

## DECISION MEMO

### Weasel Salvage and Underburn Project

Darby Ranger District  
Bitterroot National Forest  
USDA Forest Service  
Ravalli County, Montana

#### I. Background

The objective of the Weasel Salvage and Underburn Project is to reduce fuel loading and fuel continuity in the Weasel Creek drainage, capture the economic value of trees killed by bark beetles, and restore ponderosa pine where it historically existed.

The proposed project is within Management Area 1. The Bitterroot Forest Plan (1987) provides the following direction for this Management Area: *"emphasize timber management, livestock and big game forage production and access for roaded dispersed recreation activities. Minimum levels for visual quality, old growth, and habitat for wildlife species are to be assured."*

This project was initially proposed as a prescribed burning project that included slashing and non-commercial thinning. Resource analysis completed in 2006 indicated that there was also an opportunity to salvage beetle-killed timber on the same site. This project has now been expanded to include both timber and fuel reduction objectives.

#### II. Decision To Be Implemented

##### A. Description of Decision

It is my decision to approve the following activities within the Weasel Creek area:

- Salvage of dead trees on 249 acres
- Construction of less than 0.50 mile of temporary road which will be rehabilitated after use
- Opening Forest Service Road 62666 and reclosing it after harvest operations
- Prescribed fire treatments on 771 acres
- Slashing of understory trees and handpiling of slash, as needed, to prepare sites for burning
- Non-commercial thinning on 64 acres of previously regenerated stands

The project is located in portions of sections 25, 26, 33-36 of T.5 N., R.18 W. and portions of sections 3-5 of T. 4 N., R.18 W., Principal Meridian, Ravalli Co., Montana.

My plan is to begin implementing this project in 2008 beginning with salvage harvest, followed by slashing, piling, and prescribed burning. It is anticipated that salvage operations will take a year or more to accomplish. Dead and dying trees that meet merchantability standards and are not designated as snags will be removed in proposed harvest units. Incidental removal of green, living trees may occur in the salvage units only if required for construction of temporary roads, landings, skidtrails, and skyline corridors. The salvage unit excludes all Riparian Conservation Areas (RHCAs). The noncommercial thinning treatments may occur anytime in the next few years. These plantations will be thinned to between 100 and 300 trees per acre.

Forest Service Road 62666 will be reopened to facilitate logging, and then closed again after harvest operations. Road maintenance will be completed as part of the timber sale contract, as needed, on Forest Service Roads within the project area and used for hauling logs.

Prescribed burning will occur in spring after logging is complete and when weather conditions support burning to achieve the desired outcome and can be accomplished safely. Prescribed burning will likely be implemented over a 3 to 7 year period with some areas burned more than once if necessary to achieve fuel reduction objectives. Fire treatments will be designed to be of low intensity and severity allowing for the retention of sufficient amounts of ground cover including duff, fine fuels (needles, small twigs), and larger coarse wood debris (CWD). Natural fuel breaks such as ridges, aspect changes, and snow would be used in lieu of digging fireline wherever possible, although there may be areas where firelines would need to be constructed by handcrews.

My decision also incorporates the design features and mitigation measures listed in Appendix B of this document.

## **B. Reasons For Categorically Excluding The Decision**

The proposed action can be categorically excluded from documentation in an EA or EIS because it fits categories 31.2 #6 and 31.2 #13 as described in Forest Service Handbook 1909.15-2007-1, dated February 15, 2007; and no extraordinary circumstances exist.

- Category 31.2 #6 provides for *"Timber stand and/or wildlife habitat improvement activities which do not include the use of herbicides or do not require more than one mile of low standard road construction."*
- Category 31.2 #13 provides for *"Salvage of dead and/or dying trees not to exceed 250 acres, requiring no more than ½ mile of temporary road construction. The proposed action may include incidental removal of live or dead trees for landings, skid trails, skyline corridors, and road clearing".*

As designed, and previously described, this project meets the requirements for use of these categories. Specifically:

- *Prescribed burning and noncommercial thinning will improve both timber and wildlife habitat*
- *The use of herbicides is not proposed as part of this project and no additional permanent road construction is required*
- *The project includes less than 250 acres of salvage harvest of dead and dying trees.*
- *Less than 0.50 mile of temporary road may be constructed, which will be rehabilitated after use*

Upon on-the-ground review and discussions with Forest and District resource specialists, I have determined that this project meets each of these criteria and, as described in FSH 1909.15 Chapter 30.3(2), no resource conditions are present that lead to a finding of extraordinary circumstances that might cause the action to have significant effects.

Resource conditions that were considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or an EIS are listed in Appendix A. The mere presence of one or more of these resource conditions does not preclude use of a categorical exclusion. It is the degree of the potential effect of a proposed action on these resource conditions that determines whether extraordinary circumstances exist (FSH 1909.15, 30.3 (2)). Appendix A also provides analysis of the degree of the potential effect the project could have on each of these resource conditions.

I have examined past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions and have considered the potential for cumulative effects (Appendix A, Project File: Section V - Specialist Reports: Botany (V:a1,2), Fisheries(V:b1,2,3,4), Fuels (V:c1), Heritage (V:d1,2,3,4) Hydrology (V:e1,2,3,4), Soils (V:f1,2,3,4), Silviculture (V:g1), Recreation (V:h1), Wildlife (V:i2); PF: Section VI- Forest Plan Monitoring Reports FT 1989 – 2006). I have concluded that without notable individual effects from the proposed action, there would be no significant cumulative effects, and the project file supports this conclusion. Based on these findings, I believe that the effects on the quality of the human environment are not individually or cumulatively significant; therefore, the action is categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment.

### **III. Public Involvement**

A scoping letter dated October 3, 2007 and map of the proposed treatment units was sent to 81 individuals, organizations or agencies requesting comments including any personal knowledge of extraordinary circumstances (PF: Section III-Public Involvement). A legal notice was published in the Ravalli Republic along with a short news story on the proposed project on October 5, 2007 requesting comments on this proposed project. Three scoping letters were returned because of incorrect addresses. Two comments were received; one from an individual who supported the project and the other from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) who expressed concern over potential conflicts between snowmobiles and traffic associated with the

implementation of this project (PF: Section III-Public Involvement). Based on public comments during scoping and the internal analysis and reports, there are no extraordinary circumstances identified that would prevent this project from going forward under the designation of a categorical exclusion. The Recreation Specialist for this project reviewed the FWP comments and incorporated mitigation measures into the project to respond to the identified concerns.

