Crazy Creek Salvage Timber Sale Process for Leave Trees

Leave Trees (trees reserved from cutting)

OBJECTIVES: The directives outlined were developed to accomplish several forest health objectives: 1) Prepare the site for reforestation; 2) Reduce future fuel loadings; 3) Salvage commercial timber; 4) remove infected tress with mistletoe and, 5) reducing the public safety risk from fire-killed and fire-injured trees.

The fire area received high rates of mortality with some pockets of live trees. Generally, the treatment is designed to remove fire killed trees and infected trees while retaining live trees without disease and the required snag retention with larger snags with good wildlife characteristics. Treatment is intended to springboard the site toward reforestation which is planned for the spring of 2027.

The following are leave tree requirements which are reserved from cutting.

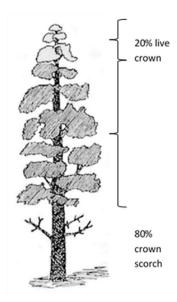
- An average of 1-2 snags per acre will be retained. Snags must be greater than 16" diameter at breast height (DBH) to be considered for the number of snags per acre. Due to unique stand characteristics, snag placement and density will vary throughout the project area. Not every acre will have a snag left on it, though some may have more than required.
- Where applicable, 20-40 BAF of healthy green trees will be retained.
- Generally larger trees will be reserved for snags as opposed to smaller trees.
- Trees with large limb structure should be retained for snag retention.
- Trees with "cat" faces and/or cavities have high wildlife value and should also be retained.
- Trees marked with orange paint and trees outside the fire boundary are reserved from harvest.
- Trees ringed with blue flagging are intended to be buffers, no operations are permitted within buffers unless prior approval by AO.
- Trees marked with cadastral markings (bearing trees, land boundary, etc.)

Harvest Selection Criteria

Trees within the project area will be selected for harvest based on their overall health, which is comprised of mistletoe infection, the Probability of Mortality (PM) in burnt trees as well as the level of snag retention indicated above. The method for determining PM for trees within the project area is described in Post-Fire Assessment of Tree Status and Marking Guidelines for Conifers in Oregon and Washington (Hood et. al, 2020). Due to current drought conditions the BLM will use the threshold of .4 PM.

Table 1

Species	Probability of Mortality	Percent Crown Volume Scorched
Ponderosa Pine 2"-70" DBH	.40	80
Lodgepole Pine 6"-10" DBH	.40	5
Lodgepole Pine 10"-15" DBH	.40	10
Lodgepole Pine >15" DBH	.40	15



Percent crown scorch is a measure of the proportion of foliage that has been killed by the fire relative to the entire amount of foliage that was present before the burn (scorched foliage should be <u>obvious</u> to the naked eye as yellowish brown or red needles). Lower branches dead before the fire should not be included when determining crown scorch.

• Sample marked areas for the unit may be completed prior to harvest operations.