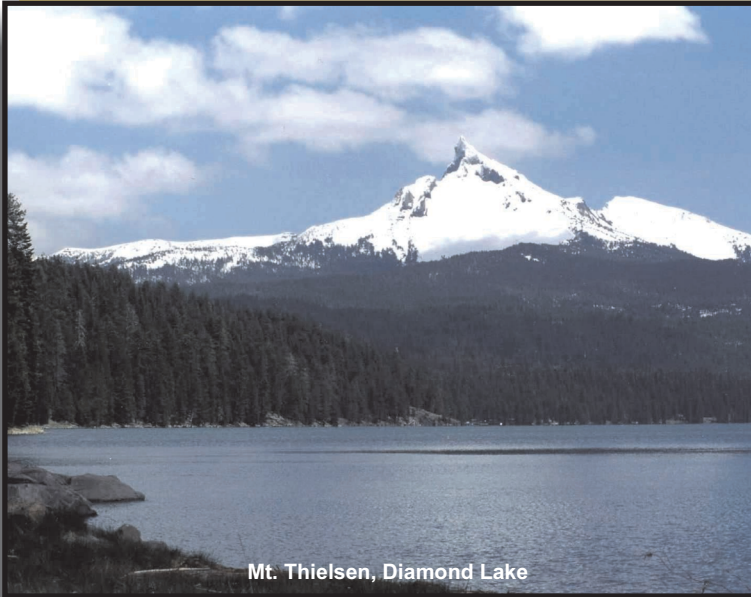




# UMPQUA NATIONAL FOREST

## *Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team*



Mt. Thielsen, Diamond Lake

### Introduction

Umpqua National Forest employees rose to an incredible challenge in fighting the record fires of 2002. Since then, employees have risen to an even greater challenge of restoring many areas affected by those fires while also overcoming an enormous backlog of projects delayed by fire fighting, fire transfer, and competing priorities. The effort was huge but the payoffs are equally huge: we start FY2005 with nearly normal performance expectations rather than a large backlog of work.

### *Program Highlights*

The Rogue/Umpqua Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) reviewed and recommended 33 projects for fiscal year 2005 on the Umpqua National Forest totaling \$1.9 million in Douglas County, \$339,000 in Lane County, and \$8,840 in Jackson County.

Nominations for the next round of RAC members were submitted to the Regional Office on time.

Our fire preparedness review that included 30-mile abatement items rated the Forest highly.

The Forest's Strategic Plan was completed in May.

New permittee established for Lemolo Lake Lodge - many resort facilities upgraded.

### Restoring Diamond Lake

Unacceptable water quality and a devastated recreational fishery now characterize Diamond Lake, once an ecological, recreational, and economic jewel of the Region. The Diamond Lake Restoration Project continues to be a high priority for the Umpqua National Forest and we have made significant progress toward our restoration goals this fiscal year.

In 2004, the Forest Service served as Lead Agency and enlisted the two State agencies with jurisdictional responsibilities at Diamond Lake to serve as Cooperating Agencies. Together, we are preparing the Environmental Impact Statement for this project. Additionally, the Umpqua National Forest continued to cooperate with the multi-agency Work Group in our partnered effort to fill scientific data gaps and engage interested publics.

We completed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and released it for public comment on April 2, 2004. We also requested, and received, a peer review of the DEIS by a panel of experts from Portland State University's Center for Lakes and Reservoirs. We secured approximately \$380,000 of Title II funding from the Rogue/Umpqua Resource Advisory Committee for use on canal-reconstruction activities, the initial implementation phase of the project, and completed the preliminary contracting work necessary to begin canal reconstruction in the spring of 2005.

Work is underway on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). We anticipate the decision sometime this fall. Public relation challenges, as well as the addition of alternatives late in the FEIS process, have slowed EIS progress this summer. However, no delays in implementation are expected to date, and the Forest Service and Work Group partners are proceeding with preliminary fund raising efforts in anticipation of a fall 2004 ROD.

