



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific
Northwest
Region

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File Code: 1570-1/1950
Route To:

Date: April 15, 2004

Subject: Regional Forester's Emergency Situation Determination for Toolbox Fire Recovery Project

To: Forest Supervisor, Fremont-Winema National Forests

I have received your March 22, 2004, memorandum regarding a request for an emergency situation determination pursuant to 36 CFR 215.10 on the Toolbox Fire Recovery Project. I am granting your exemption from stay as requested on the basis of the following rationale (excerpted from your analysis):

- A 105-day delay of salvage harvest (due to stay of harvest during the appeal period) will result in an overall loss of value of 57 percent of overall sale revenue and a loss of 4,700 mbf of saw timber. You recommend that the total lost returns to the federal government of \$597,670.00 represent a substantial economic loss.
- Costs for fuels treatment and seedling replanting would increase due to increases in the amount of remaining fuels, and reductions in first-time success for replanting; respectively.
- There will be a probable loss of timber value due to fire season operating closures.

I have reviewed your request as it relates to the affected resources in the project area and the ability to achieve restoration and recovery activities as stated in the DEIS. I have also reviewed and concur with your economic analysis regarding potential lost timber value.

I concur with your analysis and find that delaying implementation of this project during the appeal period would result in a substantial loss of economic value to the federal government. I am therefore granting you an exemption from stay during the appeal period for the portion of the Toolbox Fire Recovery Project noted in your request.

Please refer questions to Jill Dufour at 503-808-2276.

LINDA GOODMAN
Regional Forester

Cc:
Jill Dufour

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