|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  **F2 Unit 76 – PRESCRIPTION & IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE**  | **WRITTEN and CERTIFIED BY: *K. Zimlinghaus 10/1/2018*** |
|  **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:** Forsythe II Project | **DECISION DATE: 7/10/2017** | **NEPA ACRES: 12****GIS ACRES: 3.4** | **BASE FISCAL YEAR: 2018** |
| **EXISTING HSS:** 3B-92%; 4C-8%**DESIRED HSS:** 2T-28%; 3B-64%; 4C-8% |  |
| **COVER TYPE:** Existing Overstory LPP 67%, DF 20%, PP 7%, Bare Ground 7% Desired Overstory LPP 67%, DF 20%, PP 7%, Bare Ground 7% | **EXISTING BASAL AREA=123sq ft/ac** **DESIRED BASAL AREA=80-90 sq ft/ac** |
| Existing ConditionThe unit is predominantly located on a north aspect with forested areas and a canopy cover between 50 - 90%. The unit is primarily even-aged with mixed patches of dense trees (dog-hair) also present. Lodgepole pine is the dominant species with Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine occasionally mixed into the species composition, primarily in the understory. Trees range in size from saplings (2’ to 5” DBH) to small sawlogs (8” to 12” DBH) with the majority being in the pole size (5” to 8” DBH) range. Minor incidences of dwarf mistletoe are present, but localized.Desired ConditionThe desired stand conditions would include patches of varying seral stages distributed across the area. The heterogeneous pattern of lodgepole pine stands would exhibit patches of even-aged stands mixed throughout the general lodgepole pine forest to provide a discontinuous crown level that provides a greater resiliency to large natural disturbances. Some of these patches would have other conifer species and aspen mixed with the dominant lodgepole pine stand. Insects and diseases are kept at endemic and manageable levels. Objectives* Reduce the severity and intensity of a wildfire within the WUI.
* Emulate natural disturbance at a minor scale in lodgepole pine dominated stands to mimic variable structural and spatial patterns in order to increase resistance and resiliency to future natural disturbances.

**Note:** This unit will be manually cut and the slash would be hand piled and burned.  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTIVITY** | **TIME**  | **AC** | **DESCRIPTION, MARKING GUIDES, MONITORING, ETC.**  |
| Lodgepole Pine Treatment | 2019 | 3.4 | Cutting Guides* Establish 1 to 2 patchcuts, ranging in 1-5 acres in size in “dog-hair” pockets within the unit.
* Space patchcuts at least 100’ apart.
* Cut all live and dead lodgepole pine > 2’ tall within the identified patchcut boundary.
* Retain all other healthy conifer species (>30% live crown without signs of insects or disease) and aspen regardless of size.
* Cut all of the limbs from the boles of cut trees to a 2” top.
 |
| Slash Treatment  | 2019 | 3.4 | * Hand- pile existing and activity slash material 1” to 6” diameter and 2’ or longer. Any slash that must be moved more than 50’ to meet minimum required pile size may be lopped and scattered to a maximum depth of 18”.
* All treated material shall not be left beneath or within 10’ of the dripline of a retained tree.
* Piles should be at least 6’ x 6’ in diameter, 15’ apart, & 10’ from residual tree boles. Cut conifers in order to create piles when needed.
* Treated bole wood 6” in diameter or greater must be scattered and be in contact with the ground. Individual boles of 8” or greater must be bucked into 4’ lengths beginning at the large end.
* Pull back slash and construct piles at least 50’ from any infrastructure and private property boundaries.
* Retain an average of 2 piles per acre for wildlife habitat, including any piles remaining from previous vegetation treatment, distributed randomly throughout the unit.
* In aspen clone aggregations, construct piles outside of the aspen perimeter if enough material exists to establish the minimum pile size. Any slash that must be moved more than 50’ to meet minimum required pile size may be lopped and scattered to a maximum depth of 18”.
* Do not construct handpiles on rock outcrops.
 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **BOUNDARY DESIGNATION AND TREE MARK** | * + Boundary trees marked with orange flagging and painted in orange.
 |
| **TIMING RESTRICTIONS** | * 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.
 |
| **MMG CONCERNS** | * Large trees in unit
* Evidence of past treatments
* Limber pine in unit
* Evidence of downfall
* “Dog Hair” in middle of unit good to cut
* Cryptogrammic soil in unit
* Evidence of social/wildlife trail
* Evidence of wildlife
 |
| **FOR MORE INFO:** | Forsythe II EA |