

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name: North Bridge Patches Salvage Sale Proposed Implementation Date: 6/1/10
 Proponent:
 Type and Purpose of Action: SMZ Alternative Practice. Operation of Wheeled or Tracked equipment in the SMZ

Location: Sw1/4 of SE1/4 Sec.31, T36N, R28W. County: Lincoln

I. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT	
1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED: Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.	Public scoping for the timber sale was done through the North Patches Environmental Impact Statement. The project is surrounded by USFS lands and there are no potential impacts on neighboring landowners. Public scoping for the Alternative Practice was not deemed necessary.
2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:	None
3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:	1) No-action. 2) Construct a temporary logging road and install culverts for crossing and then remove after the timber sale. 3) Use existing stream crossing and rehabilitate crossing after harvest operations are completed.

II. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	
RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES N = Not present or No Impact will occur. Y = Impacts may occur (explain below)
4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geologic features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	[Y] Land Type 353 Volcanic ash-influenced loess over glacial till. Moderate surface erodibility, low sediment delivery efficiency. Operating during dry conditions with proper erosion control measures should protect soil and water quality.
5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?	[Y] Class 2 stream will be crossed using an existing ford. Mitigation measures should protect integrity of SMZ and protect water quality.
6. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?	[N] Normal air pollution that is associated with a standard logging operation.
7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present?	[N] No rare, sensitive plants or cover types were observed during ground reconnaissance. Minimal vegetation disturbance will occur from logging.
8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?	[N] There is no significant use by important wildlife, birds or fish.

RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Sensitive Species or Species of special concern?	[N] Threatened or endangered species may migrate through the area. However, there are no known populations of T & E species present.
10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?	[N] No historical archeological or paleontological resources were observed during ground reconnaissance.
11. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographic feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?	[N] Normal temporary noise increase associated with standard logging operation.
12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	[N] No limited resources will be used from the project. There are no other activities nearby that will affect the project.
13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?	[N] There are no other known studies or plans for this area.

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?	[N] Normal health risks associated with a standard logging operation.
15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	[N] This project will add additional timber to the local woods product industry.
16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so estimated number.	[N] This project will add some additional work and income to the local work force.
17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?	[N] Minor additional income tax revenue will be generated from the additional work.
18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc) be needed?	[N] Traffic will not be significantly altered from the project.
19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc. zoning or management plans in effect?	[N] There are no known zoning management plans in this area.

20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	[N] This project will not influence the recreation potential. There are no wildernesses in this area.
21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	[N] This project will not influence the local population.
22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[N] Native communities or lifestyles will not be disturbed.
23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[N] Cultural uniqueness will not be disturbed.
24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:	[N] There are no other unique social or economical qualities in this area.

EA Checklist Prepared By: Michael Justus

DNRC Service Forester

5/25/2010

IV. FINDING	
25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED: Alternative 3	Use existing stream crossing during dry conditions followed by appropriate rehabilitation measures will maintain the integrity of the Streamside Management zone. Soil disturbance adjacent to the stream crossing will be reseeded and a slash filter windrow installed following harvest operations
26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:	Proposed mitigation measures should protect the integrity of the Streamside Management Zone and water quality.
27. Need for Further Environmental Analysis: <input type="checkbox"/> EIS <input type="checkbox"/> More Detailed EA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Further Analysis	

EA Checklist Approved By: Name Steven Frye Title Acting Libby Unit Manager

Signature _____ Date _____