



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Forest
Service**

**Winema
National
Forest**

**Chiloquin Ranger District
38500 Highway 97 North
Chiloquin, OR 97624**

File Code: 1950/2450
Route To: Skunk IDT

Date: August 14, 2002

Subject: Snag designation on fire salvage

To: Phil Jahns, Bly District Silviculturist

Phil:

I found the monitoring study we did on the Quick Fire Salvage. The Quick Fire burned in the last week of June, 1994. Layout and marking of snags and survivor trees was done in the winter and spring of 1994-1995. Trees larger than 21" DBH that had less than 20% live crown remaining (non-survivors) received a special leave mark. Trees of all size classes with more than 20% live crown were marked as leave trees (green survivors). Both classes of leave trees were tallied by unit, along with the "wildlife" trees left at the 100% snag retention level. In November of 1995, as logging was beginning, the trees were re-tallied. The results were:

- Of the 198 large trees marked with less than 20% LCR, 178 had died (90%).
- Of the 1126 trees of all sizes with more than 20% LCR marked to leave, 97 had died (9%)

The monitoring was not continued after the November 1995 tally to see what further mortality might occur in either group of trees. It is interesting to note that in the Lone Pine Fire (1992) we used a more stringent standard of green trees needing at least a 30% live crown ratio remaining to be leave tree marked, and there is still scattered mortality among these trees every summer. The 30% figure was arrived at from some of the scant literature available on ponderosa pine post-fire mortality, mostly from the southwest.

I am enclosing as background the letter directing the monitoring study, and a Type II monitoring review from August, 1995 that discusses both the Quick Fire green tree mortality and the smaller Buckhorn Fire. Buckhorn left all large trees with any green remaining, and we ended up doing a second salvage sale after the majority of them died.

Let me know if there is anything else I can provide on salvage, snags, or whatever.

Sincerely,

KEVIN R. MOORE

South Zone NEPA Coordinator