#### **IV. Findings Required By and/or Related To Other Laws And Regulations**

My decision complies with all applicable laws and regulations. I have summarized pertinent ones below:

National Forest Management Act (and Bitterroot NF Plan): This project is consistent with applicable land and resource management plans as required by the National Forest Management Act (FSM 1922.41 and FSH 1909.12). This project meets applicable Bitterroot Forest Plan standards and guidelines (1987) for Management Area 1. (PF: Section I-3: Forest Plan Consistency Analysis) Highlights include:

(1) Timber management requirements as set forth in 16 U.S.C. 1604 (g) (3) (E) will be met. Timber harvest will be carried out in a manner consistent with protection of soil, watershed, fish, wildlife, recreation, esthetic resources, cultural and historical resources, and the regeneration of timber resources. The cutting of live trees to create an even-aged forest stand is not proposed. Proposed harvest systems were selected to best meet all resource concerns and not solely to provide the greatest dollar return. Harvest areas will be shaped and blended to the extent practicable with the natural terrain. Lands proposed for harvest do not require regeneration (PF: Section V: Silviculture (V:g1).

(3) This action is consistent with Forest Plan standards and guidelines for management indicator species, old growth, coarse woody debris and snags (PF: Section V: Wildlife (V:i2).

(4) Soil, slope or other watershed conditions will not be irreversibly damaged. Field review of the treatment units indicate that the soil conditions after project implementation will be within Region 1 Soil Quality Standards (SQS) (PF: Section V: Soils (V:f1,2).

(5) This project meets Inland Native Fish Strategy objectives, standards, and guidelines requirements and the westside Cutthroat Trout Conservation Agreement (PF: Section V: Fish (V:b1,2,3).

Endangered Species Act of 1976 (as amended)- Biological Assessments have been prepared for potentially affected threatened or endangered species (PF: Section V: Wildlife (V:i2), Fisheries (V:b3). The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the BA and concurs with the Forest Service's determination that the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect the threatened bull trout, and because of this formal

consultation is not necessary (PF: Section II – Public Involvement, Interagency Documents (III:c2). The wildlife BA indicates that there are No Effects to Canada Lynx or Grizzly Bear. The project is Not Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence of Gray Wolf. No consultation (section 7) regarding the effects to terrestrial wildlife species is necessary (PF: Section V: Wildlife (V:i2)). Refer to Appendix A, extraordinary circumstances evaluation, of this document.

Sensitive Species (Forest Service Manual 2670) –Biological Evaluations (BEs) have been prepared for all species listed on the Regional sensitive species list for the Bitterroot National Forest and Forest Plan MIS species (PF: Section V: Botany (V:a2), Fisheries (V:b2), Wildlife (V:i2)). The BEs concluded that the project will either not impact; or may impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely result in a trend toward federal listing or reduced viability for the population or species that were analyzed. The action is consistent with sensitive species manual policy. Refer to Appendix A, extraordinary circumstances evaluation, of this document.

The Clean Water Act, Executive Order 11988 (Floodplains), Executive Order 11990 (Wetlands), and the Montana Streamside Management Act: These Acts and Executive Orders direct the Forest Service to restore and maintain the integrity of water. This action has specific design features regarding limiting activities in or near riparian habitat and waters. The project is consistent with all pertinent Federal and State regulations. The Forest Service complies with the Montana Streamside Management Act through the use of Best Management Practices . This decision incorporates Best Management Practices (Appendix C) to ensure protection of soil and water resources (FSH 2509). The project is consistent with Montana Impaired Waters (303(d)) programs. (PF: Section V: Botany (V:a2), Fisheries (V:b2), Wildlife (V:i2)). Refer to Appendix A, extraordinary circumstances evaluation, of this document.

Clean Air Act - Under this Act areas of the country were designated as Class I, II, or III airsheds for Prevention of Significant Deterioration purposes. Impacts to air quality have been considered for this decision. Class I areas generally include national parks and wilderness areas. Class I provides the most protection to pristine lands by severely limiting the amount of additional human-caused air pollution that can be added to these areas. The Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness (12 miles northeast of the project) is a Class I airshed. The remainder of the Forest is classified as Class II airsheds. A greater amount of additional human-caused air pollution may be added to these areas. No areas on the Forest have been designated as Class III at this time. Montana Department of Environmental Quality regulates prescribed burning in the state in accordance with the State Implementation Plan (SIP). Prescribed burning in this decision will coordinate with the State and follow the SIP to protect air resources, including obtaining and following air quality permits.

National Historic Preservation Act - See Appendix A, extraordinary circumstances evaluation, of this document.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act - See Appendix A, extraordinary circumstances evaluation, of this document.

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act - See Appendix A, extraordinary circumstances evaluation, of this document.

Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898) - This Order requires consideration of whether projects would disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations. This decision complies with this Act. Public involvement occurred for this project, the results of which I have considered in this decision-making. Public involvement did not identify any adversely impacted local minority or low-income populations. This decision is not expected to adversely impact minority or low-income populations.

**V. Administrative Review Or Appeal Opportunities**

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215, as clarified in the court order dated October 19, 2005 by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California in Case No. CIV F-03-6386JKS. A written appeal must be submitted within 45 days following the publication date of the legal notice of this decision in the Ravalli Republic newspaper, Hamilton, Montana. It is the responsibility of the appellant to ensure their appeal is received in a timely manner. The publication date of the legal notice of the decision in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Appellants should not rely on date or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The **Responsible Official** is Chuck Oliver, Darby District Ranger, Bitterroot National Forest.

The **Appeal Deciding Officer** is Dave T. Bull, Forest Supervisor, Bitterroot National Forest.

Paper appeals must be:

<u>Mailed to:</u>	<u>Hand delivered to:</u>
USDA Forest Service, Northern Region ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer P.O. Box 7669 Missoula, MT 59807	USDA Forest Service, Northern Region ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer 200 East Broadway Missoula, MT 59802  Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Electronic appeals must be submitted to: **appeals-northern-regional-office@fs.fed.us**

Faxed appeals must be submitted to: Fax: (406) 329-3411

In electronic appeals, the subject line should contain the name of the project being appealed. An automated response should confirm your electronic appeal has been received. Electronic appeals must be submitted in MS Word, Word Perfect, or Rich Text Format (RTF).

