

Survey and Manage Species Report
Smith River National Recreation Area
Restoration and Motorized Travel Management Project (RTMP)
Six Rivers National Forest
November, 2013

Survey and Manage species are associated with late-successional forests which provide habitat components, microclimatic conditions and other life supporting attributes for the persistence of these species at a given site. The only wildlife Survey and Manage species that occurs on the Smith River NRA is the red tree vole (*Arborimus longicaudus*).

The Survey and Manage Standards and Guidelines were developed to benefit species closely associated with late-successional and old-growth forests. Species include plant (vascular and non-vascular), fungi, terrestrial mollusk, aquatic mollusk, and vertebrate species. The Survey and Manage provision for each species would apply to the range (or portion of the range) of that species, to the particular habitats where concerns exist for species' persistence, and where management activities are considered "habitat-disturbing" for that species (USDA/USDI 2001).

Projects are not considered "habitat-disturbing" if they do not occur in potential habitat for the species being considered or if they occur in previously disturbed areas. Projects are exempt from pre-project surveys if the project will not disturb potential habitat. In addition, pre-project surveys are not required when the Pechman exemptions apply, which are provisions ordered by the court in *Northwest Ecosystem Alliance et al. v. Mark E. Rey et al.*, No. 04-844P, (W.D. Wash. October 10, 2006). Pre-project surveys are not required in the following situations:

1. Thinning projects in stands younger than 80 years old;
2. Replacing culverts on roads that are in use and part of the road system, and removing culverts if the road is temporary or to be decommissioned;
3. Riparian and stream improvement projects where the riparian work is riparian planting, obtaining material for placing in-stream, and road or trail decommissioning; and where the stream improvement work is the placement of large wood, channel and floodplain reconstruction, or removal of channel diversions; and
4. The portions of projects involving hazardous fuel treatments where prescribed fire is applied. Any portion of a hazardous fuel treatment project involving commercial logging will remain subject to the survey and manage requirements except for thinning of stands younger than 80 years old under subparagraph a. of this paragraph.

No construction or reconstruction will occur under this project; therefore, no changes in the distribution or abundance of habitat available to Survey and Manage species are anticipated. This project is exempt from pre-project surveys under provision #2 above. Reducing road/route miles across the District will result in a reduction of fragmentation across the landscape and improve habitat conditions for the red tree vole in the long-term.

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