

Chapter 4 - List of Preparers and Agencies Consulted

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Scott Hagerty	Soils
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List of Agencies and Persons Consulted

To help identify issues for this project, the Pacific Ranger District sent scoping letters on April 13, 2004 and April 5, 2005 to concerned publics, state, federal, and local government agencies describing the proposed action and requesting comments. Additionally a previous version of this EA was made available for public comment in May 2006. The Lower Elwha S'Klallam, Makah, and Quileute tribes were also contacted prior to each scoping letter. The project has also been listed in the Forest's *Schedule of Proposed Actions* which describes the proposed action and is posted on the Olympic National Forest internet website. Additional public involvement occurred with a meeting of interested stakeholders on October 30, 2008 at the Forest Headquarters in Olympia, Washington. This meeting was held to provide an opportunity for those interested in the project to express their thoughts and concerns. Five interested stakeholders attended the meeting.

Tribes

The Bear Creek Saddle area is within the ceded lands of two tribes, the Quileute and Lower Elwha Klallam. Both tribes, as well as the Makah Tribe whose ceded area is to the northwest of the project area, were consulted on this proposal by letters dated February 18, 2004, and March 18, 2005.

The Quileute Tribe responded by letters dated March 5, 2004, and March 31, 2005. Their letters stated they believed that the proposed commercial thinning would enhance the growth of plant species of cultural significance to the Tribe, and would improve forage opportunities

for elk and deer, which are important cultural and subsistence species of wildlife for the Tribe. A concern for the possible impacts to the Tribe's fish resource was expressed, caused by sedimentation impacts from road construction and use during wet weather. The use of proper maintenance, ditching, and placement of water passing structures and sediment traps was emphasized as crucial to minimizing adverse impacts.

Written responses were not received from the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

The Makah Tribe responded by a letter dated March 3, 2004. Their letter stated they had no comments at the time, but appreciated the information and would like to continue to receive information on these types of planning activities.

Federal, state, and local agencies

The Washington State Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) was consulted regarding the findings of a site-specific cultural resources survey. A Project Review for Heritage Resources under the terms of the 1997 Programmatic Agreement between OAHP, Washington State SHPO, and USFS R6 was completed. It was determined that there would be no impact to known historic properties. This project was approved by the Washington State OAHP on December 6, 2005.

Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was completed for effects from routine activities on the Olympic National Forest and a Programmatic Biological Opinion was prepared in August of 2003 with an addendum in August of 2004. The implementation on any of the action alternatives or no action alternative as outlined in this EA is consistent with the effects to listed fish and wildlife species as covered under the Programmatic Biological Opinion. The Forest Service has consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the development of this EA. The project area does not contain fish species listed by NOAA Fisheries.

The proposal has been sent to agencies and publics that have expressed interest in forest management on the Olympic National Forest for review and comment. Following the review and comment period, the Olympic National Forest will respond to the comments and if necessary, make changes to the proposal. A decision regarding the proposal will then be made.

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