It is the appellant's responsibility to provide sufficient project- or activity-specific evidence and rationale, focusing on the decision, to show why my decision should be reversed. The appeal must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer in writing. At a minimum, the appeal must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14.

If an appeal is received on this project there may be informal resolution meetings and/or conference calls between the Responsible Official and the appellant. These discussions would take place within 15 days after the closing date for filing an appeal. All such meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in attending any informal resolution discussions, please contact the Responsible Official or monitor the following website for postings about current appeals in the Northern Region of the Forest Service: [http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/projects/appeal\\_index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/projects/appeal_index.shtml)


#### **VI. Implementation Date**

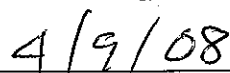
If no appeal is filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of this decision may begin on, but not before, the 5<sup>th</sup> business day following the close of the appeal-filing period. If an appeal is filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15<sup>th</sup> business day following the date of appeal disposition.

#### **VII. Contact Person**

Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from the IDT Leader Sue Macmeeken at [smacmeeken@fs.fed.us](mailto:smacmeeken@fs.fed.us) or (406) 363-7151.

#### **VIII. Signature And Date**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLES T. OLIVER  
Darby District Ranger

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDAs TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Appendix A - Evaluation of Extraordinary Circumstances for Weasel Salvage and prescribed Burn Project

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
<p>Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, (current list at <a href="http://montanafieldoffice.fws.gov/Endangered_Species/Listed_Species/Forests.html">http://montanafieldoffice.fws.gov/Endangered_Species/Listed_Species/Forests.html</a>)</p>	<p>Lynx</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>No Effect. No key habitat affected. Action complies with Lynx Conservation Assessment &amp; Strategy. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs. <b><u>Lynx are no longer on the Threatened, Endangered, or Proposed Species list for the Bitterroot NF.</u></b> Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
<p>Gray wolf</p>	<p>Habitat: No key habitat Individuals: Transient</p>	<p>Habitat: No key habitat Individuals: Transient</p>	<p>Immeasurable effect; Not Likely to Jeopardize the Continued Existence. Consistent with Recovery Plan and goals. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs. <b><u>In process of being removed from TES list.</u></b> Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
<p>Grizzly bear</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>No Effect. Consistent with Recovery Plan and goals. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
<p>Steelhead</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>(Not present and <b><u>not a Listed species in Montana portion of the Bitterroot National Forest</u></b>)</p>
<p>Bull trout</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: Yes</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: Yes</p>	<p>May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect. Extremely low probability of having an adverse affect on Bull Trout. Reductions in habitat quality or changes in fish population numbers, age-class structure, or size distributions, are unlikely to occur as a result of this proposed project. The most likely short-term effect would be small amounts of fine sediment inputs related to road maintenance and increased traffic on roads. Long-term effects of the proposed project are expected to be positive. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat,	NA	NA	NA for the Bitterroot National Forest
or Forest Service sensitive species;	Bald eagle	Habitat: No Individuals: Transient	No Impact. Consistent with Recovery Plan and goals. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Western toad	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. Suitable habitat avoided. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Black-backed woodpecker	Habitat: Limited Individuals: No	No Impact. Unoccupied habitat; No major, recent infestation or fire; general conifer forest habitat with snags retained and available should any individuals happen to choose to utilize the area.
	Coeur d'Alene salamander	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. Suitable habitat avoided. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Fisher	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. No suitable habitat. General conifer forest habitat available should any individual happen to travel through the area. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Flammulated owl	Habitat: Potential nesting habitat may occur Individuals: No	No Impact. Unoccupied habitat; general conifer forest habitat with snags retained and available should any individuals happen to choose to utilize the area. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs.

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	Northern bog lemming	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. General conifer forest habitat available should any individual happen to travel through the area. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Northern leopard frog	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. Suitable habitat avoided. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. no extraordinary circumstance.
	American peregrine falcon	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. No suitable habitat. General conifer forest habitat available should any individual happen to travel through the area. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Townsend's big-eared bat	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact. No suitable habitat. General conifer forest habitat available should any individual happen to travel through the area. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	North American Wolverine	Habitat: No key habitat Individuals: No	No Impact. No key habitat present. General conifer forest habitat available should any individual happen to travel through the area. Project area very small in scale compared to species home range size and key needs. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Westslope cutthroat trout	Habitat: Yes Individuals: Yes	May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species- project is expected to have a negligible and immeasurable effect on the fishery. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan and the westside Cutthroat Trout Conservation Agreement. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Spring/summer Chinook salmon	Habitat: No Individuals: No	(Not present and not listed sensitive for Montana portion of the Forest
	Pacific lamprey	Habitat: No Individuals: No	(Not present and not listed sensitive for Montana portion of the Forest

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	<i>Ageratina occidentale</i> (western boneset)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Allium acuminatum</i> (tapertip onion)	Habitat: Yes Individuals: No	May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species- "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur than the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	<i>Allium parvum</i> (dwarf onion)	Habitat: Yes Individuals: No	May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species- "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur than the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	<i>Arabis fecunda</i> (Sapphire rockcress)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	<i>Athysanus pusillus</i> (sandweed)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Carex paupercula</i> (poor sedge)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Castilleja covilleana</i> (Rocky Mtn. paintbrush)	Habitat: Yes Individuals: No	May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species- "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur than the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment [jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site]." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i> (yellow lady's-slipper)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Douglasia idahoensis</i> (Idaho douglasia)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Drosera anglica</i> (English sundew)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Dryopteris cristata</i> (crested shield fern)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	<i>Epipactis gigantea</i> (giant helleborine)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Erigeron asperugineus</i> (rough fleabane)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Erigeron evermannii</i> (Evermann's fleabane)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Glossopetalon nevadense</i> (green-bush)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Halimolobos perplexa</i> (puzzling halimolobos)	Habitat: Yes Individuals: No	May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species - "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur than the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment [jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site]." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	<i>Haplopappus macronema</i> (discoid goldenweed)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact

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	<i>Heterocodon rariflorum</i> (western pearl-flower)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Idahoia scapigera</i> (scalepod)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Lesquerella humilis</i> (Bitterroot bladderpod)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Meesia triquetra</i> (3-angled threadmoss)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Mimulus nanus</i> (Dwarf purple monkeyflower)	Habitat: Yes Individuals: No	May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species-- "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur then the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	<i>Mimulus primuloides</i> (primrose monkeyflower)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.
	<i>Nodobryoria subdivergens</i> (old man's beard)	Habitat: No Individuals: No	No Impact.

