

Slip Plantation Thinning

Mt. Hood National Forest Clackamas River Ranger District

The purpose of this initiative is to thin young forest stands to achieve multiple objectives:

- Increase health and vigor and enhance growth that results in larger wind firm trees;
- Enhance and restore within stand biological diversity;
- Provide forest products consistent with the Northwest Forest Plan goal of maintaining the stability of local and regional economies now and in the future.

This action is needed, because second-growth plantations are experiencing a slowing of growth due to overcrowding. If no action is taken, this overstocked condition would result in stands with reduced vigor, increased mortality, reduced diversity, and increased wind damage susceptibility. The project is located in section 4, T. 6 S., R. 6 E., WM, Clackamas County, Oregon.

The proposed action is to thin and harvest wood fiber from 70 acres of matrix land. Thinning would be designed to enhance or restore biological diversity by applying variable density prescriptions.

Trees to be cut are generally smaller than 24 inches in diameter with an average of approximately 18 inches. Variable density thinning prescriptions would be designed to enhance or restore biological diversity. Thinning would generally remove the smaller trees, leaving approximately 80 to 120 variably spaced trees per acre. No roads would be constructed. Ground based and skyline logging systems would be used.

- The project is in the B8 – Earthflow land allocation.
- The project is in the Middle Clackamas watershed.
- The project is not within Riparian Reserves.

If you have any concerns please bring them to our attention. Please submit your responses by December 1st, 2004. You are welcome to visit the area by traveling from Estacada on Highway 224 to road 4620, to road 4620174.

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