————— **Our Pride is the Forest, Service is Our Legacy** —————

# Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

## Regional Forester's Review

---

In May, the Umpqua National Forest hosted a Regional Forester's Review. The Review Team was composed of Regional Forester Linda Goodman, Deputy Regional Foresters Jim Golden and Mike Ash, Associate Regional Forester April Willson, Regional Directors Kimberly Bown, Richard Sowa, and Cal Joyner, Deschutes Forest Supervisor Leslie Weldon, and Shane Jeffries. Among the Umpqua's objectives for their visit was an assessment of how well we are accomplishing the seven regional priorities, whether we can use collaborative methods as we work on our timber program, and how we can improve the work environment on the Umpqua. The Team looked at resources in the field, met with local groups and individuals to talk about relationships, forest management, and collaboration, and spent considerable time with employees discussing organizational-health subjects. The Team's report was shared with employees and is available to others on the Umpqua site. The Umpqua Executive Team is implementing an action plan to respond to many of the Regional Forester's Review Team recommendations and that, too, is available on the web site. Overall, we enjoyed a successful Regional Forester's Review.



## Managing Work Assignments

---

### Financial Management

- Umpqua National Forest achieved all Performance Attainment Reporting targets with no deficits. Financial Health standards were met in the categories of accounts payable, accounts receivable, capitalization of real and personal property assets, timber sale accounting, and agreement (partnership accounting).
- Significant support was provided to the financial management of Title II projects funded from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.
- Significant financial and Reviewing Officer support was provided to several Regional Competitive Sourcing Studies including Forest Service Fleet Maintenance, Water and Wastewater Treatment Plans, Road Maintenance, and Trail Maintenance.
- The Forest took part in the Office of Inspector General Annual Financial Statement Audit and completed preparatory work for the national centralization of Forest Service financial management services to the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Service Center.

# Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

## Regional Priority - Restoring Fire-Dependent Ecosystems

### National Fire Plan

#### Emphasis Area: Fire/Hazardous Fuels

- Accomplished hazardous fuels treatments with a primary emphasis on wildland urban interface (WUI) areas; improved condition class in Fire Regimes 1, 2 or 3. Contributed to the Region's commitment to treat 128,390 acres of hazardous fuels and 86,467 acres of other fuels. Accomplished 110% of hazardous fuels target and greatly exceeded other fuels target.

Hazardous Fuels Funds	Treated	553 WUI ac	Target	65 ac
Hazardous Fuels Funds	Treated	399 Non-WUI ac	Target	775 ac
Other Funds	Treated	840 WUI ac	Target	75 ac
Other Funds	Treated	1,750 Non-WUI ac	Target	1,263 ac

- Developed a Draft Integrated Fuels/Vegetation Treatment Strategy, Five-Year Action Plan that ties directly to the Umpqua National Forest Restoration Business Plan.

#### Emphasis Area: Fire Management

- Completed an Interagency Fire Management Plan with Roseburg District BLM and collaborated with USFWS, adjacent national forests and forest protection associations. Well-integrated-suppression and fuels-treatment strategies are incorporated in the Fire Management Plan.
- Ensured compliance with fire management safe operating practices. As part of the Regional Preparedness Review that included 30-Mile abatement items, the Review Team declared the Forest well prepared for the fire season.
- Certified Type 3 incident commanders through simulations. Conducted ICT 3, 4, 5 refreshers, numerous annual fire refreshers, and WFSA training which was well attended by line officers.
- Worked closely with cooperators and agreed on operating plans that included fire fighter safety as #1 priority.
- Forest Supervisor issued a letter describing expectations for appropriate behavior and avoidance of alcohol or drugs on fire assignments.
- Met Most Efficient Level target per direction to staff at last year's level. The Umpqua had a light fire season: 27 fires burned 12 acres. Initial attack efforts were very successful, supplemented with severity resources. The Forest hosted a National Type 1 helicopter to supplement the loss of airtankers; no accidents. We supported an Oregon Department of Forestry/Douglas Forest Protection Association Type 1 incident with the helicopter and personnel. We sent 346 people (FS, USFWS, Job Corps) off forest to assist with regional and national incidents. Ten employees supported regional and national incident management teams.
- Assisted communities and cooperators with wildfire protection plans and risk assessments. Assisted Douglas County in cooperation with Roseburg BLM and Douglas Forest Protection Association (DFPA) in producing Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans (first in the nation for a county plan). Reviewed grant proposals submitted by Douglas County. The Forest has productive relationships with BLM, DFPA and adjoining neighbors. The Forest Supervisor is an ex-officio member of the DFPA Board of Directors. Worked with BLM and DFPA to move ahead with Interagency Dispatching; funding is a continuing challenge.

