

Forsythe II: Unit 24 SILVICULTURAL PRESCRIPTION & IMPLEMENTATION GUIDES		WRITTEN BY: <i>K. Zimlinghaus</i>	
RX DATE: 11/24/2017	DIAGNOSIS DATE: 11/16/2017	CERTIFIED BY: <i>K. Zimlinghaus</i>	
BASE FISCAL YEAR: 2018	NEPA ACRES: UNIT 24 – 16 ac	TREATMENT ACRES: UNIT 24– 4.8 ac	LOGEPOLE PINE TREATMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS: Forsythe II Project EA		DECISION DATE: 7/10/2017	Existing Basal Area = ~130 sq. ft./acre
OBJECTIVES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce the severity and intensity of a wildfire within the WUI. ➤ Emulate natural disturbance in lodgepole pine dominated stands to mimic variable structural and spatial patterns across the landscape in order to increase resistance and resiliency to future natural disturbance. 			

ACTIVITY	TIME	AC	DESCRIPTION, MARKING GUIDES, MONITORING, ETC.
Lodgepole Pine Treatment	2018		<p><u>Cutting Guides</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify two patchcut locations, 2 to 3 acres in size (not to exceed the allowable total cut area) and in locations similar to the unsold timber sale to utilize existing perimeter boundaries. Black out old boundaries as necessary to avoid confusion with new boundary lines. ➤ Utilize aspen clones or conifers other than lodgepole pine as boundary edges where possible. ➤ Cut all conifer trees except limber pine within the established boundaries. ➤ Retain a minimum of 5 of the largest available snags (dead trees), in clumps where available, minimum 8” DBH for lodgepole pine as an average across each treatment unit. If the minimum number of snags is not available, then the largest available live, green replacement trees will be retained for future snags. ➤ Retain a minimum of 5 logs and 100 linear feet per acre of existing down logs distributed randomly across each unit, with a minimum diameter of 8” for lodgepole pine and 10” for other conifer species. Retained wood, 6” in diameter or greater and left in the unit must be scattered and be in contact with the ground. Individual boles of 6” or greater can be left unbucked. ➤ Slash take back will only be allowed on skid trails, in patchcut/clearcut units where it is needed to meet coarse and fine woody debris retention criteria.
Slash Treatment All Units	2018		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Burn piles should be located out of sight of major viewpoints as designated by a USFS Landscape Architect whenever possible with the constraints of the contract. ➤ Piles shall be constructed in a manner to minimize large air spaces and dirt within the piles. Piles shall not have material extending more than 4 feet in any direction beyond the pile perimeter and a minimum of 4 feet of separation from pile perimeter to surrounding down woody material to reduce unwanted fire spread. ➤ Construct a minimum of a 6 foot wide control line, down to bare mineral soil, around each machine pile to create separation between piled material and surrounding slash mat. If piles are grouped, a single control line may be

placed around the entire group rather than around individual piles. The scraped material must be moved outward to avoid a berm adjacent to the pile's edge.

- In machine units, reasonably gather and place activity slash material, 1" to 6" diameter into piles. If more than 50% of a treatment unit has continuous slash depth greater than 6" after initial treatment, additional piling will be required.
- Locate machine piles a minimum of 150 feet and hand piles a minimum of 50 feet from any infrastructure or private property boundary.

<p>BOUNDARY DESIGNATION AND TREE MARK</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Boundary trees marked with orange flagging and painted in orange. Each exterior boundary tree will be flagged with a piece of flagging wrapped around the bole of the tree at eye level, or a strip of flagging hanging from a branch. ➤ Unit boundaries will be painted to Forest Service Manual direction. ➤ Snags and leave-trees will be designated with a band of orange paint around the bole of the tree and a butt mark.
<p>SPECIAL NOTES:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Retain coarse and fine woody debris (CWD and FWD) throughout clearcut/patchcut units to maintain long term soil productivity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. At least 8 tons/acre of CWD, with preference for large diameter material (boles); b. At least 4 tons/acre of FWD. ➤ Involve a USFS Wildlife Biologist during layout of patchcuts/clearcuts to determine needs for narrow areas and/or island exclusions for wildlife crossing and cover. ➤ In general, locate openings away from system trails, or social trails that will be changed to system trails in the Magnolia Trails Project decision. A wildlife biologist shall approve locations of patchcuts and clearcuts in the vicinity of such trails. ➤ Retain all areas of mixed conifer inclusions ½ acre or less in lodgepole pine stands. If the inclusion is larger, thinning as prescribed could be implemented. An exception is cutting trees for skid trails and landings. ➤ Incorporate Road/Skid Trails/Temp Roads/Landings/Equipment Use Design Criteria.
<p>TIMING RESTRICTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No operations from May 1 through August 10 in flammulated owl territories. ➤ Raptor nest areas, including species-specific buffers, will generally have no treatment activity from March 1 through September 15, depending on species, or until determined unoccupied by the wildlife biologist. Access through buffers during this period will be assessed by the wildlife biologist. ➤ No operations from December 1 through April 30 for elk, unless determined appropriate to treat by the wildlife biologist. ➤ Project operations will not be conducted on Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day holiday weekends and on Sundays. Operating time for heavy equipment and chainsaws shall be limited to the hours of 7am to 7pm.
<p>FOR MORE INFO:</p>	<p>Forsythe II Project EA</p>