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	<p>Orogenia fusiformis (turkey-peas)</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: No</p>	<p>May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species - "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur then the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment [jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site]." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
	<p>Penstemon lemhiensis (Lemhi penstemon)</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: No</p>	<p>May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species - "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur then the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment [jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site]." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>



Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	<p><i>Penstemon payettensis</i> (Payette penstemon)</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: No</p>	<p>May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species - "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur then the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment [jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site]." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
	<p><i>Saxifraga tempestiva</i> (storm saxifrage)</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>No Impact.</p>
	<p><i>Scheuchzeria palustris</i> [pod grass]</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>No Impact.</p>
	<p><i>Tonestus aberrans</i> (Idaho goldenweed)</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>No Impact.</p>

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	<p>Trifolium ertriocephalum (wooly-head clover)</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: No</p>	<p>May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species - "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur then the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
	<p>Trifolium gymnocarpon (hollyleaf clover)</p>	<p>Habitat: Yes Individuals: No</p>	<p>May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or loss of viability to the population or species - "These impacts should not adversely affect the population viability of this species since none of them were found within the project area. If the proposed activities were not to occur then the potential of a more intense wildfire occurring would be increased, particularly with the highly flammable beetle-killed trees on site. This could make the area more susceptible to noxious weed encroachment jeopardizing the vigor of native plants on site." Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.</p>
	<p>Veratrum californicum (California false hellebore)</p>	<p>Habitat: No Individuals: No</p>	<p>No Impact.</p>

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds.	Flood plains		Not significant because: 1. Location of harvest units in upland locations, with buffer strips to protect streams 2. Very good ground cover in units acting to stabilize soil and prevent erosion 3. Limited acreage (250 acres) proposed for harvest. 4. Limited acreage proposed for underburn activity (771 acres or less). 5. Limited ground disturbance from skyline harvest system, which requires at least leading end suspension of logs. 6. Resistant calc-silicate geology provides durable road beds. 7. Recent BMP upgrades (shaping, drainage, gravel) on FR75 haul road. 8. Lack of floodplain or wetland alteration. 9. Minimal recent (last 20 years) harvest. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
	Wetlands	Very minimal	
	Municipal watersheds	No	No effect.
Congressional designated areas,	Middle Fork Clearwater Wild and Recreation River corridor	No	None - see project location on Forest map relative to this area
	Salmon Wild River corridor	No	
	Hell's Half Acre Rd. (FP pg III-73)	No	

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	Nez Perce Trail Road separating SB and FCRONR wildernesses (FP pg III-73)	No	
	Selway River Rd, Magruder Crossing to Paradise (FP pg III-73)	No	
	Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (P.L.95-625 & MA 11c)	No	
	Nez Perce National Historic Trail (P.L.99-445 & MA 11c)	No	
such as wilderness,	Selway-Bitterroot	No	None – see project location on Forest map relative to this area
	FCRONR	No	
wilderness	Anaconda Pintler	No	
study areas,	Sapphire	No	
or national recreation areas.	Blue Joint	No	
	NA	NA	NA for Bitterroot National Forest
Inventoried roadless	Allan Mtn. IRA	No	None
areas (see FP	Blue Joint IRA	No	
FEIS	Lolo Cr. IRA	No	
Appendix C)	Needle Cr. IRA	No	

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	North Big Hole IRA	No	
	Sapphire IRA	No	Project borders Sapphire IRA. This project will create noise that can be heard in the IRA and smoke that will temporarily be seen & felt in the IRA. Because this project is of short duration and the effects short-lived, the effects will be minimal.
	Selway-Bitterroot IRA	No	
	Sleeping Child IRA	No	None
	Stony Mtn. IRA	No	
	Swift Cr. IRA	No	
	Tolan Cr. IRA	No	
Research natural areas (also see FP MA 9 discussions)	Bass Creek RNA	No	
	Bitterroot River RNA	No	
	Sawmill Creek RNA	No	None
	Upper Lost Horse Canyon RNA	No	
	Bitterroot Mtn. Snow Avalanche RNA	No	
	Sapphire Divide RNA	No	None
	Lower Lost Horse Canyon RNA	No	
	East Fork Bitterroot RNA	No	

Resource Condition	Potential BNF Component	Component Present?	Degree of the potential effect
	Boulder Creek RNA	No	
	Salmon Mountain RNA	No	
American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites		No	None. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.
Archaeologic al sites, or historic properties or areas		No	None. Consistent with BNF Forest Plan. No extraordinary circumstance.

**Appendix B - Required Design Criteria and Mitigation for the Weasel Salvage and Prescribed Burn Project**

**Management Requirements**

The Bitterroot Forest applies commonly accepted management practices to reduce environmental effects of projects. These practices include the Soil and Water Conservation Practices and BMPs listed in Appendix C, application of Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs), and requirements and recommendations for noxious weed management as outlined in the Forest Service Manual (FSM 2080) and R1 Supplement 2080 (2000-2001-1). The Weasel Project area is covered under the 2003 Weed EIS (PF#III-Botany4).

**Botany**

1. Minimize the creation of sites suitable for weed establishment. Minimize the construction of fireline and rely on natural fuel breaks such as ridgelines, aspect changes and snow where feasible.
2. Skyline corridors will be evaluated post-harvest to determine the need for seeding. If large areas of bare soil exist, seeding should be accomplished. All seed mixes must be approved by the Forest Botanist and be certified weed seed free.
3. Other rehabilitation work such as pulling soil and vegetation over the trails are opportunities that could be accomplished if needed and if funding is available.
4. Hand piles should be no larger than 10 feet in diameter and 6 feet high.
5. Forest Service personnel should inspect, remove, and properly dispose of weed seed and plant parts found on their clothing and equipment.

**Fisheries**

**Harvest**

6. Commercial harvest will not occur within Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (RHCAs).

Category	Distance (both sides of the channel)
Fish-bearing Streams	<b>300 feet</b> This distance would not be applicable to the project area as there are no fish-bearing streams in it, although fish-bearing streams do occur along the access routes.
Permanently flowing non-fish-bearing streams	<b>150 feet</b>

Ponds, lakes, reservoirs and wetlands greater than 1 acre	<b>150 feet</b> None of these sites were located during project area reconnaissance, but ponds and wetlands are sometimes found during unit layout, and would be protected at that time
Seasonally flowing or intermittent streams wetlands less than 1 acre, and landslide-prone areas	<b>100 feet</b> No streams have been identified in this category. They may be found during layout. Field reconnaissance located permanently flowing streams and dry draws, but no intermittent streams. The 100 feet is the INFISH standard width for priority watersheds. Burnt Fork is a priority watersheds, and to be consistent throughout the Forest we used 100 feet.

