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Final Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Forest Plan Amendments

Flagtail Fire Recovery Project

Volume 1

**Blue Mountain Ranger District
Malheur National Forest
Grant County, Oregon**
R6-MAL-04-002



Flagtail Fire Recovery Project EIS - Key Acronyms

BAER	Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation
BMP	Best Management Practices
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CWD	Coarse Woody Debris
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
DOG	Dedicated Old Growth
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS (DEIS or FEIS)	Environmental Impact Statement (Draft or Final)
HRV	Historical Range of Variability
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team
INFISH	Inland Native Fish Strategy
MA	Management Area
MIS	Management Indicator Species
MMBF	Million Board Feet
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
NFMA	National Forest Management Act of 1976
NFS	National Forest System
PAG	Plant Association Group
PETS	Proposed, Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive species
PFA	Goshawk Post-fledgling Area
PVG	Potential Vegetation Group
RHCA	Riparian Habitat Conservation Area
ROG	Replacement Old Growth
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
WEPP	Water Erosion Prediction Project [model]
WQRP	Water Quality Restoration Plan

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Abstract: This Final Environmental Impact Statement documents the analysis of five alternatives, including a no-action alternative, for the Flagtail Fire Recovery Project in the Blue Mountain Ranger District of the Malheur National Forest. Alternative 1 is the No-Action Alternative. Alternative 2 is the Proposed Action; it was designed to maximize recovery of the economic value of fire killed and damaged trees and reduce future fuel loadings. Alternative 3 was designed to leave higher levels of snag habitat distributed in a way that accommodates a broader range of cavity excavator species while reducing fuel loading. Alternative 4 was developed to reduce fuel loadings and provide local employment without commercial timber harvest, in response to comments generated during the scoping process that advocated natural recovery processes. Alternative 5, the Preferred Alternative, was designed to more closely mimic snag distributions expected at the landscape level.

Emergency Situation Determination: The Forest Supervisor is in the process of seeking a determination from the Regional Forester that an emergency situation exists in the Flagtail Fire Recovery Project pursuant to 36 CFR 215.10 (b). This emergency situation exists because substantial loss of economic value to the Federal Government would occur if implementation of the decision were delayed through another summer of checking. The final determination by the Regional Forester will be published in the Record of Decision, 36 CFR 215.10 (d).