

**South George Vegetation and Fuels Management Project
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
Asotin and Garfield Counties, WA**

Lead Agency:

USDA Forest Service

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Abstract: For this project, USDA Forest Service is proposing vegetation and fuels management to improve forest health, vigor, and resilience to fire, insects, and disease in upland forests that are outside their historical pre-fire suppression conditions for species composition, structural diversity, and stocking densities; reduce fuel loadings; provide sawlogs and wood fiber products for utilization by regional and local industries; and to continue to provide and manage for wildlife habitat and its components (cover and forage).

Four alternatives, including the No Action alternative (Alternative A), are analyzed in the FEIS. Alternative B, proposed action and preferred alternative, would commercially harvest and reduce activity fuels on approximately 3,900 acres. Alternative C is designed to implement project activities with no temporary road construction and to decommission approximately 31 miles of system roads and about 15 miles of unauthorized roads and trails. Alternative C would commercially harvest and reduce activity fuels on approximately 3,900 acres. Alternative D is designed to maintain existing old forest structure and composition in the project planning area. Alternative D would commercially harvest and reduce activity fuels on about 2,600 acres. Other activities proposed in all action alternatives include: natural fuels treatments (1,150 acres); landscape prescribed fire (3,000 acres); and danger tree removal along haul routes and trail heads.