**Ignition**

7. Do not ignite with a helicopter within 300 feet of Skalkaho and Weasel creeks.
8. Do not ignite with a helicopter within 150 feet of any unnamed streams or wetlands.
9. Hand ignition can occur anywhere except inside wetlands.
10. Fire should be allowed to back or creep through all riparian areas.

**Hand lines**

11. If needed, hand lines can be constructed in all riparian areas except for wetlands.
12. Fire managers are encouraged to not construct hand lines in riparian areas, and if needed, limit their use in riparian areas to the minimum.
13. Hand lines constructed within 300 feet of Skalkaho and Weasel creeks, and within 150 feet of all other streams, must be recontoured and covered with slash after their use.
14. Fire managers are encouraged to recontour all upland hand lines regardless of their location; at a minimum, hand lines that are not recontoured following use must contain proper drainage structures.

**Manual thinning and slash piles**

15. May occur within the RHCAs but:
  - Do not thin trees, build slash piles, or burn slash piles within 50 feet of Skalkaho and Weasel creeks.
  - Do not thin trees, build slash piles, or burn slash piles within 25 feet of any unnamed streams or wetlands.



### **Fuel mixing, storage, and refueling**

16. During burning activities, do not mix fuels, store fuels, or refuel equipment within 300 feet of Skalkaho and Weasel creeks, and within 150 feet of any unnamed streams or wetlands; small pumps (e.g. Mark III type) and chainsaws can be refueled in these zones as long as proper spill containment actions are taken.
17. The timber sale purchaser shall take appropriate preventive measures to insure that any spill of such oil or oil products does not enter any stream or other waters of the United States or any of the individual States. If the total oil or oil products storage exceeds 1,320 gallons or if any single container exceeds a capacity of 660 gallons, Contractor shall prepare a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan. Such plan shall meet applicable EPA requirements (40 CFR 112) including certification by a registered professional engineer.

### **Water drafting**

18. If drafting from streams occurs, intake hoses must be fitted with a screen mesh equal to or smaller than 3/32 inches.
19. Avoid placing draft hoses where small fish congregate. Screens should have enough size that velocity along their surface would be < 0.4 feet/second. This is to prevent small fish from being impinged to the screen.

### **Heritage**

20. Should any cultural material be located during the course of the project, the Forest Heritage Program Manager must be notified immediately. If previously unknown sites are discovered during implementation, project activities will be halted and the sites' National register eligibility and potential project effects on them will be determined in consultation with the Montana State Historic Preservation Office and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Preservation Office as required under the National Historic Preservation Act.

### **Soils**

21. It is possible that the contractor may request short spurs of temporary roads to facilitate logging and the option to do this is included in this decision if it is approved by the Forest Soil Scientist and is consistent with the analysis completed for this project. Any temporary road that is constructed will need to be rehabilitated by the purchaser after use. This may include recontouring and/or seeding.

22. Road closure and storage activities on FSR 62666 will require recontouring the first several hundred feet of the road and removing the road fill in four ephemeral drainages.
23. Soil conditions across the site are not considered harsh; coarse woody Debris (CWD) should meet a minimum of 5 tons per acre upon the completion of the project as recommended by Brown et al, 2003 for this vegetation type. The CWD should be combination of small material (3 inches in diameter), with a dominant composition of materials larger than 15 inches in diameter. The CWD should be dispersed evenly (evenly as feasibly possible) throughout the salvage area. The CWD should occur as a combination of material on the ground and in standing snags.
24. Upon completion of maintenance burning or other prescribed fire activities, at least 70 percent ground cover is necessary to prevent detrimental accelerated erosion and loss in soil productivity. In those cases where ground cover is less than 70 percent prior to burning, consumption and loss of ground cover should not exceed 15 percent. Ground cover includes duff, organic soil horizons, basal area of vegetation, fine woody debris, coarse woody debris, and surface coarse fragments. Prescribe fire prescriptions will be designed to meet these soil protection requirements.
25. CWD requirements must also be considered where prescribed fire is used. CWD larger than 15 inches in diameter will not be *intentionally* ignited by crews during hand lighting operations. It is understood that once the fire is lit by hand crews, the fire may burn into large CWD and combust various pieces.

### **Hydrology**

26. Project design, BMP use and landscape characteristics would limit impacts to the lowest practicable amount. Refer to BMP list Appendix C for specific conservation practices.
27. Skyline harvest may occur during any month of the year as long as appropriate conditions exist.

### **Recreation**

28. The Skalkaho Rye Road #75 is part of the groomed snowmobile trails on the Forest. If logging activities cannot be restricted in the winter (Dec 1- March 31), then adequate parking will be plowed and kept open at the junction of 75 road and 1135.
29. Hauling activities should not occur on weekends and holidays in winter or summer

**Wildlife**

30. To meet the needs of snag dependant species and habitat, 2 to 5 snags per acre will be left. Irregular distribution and small clumps are acceptable. Snags retained will include some from the largest diameter size class available within that unit.
31. Prescribed fire, slashing, or any other vegetation treatment is prohibited in the old-growth areas shown on the project map. These areas are to be retained and left untreated.

