. In order to achieve visual quality objectives, the management activities would have a short-term impact.</p> <p>To address the issues raised, the Forest Service has changed the hazardous fuels reduction prescriptions in the scenic viewshed to meet the "should" standards established in the Forest Plan by adding some additional mitigation measures. This project does not include a Forest Plan Amendment. See Mt. Hood Land and Resource Management Consistency section of Chapter 2, and Visual Quality section of Chapter 3 for more details.</p>
<p><b>Road Decommissioning</b></p>	<p>Although Road 4460-017 is adjacent to the project area, we recommend a true road obliteration be considered for this road, taking it out of a possible road system.</p> <p>Bark also would encourage the Forest Service to do a full assessment of the status of the culverts throughout this planning area and include potential risks in continuing to use these old roads for large-scale logging operations.</p> <p>We strongly encourage the USFS to consider closing the roads identified by the collaborative group (attached) and other unneeded roads . . . This project is likely to have a negative impact on wildlife, and there should be associated road decommissioning to mitigate those impacts.</p> <p>Road 4440-120 and all spur roads from 120 be permanently obliterated.</p>	<p>Road decommissioning is outside the purpose and need for action, and has not been scoped with the public. Numerous roads were decommissioned approximately 10-years ago in order to preserve water quality. Remaining roads are likely to serve a purpose for natural resources, fire or other administrative/management purposes Potential road decommissioning projects are being analyzed in other NEPA projects (see <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/">http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/</a>)</p> <p>Boy Scouts of America would like to keep the 4440-120 spur open for access.</p>
<p><b>Snags &amp; Diseased Trees</b></p>	<p>Bark is not supportive of removing trees with mistletoe (future snags) and deemed hazardous snags.</p> <p>Large trees that may have mistletoe should be left behind for their value as wildlife habitat. Last resort should be to girdle these trees. No large trees should</p>	<p>Snags and diseased trees were analyzed in DecAid. Leaving all snags and diseased trees does not meet the purpose and need for action. Removing snags in 40-acre parcel addresses safety concerns. See Wildlife Resources Section in Chapter 3 for more</p>

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	be removed from the site.	details.
<b>Eight Mile Creek – Riparian Buffers</b>	The unit map implies merely a standard use of the recommended minimum 300 ft. buffers on the Eight Mile creek. For such an important segment of this watershed, Bark recommends considering additional buffer added to the Riparian Reserve.	Current riparian prescriptions balance fuels reduction needs while protecting water quality and endangered species. For Eight Mile Creek, the Forest Service is following the guidance in the Mile Creeks Watershed Analysis. For additional information, see the Watershed Resource and Aquatic Species and Associated Habitat sections of Chapter 3.
<b>Silviculture</b>	We recommend using a variable density approach to the thinning so as to minimize the impact to wildlife.	Variable density approach is proposed in all prescriptions where it is appropriate. See the treatment prescription table in Chapter 2 and the Vegetation Resource section in Chapter 3.
	Unit 7 (previously a 100-acre LSR) has a considerable amount of large old-growth trees and is very different from all the other units. The prescription for this unit needs to be very specific in that only the smaller in-growth trees will be taken out and none of the larger trees (diseased or not).	The prescription in Unit 7 was adjusted to meet these concerns as much as possible. See prescription table in Chapter 2.
<b>Boy Scouts (40-acre parcel)</b>	My first concern has to do with the low percent of crown cover left after the harvest of the 40-acre parcel. . . . I would prefer to have the harvest on this 40 be directed towards dead and dying rather than a more aggressive approach. Future salvage can be done at the same time that the camp site on the scouts property is salvaged.	The proposed action and treatment prescriptions were adjusted to meet the recommendations and needs of the Boy Scouts, as stated here.
	Canopy cover on Unit 21 should be 50 to 60 percent (not 40 percent).	
	Timing is a major issue on the 40-acre unit. Summer camp starts in June and runs through August any salvage has to be done outside this season and needs to be coordinated with the Scouts.	
	Safety needs to be a major issue on the 40 acres parcel. . . . Leaving snags on the 40 acre parcel in areas where snags can reach camping areas is an unacceptable risk.	