

APPENDIX J
PORT-ORFORD-CEDAR
CONTAINMENT STRATEGY
FOR ALTERNATIVE 9

**PORT-ORFORD-CEDAR DISEASE CONTAINMENT STRATEGY
NICORE SPECIAL USE PERMIT
ILLINOIS VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST**

his Port-Orford-cedar (POC) root disease containment strategy addresses the potential risk of spread of Phytophthora lateralis (PL) associated with the approval of a Special Use Permit under alternative 9 of the SDEIS.

1. MANAGEMENT DIRECTION FOR PORT-ORFORD-CEDAR
2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION
3. RISK ANALYSIS
4. CONTAINMENT STRATEGY
5. Monitoring

Management Direction

One of the goals of the 1989 Siskiyou Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan, Goal #24, p. IV-2) is to perpetuate Port-Orford-cedar as a functioning part of the forest ecosystem throughout its natural range.

Siskiyou National Forest Plan Standard and Guideline 12-8 states:

"Strategies for POC management shall be integrated into environmental analyses and project planning for all areas that support POC...POC should be managed as a major component of the appropriate plant association in areas of low to moderate risk of infestation...Appropriate practices identified from experience and research should be applied on a site or drainage-specific basis to prevent or reduce the spread and severity of PL."

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives (ROD) include:

"Maintain and restore the species composition and structural diversity of plant communities in riparian areas and wetlands to provide adequate summer and winter thermal regulation, nutrient filtering, appropriate rates of surface erosion, bank erosion, and channel migration and to supply amounts and distributions of coarse woody debris sufficient to sustain physical complexity and stability."

"Maintain and restore habitat to support well-distributed populations of native plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate riparian-dependent species."

The Southwest Oregon Late-successional Reserve Assessment identifies PL control as a potential treatment for achieving desired late-successional conditions.

The West Fork Watershed Analysis identified POC as a small component of the minority of forest stands it appears in throughout the wilderness where it is most concentrated on serpentine soils and also along streams.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Alternative 9: Helicopter sampling. Total road miles .75 of reconstruction, 1 culvert at highway 199. Equipment would be allowed to enter site "B" via road 4402461. Access sites "A", "C", "D" would be by allowed only by helicopter.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES BY SUBUNIT:

This project under all alternatives is one subunit Rough and Ready Creek drainage.

OBJECTIVE: Prevent the import of the disease into uninfested areas.
[off site spores picked up and carried into uninfested area]

RISK ANALYSIS:

The major concern for the import of disease is dependent on; (1) the location of the transportation system used to access the project area in relation to frequency of POC along the route, if infestations are present and the amount of POC which will be at risk below the areas of activity. (2) The time of year. (3) Washing of vehicles and equipment.

The risk of introduction of PL is significantly lower with a Helicopter operation in comparison to the other alternatives considered. This alternative limits the use of most of the roads within the area. Certainly the ones which would present the highest risk of introduction of PL. The Alberg Creek is avoided as well as the alluvial fan which supports a stand of POC. The risk of inoculum introduction from activities associated with stream crossings, road construction or reconstruction and maintenance are eliminated.

Although Wimer Road (4402) has infested areas along it mitigation can reasonably lower the risk of inoculum being transported into Rough and Ready Creek. Reconnaissance of the access route to site "B" found no POC adjacent to road 4402461. Scattered POC exist along road 4402445 and there is no known infection. Washing equipment and unloading on Road 4402 during dry weather is a measure to prevent mud carrying inoculum from being imported to site "B".

CONTAINMENT STRATEGY

Dry Season Operation

June 1 through October 15

Washing of Vehicles and Equipment

Ground based equipment will need to be washed before start of operations each season. Washing can be done prior to entering Forest Service or BLM lands.

Water Use

Avoid use of potentially infested water (dust abatement, fire suppression, seeding, etc.).

Road Closure

Road 4402461 would be closed by physical barrier upon completion of operations at site "B".

Remaining Risk of Disease Introduction

There is a concern over remaining risk of disease introduction after project implementation . The Rough and Ready Creek is currently open to the public without restriction. Activities that transport infected soil into the area could occur. This may be due to visitors to the area that are not complying with the containment strategy and wildlife migration.

Monitoring

1. The Forest Service will inspect the equipment for compliance of washing requirement before operations begin each season.
2. The permittee will report any occurrence of dying POC within the project area.
3. Periodic monitoring by the Forest Service during the operates will occur to insure compliance with the control measures.
4. Roadside and downstream monitoring for introduction of the root disease Phytophthora lateralis will occur yearly in conjunction with project-specific and district-wide Port-Orford-cedar monitoring.

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