**Appendix C - SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES WORKSHEET – Weasel Salvage and Underburn Project**  
 December 26, 2007

Class	SWCP Number	State BMP Ref.	SWCP Title	TSC Provision	Applicable? y/n	Planning Review
<b>Section 11 Watershed Management</b>						
A	11.01	IV.A.1	Determination of Cumulative Watershed Effects	NA	Y	Completed during project planning, refer to NEPA documentation
E	11.03	III.D.10	Watershed Improvement of Roads, OHV Trails and Skid Trails	C5.419#	Y	See road discussion in Decision Memo. Decommissioning would require separate EA.
A	11.05	IV.A.1	Wetlands Analysis and Evaluation	B6.61 B6.62 SAM B6.62 C6.62#	Y	Wetlands, SMZ, RHCA marked and excluded from harvest or equipment entry per mitigation (refer to EA), law and policy. Soil scientist will help mark any units identified in mitigation to ensure wetlands are properly identified.
A	11.09	III.E.6	Management by Closure to Use	C5.41#	Y	Specifics of closures and affected roads identified in TS Contract and enforced by TSA

						(timber sale administrator)
W	11.13		Sanitary Guidelines for Construction of Temporary Labor, Spike, Logging, Fire Camps and Similar Installations	B6.2	Y	Applicable only if camps are established during logging operation.
<b>Section 13 Vegetation Manipulation</b>						
G	13.02	IV.A.2 IV.B.1	Slope Limitations for Tractor Operation (14.07)	C6.4#	N	Tractor yarding not appropriate for slope, all units suspended log yarding by contract
G	13.03	IV.A.1 IV.B.1&2	Tractor Operation Excluded from Wetlands, Bogs, & Wet Meadows	B6.61 B6.422 B6.62 SAM C6.62#	N	All suspended log yarding designated by contract
E	13.04	IV.B.6 IV.C.1	Revegetation of Surface Disturbed Areas	B6.6 C6.601# C6.633#	Y	Revegetation would occur per TSC, seed mix identified by Forest Botanist and included in TSC.
W	none	IV.B.2 V.C.2,3,7	Inclusion of INFISH (7/95) Recommendations	SAM B6.5	Y	Integral part of analysis, RHCA was restricted from harvest.
	13.06		Soil Moisture Limitations for Tractor Operations	C6.4#	N	All suspended log yarding designated by contract

**Section 14 Timber Harvest**

A	14.02	IV.A.2-6	Timber Harvest Unit Design (14.08, 14.10)	B6.422 C6.4# C6.6	These provisions are only relevant after all presale (design) work is complete. Y	All suspended log yarding designated by contract SAM will identify protected stream courses, wetlands and riparian areas, slumps and other areas excluded from harvest
A	14.03	IV.A & B	Use of Sale Area Maps for Designating Soil and Water Protection Needs	B1.1 B.42 B6.5 B6.42 B6.61 B6.62 C6.4	Y	
A	14.04	IV.A.1	Limiting the Operating Period of Timber Sale Activities	B6.65 B6.6 B6.31 B6.311 B6.312 C6.316# C6.6	Y	Normal operating seasons will be identified in the TSC. TSA will monitor conditions and enforce as needed.
A	14.05	IV.A.1	Protection of Unstable Areas	C6.4#	N	No unstable (mass-movement-prone) areas located during planning or fieldwork
A	14.06	II. (all) III.D.10	Streamside Management Zone Rules, Riparian Area Designation	B6.5 B1.1 C6.4# C6.41# C6.50#	Y	SMZ's are typically more narrow than RHCA's that will be marked and excluded from harvest.

G	14.07	IV.A.2&4	Determining Tractor Loggable Ground	B1.1 B6.42	Initially determined during project planning in IDT discussions. All units are suspended log yarding designated by contract	Y
E	14.08	IV.A.2,4,5	Tractor Skidding Design	B6.422 C6.4# C6.42#	All suspended log yarding designated by contract	N
	14.09		Suspended log Yarding in Timber Harvesting	B6.42 B6.5(b) C6.4#	Minimum one end suspension required for cable logging. Potential landings have been identified and reviewed on the ground for accessibility, INFISH constraints. Mitigation describes treatment after use.	Y
A	14.10	IV.B.4	Log Landing Location and Design	B6.422 C6.422		Y
E	14.11	IV.B.4	Log Landing Erosion Prevention and Control	B6.6 B6.311 B6.64 C6.6 C6.601#	BMP describes design of landings and post-use treatment to minimize erosion	Y
E	14.12	IV.B.5&6	Erosion Prevention and Control Measures During Timber Sale Operations	B6.6 B6.64 B6.311 C6.4 C6.6 C6.601#	Various mitigations described in EA, yarding systems identified that minimize ground disturbance on sensitive areas.	Y

E	14.15	IV.B.1,5&6	Erosion Control on Skid Trails	B6.6 B6.311 B6.65 B6.66 C6.4 C6.6 C6.601#	N	All suspended log yarding designated by contract.
E	14.16	IV.A.1&5	Meadow Protection During Timber Harvesting	B1.1 B5.1 B6.422 B6.61 C6.4# C6.66	Y	Equipment will be prohibited from entering meadows. Stream courses will be identified on SAM, excluded from equipment entry (SMZ and INFISH), and excluded from treatment area or be identified as no treatment zone.
S	14.17	IV.A.1&5	Stream course Protection (Implementation and Enforcement)	B1.1 B6.5 B6.6 C6.50# C6.6	Y	TSC requires maintenance of erosion control structured by purchaser and is monitored by TSA
E	14.18	IV.B.(all)	Erosion Control Structure Maintenance	B6.67	Y	Direction according to TSC and certification by TSA required prior to sale closing.
A	14.19	IV.B.5	Acceptance of Timber Sale Erosion Control Measures Before Sale Closure	B6.36	Y	No mechanized slash treatment identified in this project.
E	14.20	IV.C (all)	Slash Treatment in Sensitive Areas	SAM B6.5 C6.50# B6.7 C6.7 C6.71 C6.753	N	Within TSC provision to modify
A	14.22		Modification of the Timber Sale Contract	B2.37 B8.3	Y	



							contract for resource reasons.
A	14.23	IV.C.1	Reforestation Requirement				All units partial cut, no reforestation proposed
G	NA	IV.C.3,4,6	On-site Large Woody Residue and Soil Litter Retention	C6.7# C6.406#			Silvicultural Rx prescribes amount of woody materials to be left on site following treatments and is displayed in mitigation table. Soil scientist involved in final recommendations.
G	NA	VI. (all)	Winter Logging	C6.4#			If purchaser chooses to utilize winter logging, specific winter conditions must be met.
<b>Section 15 – Roads and Trails</b>							
S	15.02	III.A,B,C III.D.5	General Guidelines for the Location and Design of Roads and trails	(124 prmt)			Applies to temp road, no new permanent road proposed.

