

To: Dan Thorpe, District Forester, Southwest Oregon District

From: Chris Rudd, Management Unit Forester

CC: Dan Shults, Southern Oregon Area Director,  
Nancy Hirsch, Acting State Forests Program Director

Date: March 27, 2008

Re: Approved Annual Operations Plan for 2009

The 2009 State Forests Annual Operations Plan for the Southwest Oregon District is attached for your information. During my review of this plan, I have found that it is consistent with the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan, the current District Implementation Plan, and the 2009 Annual Operations Planning Standards and Guidance memorandum. There are two sales this year, the same proposed alternates from the 2008 AOP. Northwest Windy Thin is 105 acres of partial cut thinning estimated to bring about \$120,000 in revenue if stumpage prices recover by 2010. This sale is outside of any Northern Spotted Owl circles and does not require a biological assessment. North Woods Creek is a 138 acre sale of medium and heavy thinning with a 30 acre retention cut. This sale will yield about \$140,000 if stumpage prices recover slightly. The District has included two alternate sales. Perkins Creek North and Savage Creek Thin are alternate sales that were subjected to the same process of review and public comment as the regular sales. These alternate sales may be used to replace regular sales that cannot be completed as planned, and to retain flexibility for the program to respond to additional direction or policy changes that may be proposed by the Board of Forestry or State Forester as continuing discussions occur regarding the NW and SW Forest Management Plans. Such policy changes may directly or indirectly influence harvest levels during the FY08 fiscal year.

This annual operations plan covers proposed forest management activities for fiscal year 2009. During its preparation, this plan was reviewed by technical specialists from within the department and biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and USFWS. Their comments were received verbally and in writing (written comments are on file at the district office). Their opinion is that these sales will not adversely impact owls. The draft annual operations plan also underwent a 45-day public comment period. No public comments were received on these sales.

Approval of this plan does not constitute final approval of individual project details. Individual timber sales are subject to additional review processes at the district and program staff level before approval for auction. The operations described in this plan may be modified during the final preparation and/or implementation. Modifications to these operations will conform to the process included in the draft Annual Operations Planning Directive.

The official copy of this Annual Operations Plan will be on file at the district office. Additional copies are available at the State Forests Program office in Salem, and is also available on the ODF web site at: [http://oregon.gov/ODF/STATE\\_FORESTS/planning.shtml](http://oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/planning.shtml)

APPROVED:

  
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Dan Thorpe, District Forester, Southwest Oregon

  
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Date