

Decision Summary – Vegetation CE

Project Name	Pomeroy Maintenance NCT and Prescribed Fire – Phase 1		
Forest	Umatilla National Forest	Region	R6
Choose Type of Activity (Wilderness, Roadless, Energy infrastructure, Minerals, Vegetation CE, Land Management Plan) and level of Decision (No DM, DM, DN/FONSI, ROD)			
Vegetation CE; DM; 36 CFR 220.6(e)(6)			
Planned Decision Date	March 15, 2021		

Summary Description

Purpose/Need
The purpose is to maintain vegetation characteristics that would normally occur under natural disturbance regimes. Most areas in need of non-commercial thinning burned in the 2005 School Fire or the 2006 Columbia Complex Fire. Some of these areas were subsequently salvage-harvested and then planted; they are in need of periodic thinning to more closely resemble historic stocking levels. Other areas burned at low intensity and still have a healthy overstory, but understory trees are starting to accumulate. Periodic prescribed fire and non-commercial thinning is needed to address ladder fuel and density issues by reducing: 1) the small diameter conifer understory, 2) the brush located in areas that historically were dominated by conifer trees, and 3) the ground and ladder fuels that have accumulated.
Intended Selected Action
Hand and mechanical non-commercial thinning would be conducted on 7,933 acres of both dry and moist stands that are plantation-like and multi-story. The project includes prescribed burning of approximately 19,406 acres of dry forest, the majority of which is covered in grass and brush.
Potentially Significant Effects or Extraordinary Circumstances (if any)
There are no expected extraordinary circumstances.
Public Involvement (include State, local governments and Tribal consultation)
Tribal consultation was conducted with the Nez Perce Tribe and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) in the annual Umatilla NF program of work meetings and formal conversations with heritage staff from the tribes. No issues have been raised during tribal consultation to date. Focused scoping with State, local governments, Tribes, and interested public is ongoing.
Timeline Considerations (statutory, court-related, administrative) and Objections Status
The decision is not subject to objection.