



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Willamette National Forest
Detroit Ranger District

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File Code: 2670

Date: July 10, 2012

Route To:

Subject: Detroit Ranger District Ruth/Morningstar Mining CERCLA Cleanup project

To: Grady McMahan/Project Files

Project Location and Description

The purpose of the project is to maintain forest health by removing shallow rock debris from the old mining sites of Morning Star Mine and Ruth Mine. There are threatened and sensitive wildlife species located within the project area. A spotted owl activity center is located adjacent to the Blue Jay Creek proposed project work. Harlequin ducks use and nest adjacent to Battle Axe Creek. Bald eagles are expected to use the area for foraging. The season of operation proposed for the project is in September and October of 2012. The project is proposed to occur outside the critical nesting period for spotted owls, harlequin ducks and bald eagles so seasonal restrictions on project activities is not needed for their protection. Trees are not proposed to be cut by the project, so habitat is not being altered.

As streamside vegetation is not present or being disturbed, survey and manage species will not be impacted.

If the proposed project schedule changes and activities are proposed to occur from March 1 – August 31 consult the district wildlife biologist for seasonal restrictions and/or surveys needed to protect wildlife species in the project area.

Prepared by: /s/ July 10, 2012
Daryl Whitmore, Detroit RD Wildlife Biologist Date