#### Regional Priority - Fire Restoration

- Used NFVW, RTRT, and Title II funds to reforest 2,800 acres within areas burned in 2002 fires (Apple Fire and Tiller Complex); planted all trees available and nearly doubled our target. Using a combination of funds, cooperated with J. Herbert Stone Nursery to establish and plant Q-plugs along with bare root and other plugs. This appeared to be a successful year for survival and growth. Evaluations indicate that the Q-plugs show economic benefits and strong root systems at an early age.
- Prepared plans for additional acres for restoration within the 2002 fires and 2003 Kelsay Fire; additional funding is needed to restore these fire areas.
- Completed BAER projects for 2002 Apple/Tiller Fire emergency work.



North Umpqua River and Apple Fire of 2002  
Photo Taken in 2004



# Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

## Hazardous Fuels Reduction



### Regional Priority - Invasive Species

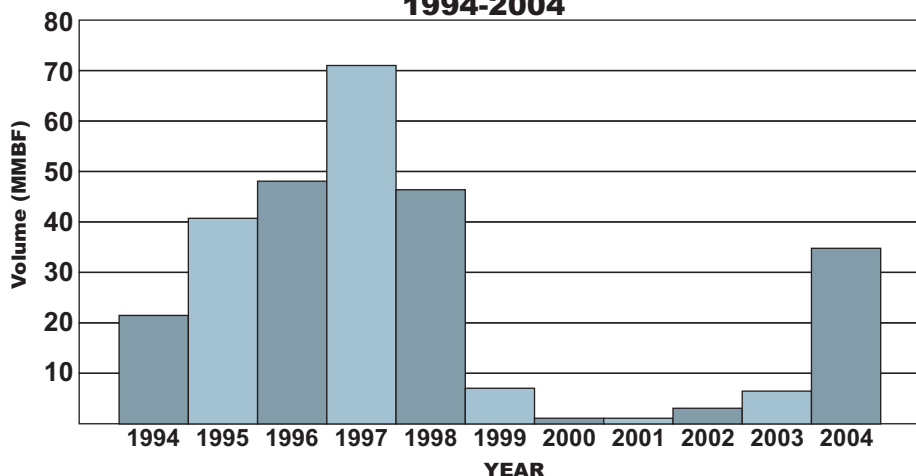
- Treated 328 acres of noxious weeds; met target.
- Treated 1,000 acres to reduce risk of blister rust using SPFH forest health dollars (pruned five-needle pine and density management for sugar pine).
- Implemented the 2003 Environmental Assessment for Integrated Noxious Weed Management on the Forest emphasizing prevention measures to discourage weed establishment and a broad array of weed treatments.
- Worked with local noxious weed partners including Oregon Department of Agriculture, Douglas County Soil and Water District, and Roseburg District BLM.
- Expanded the Forest's native species program to provide native plant materials for wildfire restoration.
- Provided seed, resistant to Port-Orford-cedar root disease to restore a portion of the Biscuit Fire through Dorena Genetics Resource Center (GRC).
- Contributed to the National Invasive Species Strategy and the National White Pine Blister Rust Report.

### Timber Targets

#### Regional Priority - Northwest Forest Plan

- Offered approximately 36 million board feet (MMBF); 19 active timber sales, mostly in Matrix lands. FY 2004 target was 22 MMBF, carryover target was 23 MMBF of which 10 MMBF lost due to salvage deterioration.
- Spotlighted Tomatillo, a Late Successional Reserve (LSR) thinning project, in the news because of local support for the sale. The LSR thinning sale was supported by local environmental groups, with no appeals.
- Acker and Ash EIS's converted to CE's, using the new CE Category 13, Salvage of Dead and Dying Trees. Also did Kelsay and Molasses under this new CE authority.
- Generated five sales from the Baked Apple Fire Salvage for a total of 23.85 mmbf.
- Formed three new forest timber teams; Admin, Sale Prep and Planning Teams.

**Umpqua National Forest Timber Accomplishments  
1994-2004**





# Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

## Active district projects include.....

- Generated 4,950 Special Forests Products permits for a total of \$87,329.

## Other resource accomplishments as follows:

### Regional Priority - Range

- Published the revised Notice of Intent to prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in the Federal Register for the Drew Creek, Diamond Rock and Divide cattle allotments on the Tiller Ranger District. Estimated date for completion is October 2004 for the Supplemental Draft EIS and December 2004 for the Final EIS.

