

COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST PLAN  
DIGEST  
FOREST PLAN AMENDMENT #23

June 2007

Forest Plan amendments are numbered consecutively. Check the last transmittal to see if this amendment is in sequence. If it is not please contact the Supervisor's Office, Land management Planning to obtain the missing amendment.

Page Number	Superseded	New (Number of Sheets)
Replacement Page 65-2	1	1

Digest:

Replacement Page 65-2

Adds the Clark PAC as a Mexican spotted owl protected activity center where thinning of trees may exceed 9 inches in diameter.

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Harvest fuelwood when it can be done in such a way that effects on the owl are minimized. Manage within the following limitations to minimize effects on the owl.

- Retain key forest species such as oak.
- Retain key habitat components such as snags and large downed logs.
- Harvest conifers less than 9 inches in diameter only within those protected activity centers treated to abate fire risk as described below, **except for the Clark PAC where trees less than 16 inches diameter will be harvested.**

Treat fuel accumulations to abate fire risk.

- Select for treatment 10% of the protected activity centers where nest sites are known in each recovery unit having high fire risk conditions. Also select another 10% of the protected activity centers where nest sites are known as a paired sample to serve as control areas.
- Designate a 100 acre "no treatment" area around the known nest site of each selected protected activity center. Habitat in the no treatment area should be as similar as possible in structure and composition as that found in the activity center.
- Use combinations of thinning trees less than 9 inches in diameter (**or less than 16 inches in the Clark PAC**), mechanical fuel treatment and prescribed fire to abate fire risk in the remainder of the selected protected activity center outside the 100 acre "no treatment" area.
- Retain woody debris larger than 12 inches in diameter, snags, clumps of broad-leafed woody vegetation, and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches in diameter at the root collar.
- Select and treat additional protected activity centers in 10% increments if monitoring of the initial sample shows there were no negative impacts or there were negative impacts which can be mitigated by modifying treatment methods.
- Use light prescribed burns in non-selected protected activity centers on a case-by-case basis. Burning should avoid a 100 acre "no treatment" area around the activity center. Large woody debris, snags, clumps of broad-leafed woody vegetation should be retained and hardwood trees larger than 10 inches diameter at the root collar.
- Pre and post treatment monitoring should be conducted in all protected activity centers treated for fire risk abatement. (See monitoring guidelines)