

KENNETH E. DENTON

NEPA Specialist * Program Manager

BACKGROUND

Ken worked for the Forest Service from March 1970 through July 2004 (34 years), mostly in Silviculture at the District, Forest, and Regional level but also serving for five years as District Ranger of the Mono Lake Ranger District and the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area in Region 5. As an analytical thinker with a career of integrating the full range of resource management objectives into stand treatment prescriptions, as a service contract author and COR, and as a Management by Objectives instructor, Ken has the ability to instinctively identify objectives, purpose and need, implementable alternatives, and the analysis elements required by NEPA to display the range of effects of those alternatives.

Ken was the Forest Silviculturist/Timber planner on the Sierra NF, the Region 5 LRMP "Lead Forest", in 1978-81, and attended the first FORPLAN class offered by Dr. Norm Johnson when Norm sold FORPLAN to the Forest Service for standard use in forest planning. In this job, Ken helped design computer modeling techniques for NFMA-required harvest unit dispersal, and for visual "effective alteration" measures, subsequently required for use by the other forests in the Region. While Ranger at Mono Lake 1981-86, Ken was detailed to the Inyo NF planning team to build their FORPLAN model, and also helped with the Mono Basin's private land development guidelines (similar to those for the Columbia Gorge). Becoming Regional Silviculturist in Region 5, 1986-91, Ken was assigned to the Regional LRMP Regional Review Team and then the Regional NEPA Training Cadre. He was asked to move to Portland in 1991 to be on the EIS team adopting the "Jack Ward Thomas" plan for the Forest Service, the "Conservation Strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl." Although in the Regional Silviculturist position in Region 6 from 1994 to 2002, Ken took a key role in several regional-level EIS and plan implementation efforts as listed below.

RELEVANT NEPA EXPERIENCE

Lead Author/NEPA specialist for BLM/FS Survey and Manage SEIS 2006-2007

This SEIS supplemented the 2004 FSEIS to update it and correct court-identified deficiencies. With the Final nearly done in November 2006, the job was expanded to respond to another court decision, adding additional species, another alternative, and requiring issuance of another 90-day public review draft. The expanded Final was completed in May 2007, and The Record of Decision will be signed by the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior in July, 2007.

SEIS Team Leader and lead author for BLM/FS Port-Orford-cedar SEIS 2002-04

This SEIS was to amend the Land and Resource Management Plans for 3 BLM Districts and 1 National Forest. Served as own NEPA and Planning Regulation compliance expert; complied with both BLM and USFS Planning regulations.

Survey and Manage USFS/BLM SEIS 2002

Ken worked 3 months in 2002 on the S&M SEIS effort (until leaving for Port-Orford-cedar), working on Chapters 1 & 2. This work included compiling a detailed table describing the elements of, and differences between, the two agencies and two regions' Special Status Species Programs (SSSP), and helped coordinate the regions' initial efforts to identify what SSSP category each species would be placed in for the SEIS.

Survey and Manage USFS/BLM SEIS 1999-2001

One of 3 core team members. Authored many sections including most of Chapters 1 and 2, Conflicts with other Plans, Other Environmental Consequences, Mitigation, and the Record of Decision (signed by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture). He also co-authored the timber harvest effects section, helping with Probable Sale Quantity predictions. He prepared the first version of the responses to two Survey and Manage lawsuits and worked closely with agency lawyers on those cases.

On “Eastside Screens” Regional Office Oversight Team 1994-2002

Provided field review and assistance to forests ensuring consistent implementation of old-growth direction on the eastside. This direction was added to the eastside (non-owl forests) LRMPs pending completion of the Columbia River Basin ROD, and was in place at least 10 years.

Silviculturist on Regional Ecosystem Office LSR Work Group, 1994-2002.

This group reviewed all silvicultural and planning activities in all NWFP LSRs. Ken authored many of the Group’s finding documents, and was lead author for their two “exemptions” documents, one for pre-commercial thinning and planting, and one for commercial thinning.

Northwest Forest Plan USFS/BLM SEIS team member 1993-94

Ken wrote the portion of Chapter 2 describing the alternatives and all Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs), and compiled the S&Gs attached to the NWFP Record of Decision. He conducted implementation training.

Assistant Team Leader 1992-93 Forest Service Northern Spotted Owl SEIS Team

Ken was responsible for NEPA compliance and overall document design and strategy.

Timber and non-wildlife resource member on Forest Service 1991-92 Northern Spotted Owl EIS Team.

Region 6’s number 1 priority project at the time, the 9-person team completed this EIS in 9 months.

Member of the R-5 NEPA Training Cadre 1988-91

Member of the R-5 Regional Office Forest Land Management Plan Review Team charged with certifying adequacy of Plans before they went to the RF for signature. He was a member of a small Regional Office strike team assisting one Forest with several planning issues, and member of a trial effort to have an RO-level team respond to the appeals to one R-5 Forest Plan.

EDUCATION

1970 B.S. in Natural Resources from Humboldt State