E	15.03	III.C.7	Road and Trail Erosion Control Plan			Y	Maintenance of haul routes would occur as directed by TSA and TSC.
E	15.04	III.D.4 III.E.4,7	Timing of Construction Activities		B6.31 B6.311	Y	TSA will monitor conditions and restrict when needed to prevent adverse results. No new road construction planned but temporary roads would be managed to prevent erosion and be stabilized prior to sale closure.
E	15.06	III.D.7	Mitigation of Surface Erosion and Stabilization of Slopes		C6.601#	Y	No new road construction planned but temporary roads would be managed to prevent erosion and be stabilized prior to sale closure.
E	15.07	IIIC.1,5 III.D.2	Control of Permanent Road Drainage		B/C6.6 B6.65 C6.601 C5.31# C6.661	Y	No new road construction associated with this proposal. Drainage issues arising on existing roads addressed by pre-haul maintenance.
E	15.08	III.D.1	Pioneer Road Construction			N	No permanent road construction.
E	15.09	III.D.2 III.E.7	Timely Erosion Control Measures on Incomplete Road and Stream crossing Projects		B6.6 B6.66 C6.6 C5.23# rd pkg	N	No stream crossing work proposed.

E	15.10	III.D.3,8	Control of Road Construction Excavation & Side cast Material	B6.222 rd pkg	Y	No new road construction proposed. This BMP regulates side-casting during pre-haul maintenance.
S	15.11	VII.A.(all)	Servicing and Refueling of Equipment	B6.34 B6.341 B6.342	Y	Servicing of equipment will be excluded from RHCAs and appropriate sites will be authorized by TSA with input from specialists as needed.
S	15.12	III.A.5 IV.B.1	Control of Construction in Riparian Areas	B6.5	N	No permanent road construction, no temp roads proposed in riparian areas.
S	15.13	III.E.5	Controlling In-Channel Excavation	(124 prmt)	N	No permanent road construction.
S	15.14	IV.A.(all) V.C.5	Diversion of Flows Around Construction Sites	B6.5	N	No permanent road construction.
S	15.15	IV.A.(all) V.B.2	Stream crossings on Temporary Roads	B5.1 B6.5 C5.1 (124 prmt)	N	No live water stream crossings proposed on temp roads. Likely still included in contract to cover unknowns.
S	15.16	IV.A.(all) V.C.(all)	Bridge and Culvert Installation (Disposition of Surplus Material and Protection of Fisheries)	B6.5	N	No live-water crossing installation work proposed.
E	15.18	III.D.6,8	Disposal of Right-of-Way and Roadside Debris	Rd pkg	N	No stream crossings proposed.

E	15.21	III.D.1 III.E.1,2	Maintenance of Roads	C5.12 C5.31# C5.316# C5.314# C5.312# C5.41	Y	Engineering rep should be involved on newly graveled and upgraded roads to ensure protection of gravel surface during maintenance activities.
E	15.22	III.D.7	Road Surface Treatment to Prevent Loss of Materials	C5.31#(T-103) C5.314#	Y	As directed by TSA.
E	15.23	III.D.6 IV.B.1	Traffic Control During Wet Periods	Forest order not in contract	Y	As directed by TSA and made necessary by weather conditions.
E	15.24	III.E.3,4 VI.B.2	Snow Removal Controls	C5.316#	Y	Refer to TSC and mitigation. If contractor chooses to plow roads, must meet FS specs.
E	15.25	III.E.8	Obliteration of Temporary Roads	C6.632#	Y	Refer also to mitigation in soils report for temporary roads.
<b>Section 18 Fire Suppression and Fuels Management</b>						
A	18.02	IV.C.2	Formulation of Fire Prescriptions	Not in contract - USFS crews	Y	Rx have been developed in IDT setting with specialist input and considered habitat type, existing vegetation, fuel loadings and position on landscape.

Appendix C

E	18.03	IV.C.8	Protection of Soil & Water from Prescribed Burning Effects	Not in contract – USFS crews	Burning should only occur during Rx window to meet prescribed fire intentions. All entries must consider O-layer and large woody debris needs.
E	18.04	None	Minimizing Watershed Impacts from Fire Suppression Efforts	Not in contract – USFS crews	Should a prescribed fire escape, resource advisor would advise suppression team of sensitive areas and resource concerns.
E	18.05	None	Stabilization of Fire Suppression Related Watershed Damage	Not in contract – USFS crews	Should a prescribed fire escape, resource advisor would advise suppression team of sensitive areas and resource concerns.

Key:

B clause – standard in all timber sale contracts

C clause – optional in timber sale contract, see “applicable” column for potential inclusion.

# - numerical value or dates determined by timber contract officer, specialist, EIS, or line officer during contract construction.

CLASSES OF SWCP (BMP)

