

Nez Perce National Forest
Current Status of Stewardship and
Categorical Exclusion Projects
Revised September 15, 2008
Updates are in Bold

Crooked River Stewardship :

- The Crooked River Stewardship contract was awarded in February, 2006 to Bennett Forest Industries/Three Rivers. The contract was executed in March. The contract includes an estimated volume of over 16 million board feet.
- **Logging activities were completed in August.**
- The required decommissioning, soil restoration, trail improvements, watershed road improvements and the mine site work have all been completed. The Stewardship-funded fish habitat improvements in main Crooked River are completed. **The remaining work related to stream habitat consists of floodplain and streamside revegetation and will be completed this October.**

American River Stewardship:

- The American River Stewardship contract was awarded to Three Rivers/Bennett Forest Industries in September, 2006.
- The contract includes a volume of 8.3 million board feet.
- **Logging activities are approximately 90% complete.**
- Mandatory restoration service contract items including road decommissioning and watershed road improvement, soil restoration, and trail reconstruction have been completed in Subdivision 1 and are **on-going in Subdivision 2**. Some optional slash burning has been completed. Optional work is contingent upon available receipts/funding.

Meadow Face Stewardship:

- On May 16, 2008, Acting Forest Supervisor, Allen Rowley determined a new decision or modified Record of Decision is not needed for the Meadow Face Stewardship Pilot Project. The Final SEIS, public comments, and the Forest Service response to comments provide ample documentation of the cumulative effects of the project. Because the nature, scope and scale of the cumulative effects are largely unchanged from those described in the FEIS, a new or modified decision is unnecessary. Alternative 4B-Modified remains the decision.

Red Pines Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):

- The forest can now proceed with the project and is developing an implementation plan. There are several proposed implementation projects proposed for fiscal year 2009, including one or more timber sales, one or more fuel reduction projects, as well as instream restoration projects.
- The Looney Timber Sale (approximately 1,050 CCF) was sold to Pineda Post & Pole in December, 2007.
- **The Wigam Timber Sale (approximately 114 CCF) was sold to Jason Lunders in September, 2008.**
- Through the Nez Perce Tribe, BPA funds are being obtained for the Red River Narrows stream improvement project, **which the forest plans to contract out in time for implementation in 2009.**
- The Red Pines Record of Decision (ROD) and Final EIS document are available upon request and also at the Nez Perce National Forest website:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/nezperce/projects/>

Eastside Township:

- The BLM received a joint protest on this Record of Decision from the Friends of the Clearwater and Alliance for the Wild Rockies. The Field Manager denied the request to withdraw the Record of Decision.
- The protestant has filed an appeal of the Record of Decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

Whiskey-South II:

- Issue identification and alternative development for the EIS is ongoing. The Nez Perce National Forest and the Nez Perce Tribe have accepted an invitation to become cooperating agencies.

Little Slate:

- The Little Slate project, located in the headwaters of Little Slate Creek, is designed to treat vegetation and improve watershed conditions. The Notice of Intent was posted in the Federal Register in June, 2007. The Forest is currently preparing the DEIS.

Christie-Sherwin:

- The Christie-Sherwin Allotment Management Plans proposal is to reauthorize grazing on the Christie Creek and Sherwin Creek allotments. Proposed action will be available for comment in July 2008.

Limited Timber Harvest Opportunities - Consistent with FSH 1909.15-2004-3 (7/6/04), the Forest is pursuing several small timber sale offerings:

Clearwater Ranger District:

- The Cold Toes project is designed to reduce the rate of spread of mistletoe while protecting and maintaining the health and vigor of un-infected trees within the project area. A Decision Memo for this project was signed on October 24, 2007. No appeals were received. The sale is currently being advertised with bid opening scheduled for September 19, 2008.

Salmon River Ranger District:

- The Buckhorn Salvage project would remove approximately 180 acres of dead and dying trees affected by the Poe-Cabin fire using timber harvest (salvage) on the Salmon River Ranger District. The Decision Memo was signed June 16, 2008. The decision was appealed and subsequently withdrawn. The Forest is currently deciding on a course of action for this project.

Red River Ranger District:

- Dixie Airstrip (small salvage sale) - A Decision Memo was signed in July, 2007 and an appeal was received. The decision was remanded back to the Forest for additional work on cumulative effects to wilderness/roadless area analysis. There are no plans to pursue this project further at this time.

Moose Creek Ranger District:

- West Fork Point Project (previously O'Hara Roadside) - The proposed action is being prepared for this project.

See our website for complete project details at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/nezperce/projects/>
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