A = Administrative

G = Ground Disturbance Reduction

E = Erosion Reduction

S = Stream Channel Protection/Stream Sediment Reduction

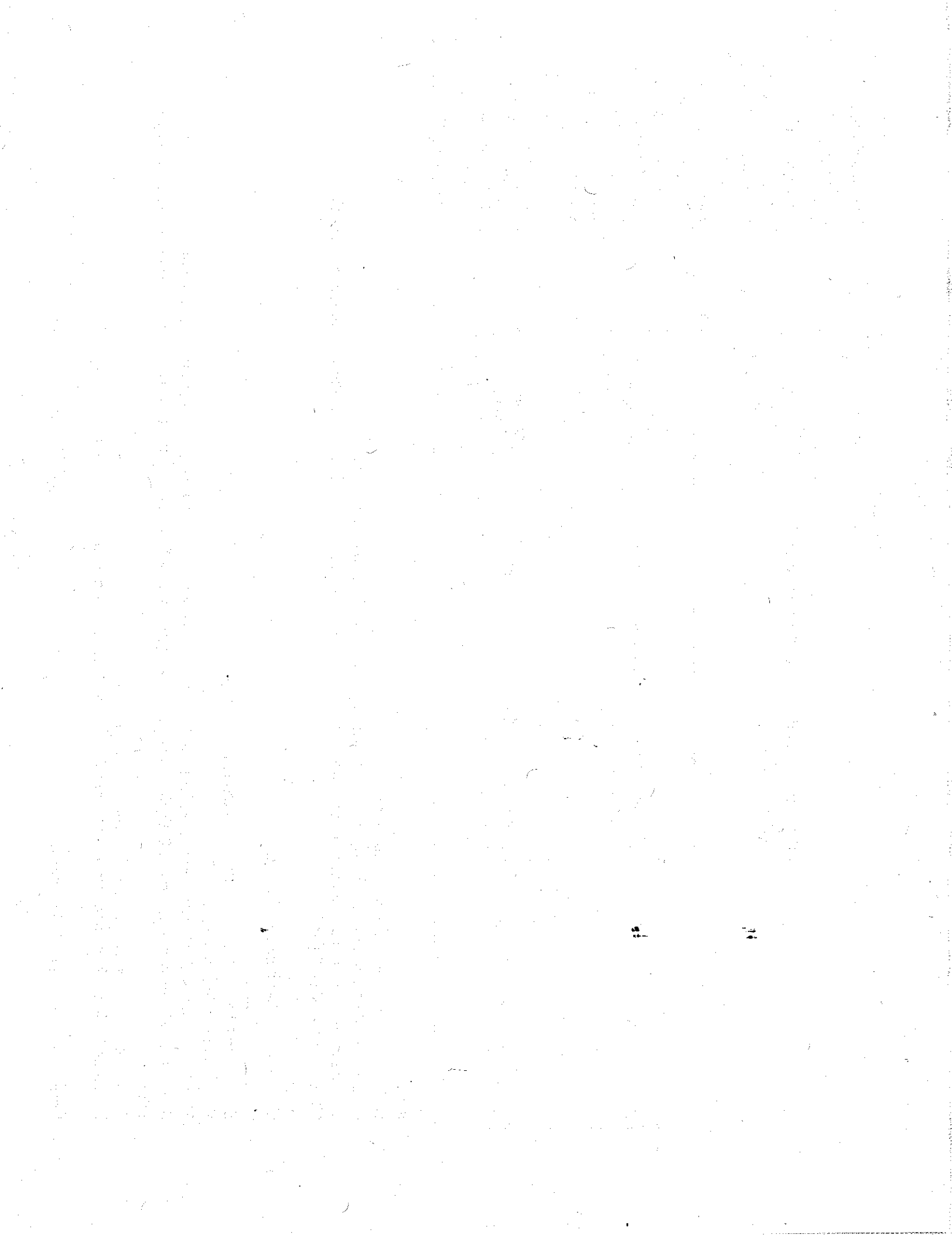
W = Water Quality Protection

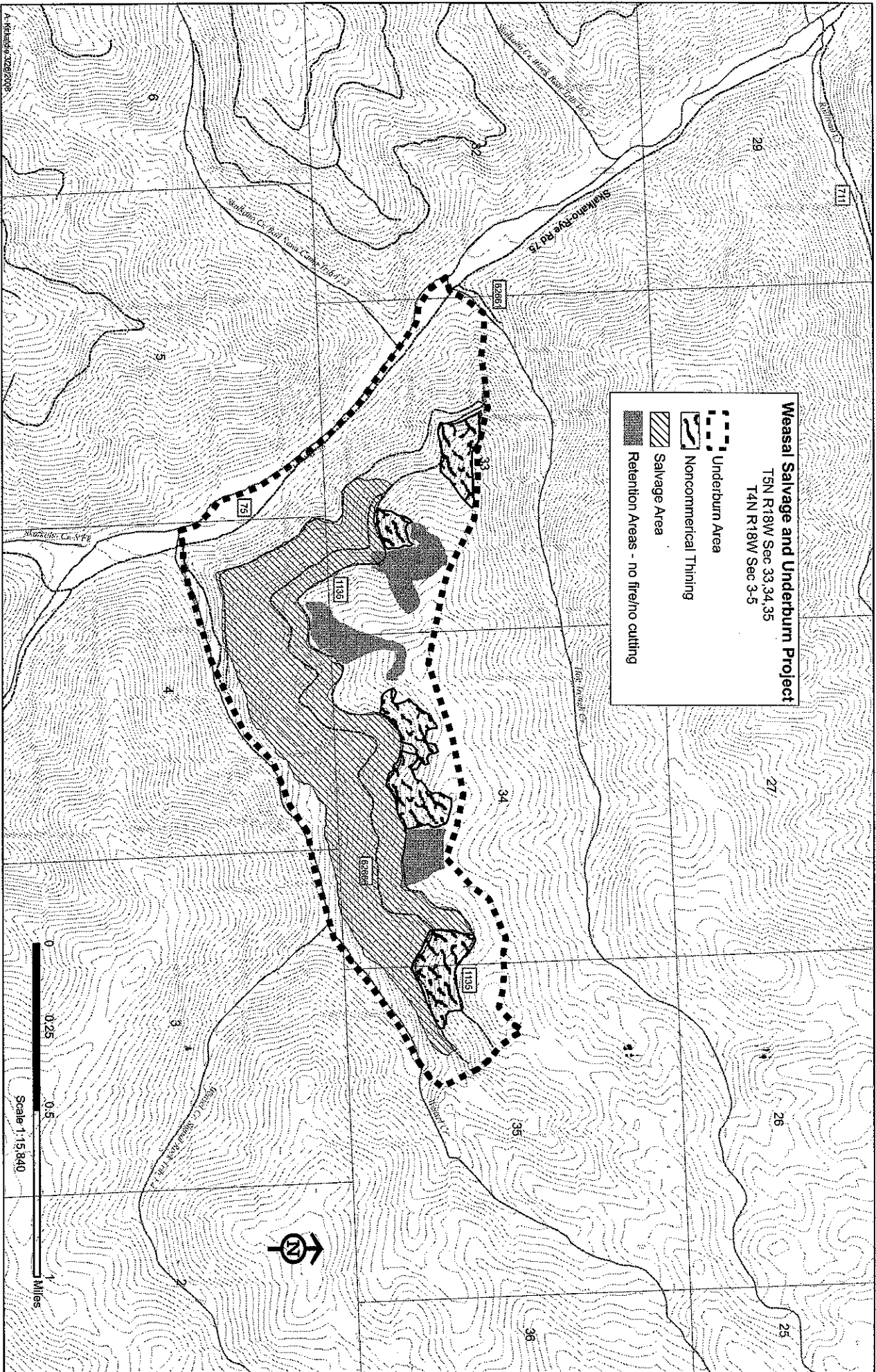
SWCP (Soil and Water Conservation Practice) number – From R1-R4 Soil and Water Conservation Practices Handbook

State BMP reference number from MTDNRC 2004 Best Management Practices for Forestry (PF\_WAT\_08, Trapper-Bunkhouse Project File)





Applicability – does this BMP/SWCP apply to this project?

Planning Review – how is the BMP implemented or addressed in environmental planning for this project?





**Weasal Salvage and Underburn Project**  
T5N R18W Sec 33, 34, 35  
T4N R18W Sec 3-5

-  Underburn Area
-  Noncommercial Thinning
-  Salvage Area
-  Retention Areas - no fire/no cutting