### Transportation and Facilities Engineering

#### Regional Priority - Access

- Awarded contracts for all major Regional Capital Investment Program projects on the Forest including Dorena Genetics Center Office, two boat ramps, comfort station interior rehab, three fish passage projects, and new electrical controls for seven sewage pump stations and two water wells. Completed design work on all Title II infrastructure projects. Completed engineering work for 21 construction contracts, 9 timber sales, and 18 service contracts. Ended the backlog created by fire borrowing and 2002 fire season.
- Completed the Forest Facilities Master Plan for administrative sites and facilities.
- Eliminated backlog of inspections for 76 bridges.
- Completed all requirements for condition surveys, data collection, and reporting for annual and deferred maintenance, real property, and INFRA within required time frames.
- Completed close-out reports for five ERFO storm events.

### Hydropower

- Worked with North Umpqua Hydropower Project licensee PacifiCorp to finalize and approve seven implementation/management plans.
- Worked with other Settlement Agreement parties in the planning, design and construction of 12,000 square feet of spawning habitat, and placed 4,000 tons of spawning gravel.
- Worked effectively with PacifiCorp and other parties on elements of new Project license that are not affected by current litigation, including Early Implementation Projects, recreation management, and designs of license dependent protection and enhancement measures. Assisted PacifiCorp in developing a fire management plan for their facilities and powerlines.



### Recreation, Wilderness and Heritage

- Completed four *Passport In Time* projects with 47 volunteers, totaling 2,596 volunteer hours.
- Completed analysis of campground concession alternatives compared to current Fee Demo operations for major developed sites on the Forest. Also, completed "Sense of Place" study.
- Reviewed recreation opportunities. Added additional sites to the Rec-Fee Demo program based upon new Fee Demo "Blue Print."
- Received recognition from Regional Recreation Fee Demo Board of Directors that our fee program development, operation and implementation were well executed.



## *Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team*

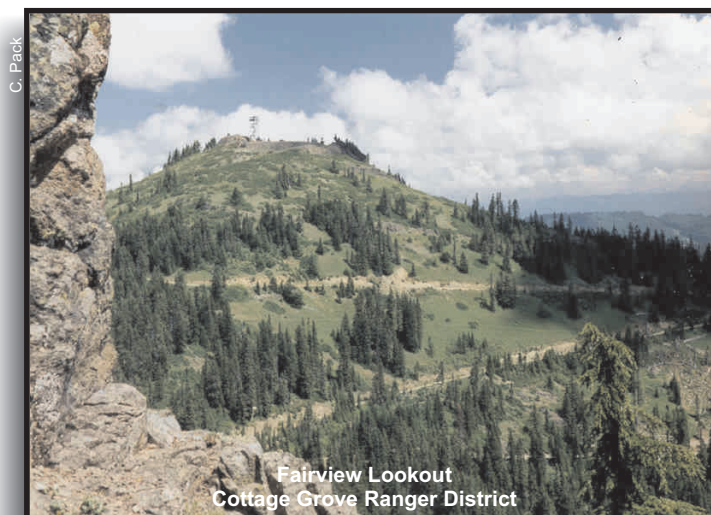
- Maintained approximately 40 percent of the Forest trail system to standard, and all developed recreation sites were maintained to meet or exceed “critical” Meaningful Measure standards.
- Completed fieldwork for damage assessments for six archaeological sites impacted by 2002 fire suppression activities. Prepared and awarded an indefinite quantity (IDIQ) Heritage resources site-evaluation and data-recovery contract.
- Published two brochures for interpreting and protecting two rock art sites, and completed Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places for three historic sites.

### **Minerals and Geology**

- Emphasized administration of locatable and common minerals operations.
- Developed response to three mining plan of operations NEPA appeal decisions; responded to one 36 CFR 251 mining appeal.
- Completed a draft Forest Cave Management Plan, and a site-specific cave management plan.

### **Lands and Special Uses**

- Emphasized administration of special use permits in a timely manner.
- Provided input to congressional staff and WO on proposed legislation on sale of surplus administrative sites.
- Resolved two major encroachment cases, and investigated three other encroachments.
- Evaluated, issued and administered five telecommunication-site-related permits.
- Issued permit to new owners of Lemolo Lake Resort.
- Initiated work on two land exchange projects located in Cougar Bluffs area, upslope of the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River.
- Conducted Title VI compliance reviews at two recreation resorts.



## **Technical Expertise and Advice**

---

### **Responsive to other Forests, RO, and WO requests for Information, Advice and Technical Support**

- Forest Archeologist worked as R6 ARPA Master Performer and served as acting Regional Archeologist for one month.
- The Forest Geotechnical Engineer served as the Regional Dams Engineer for all Oregon national forests, and provides assistance to the San Dimas T&D Center and the Federal Highway Administration on technology development projects.
- Our recreation program manager served on the Regional recreation capital investment project evaluation team.
- Forest Special Uses Specialist served as Regional SUDS Coordinator.

## Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

- Forest Landscape Architect provided assistance to national scenic byway enterprise team.
- The Forest Environmental Coordinator participated in the Regional 1900-I Cadre.
- The Planning Team's Wildlife Biologist spent the year working with the Regional Spotted Owl Habitat Analysis Team.
- The Forest provided 20 people to the Region for participation on the Appeal Review Teams.
- Advised Douglas County along with Roseburg BLM, DFPA, and Douglas County Emergency Management, introducing Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
- Forest and Dorena GRC personnel were instrumental in helping formulate portions of the land and resource management plan amendment (SEIS) for Port-Orford-cedar.
- The National Tree Climbing Program, based at Dorena GRC, organized training for climbers to help eradicate invasive insect pests in several of our major cities.
- Dorena GRC worked with the international community establishing cooperative projects with China, Germany, and Canada relating to invasive species; and provided expertise to projects outside of Region 6 such as *Acacia koa* and koa wilt disease in Hawaii.

### Integration with Science

- Finalized agreement with Penn State and West Virginia universities for winter recreation user survey to be conducted during 2004/2005.

### Interpersonal Relations and Partnerships

#### Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000

- Approved 60 FY05 projects that were reviewed and recommended by the Rogue/Umpqua RAC.
- Submitted nominations for the next round of RAC members to the Regional Office.

#### Partnerships

- Assigned an interim partnership coordinator through May 2005 to help the Umpqua achieve the program identified in the Forest's Strategic Plan completed this May.
- Assessed each unit for its partnership capacity using an assessment tool from the Washington Office.
- Established MOA with Douglas County RSVP program as conduit for volunteers.

#### Community Based

- OWEB awarded a \$98,000 grant to the Tiller Ranger District for Boulder Creek Instream Wood Restoration. The project is a cooperative partnership between the District and the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council.
- The Forest Executive Team actively worked with a broad cross section of local community members and organizations to obtain input and feedback in the development of the Forest Strategic Plan.
- Southern Oregon citizens celebrated community life along the Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway on June 4-5 with two dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremonies, and community activities attended by over 500 people. We honored 14 partners of the Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway with national designation plaques identical to the original awarded by US Transportation Secretary Mineta.



Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway Dedication/Celebration Events

— Our Pride is the Forest, Service is Our Legacy —



## Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

- Forest and Dorena GRC cooperated on invasive species with many partners such as BLM, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Quinault Indian Nation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Washington DNR, National Park Service, Josephine County, Bangor Naval Station, PSW, PNW, RM Research Stations, British Columbia Forest Research, Canadian Forest Service and Oregon State University.

### Volunteers

- Maintained hiking trails through the volunteer group, Motley Crew, comprised of eight Forest Service retirees.
- The local Oregon Equestrian Trails group maintained horse trails, camps, signs and shelters.
- CREST Ambulance volunteers responded to emergencies in the Toketee and Diamond Lake area, buying precious time for people who needed help 75 miles away from the nearest hospital.
- Edelweiss Ski Club helped maintain the Hemlock Butte cabin on Mt. Bailey.
- Several Boy Scout troops cut firewood for the Hemlock Butte cabin, and improved trails and campgrounds as their Eagle Scout projects.



### Intergovernmental

- Worked with County and State health agencies on monitoring and implementation of public health alerts related to Diamond Lake water quality.
- Worked cooperatively with Douglas County, BLM, Oregon Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on Scenic Byway enhancements and improvements to highways that access the Forest.
- Completed office collocation feasibility study with BLM, NOAA Fisheries, US Fish and Wildlife Service and four other local USDA agencies.
- Dorena GRC worked closely with BLM, NPS, BIA, ODF, Region 5 and OSU in developing disease resistant Port-Orford-cedar, western white pine and sugar pine.
- Worked with BLM, ODF, counties, NPS and other forests on managing wildland fires, reducing hazardous fuels and improving Condition Class, and developing community wildfire protection plans.
- Responded to all FOIA requests in a timely and professional manner.
- Made important accomplishments in Tribal relations including:
  - Tribal representation on archaeological evaluation projects and *Passport in Time*.
  - Pow-wow held at South Umpqua Falls, a traditional use area of the Cow Creek, with recreation fee waivers for Tribal members.
  - On-going meetings between the Forest Supervisor and Tribal Chair of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians.
  - Tribal relations training session completed for Executive Team members.
  - The proposed Forest Plan Amendment for the Huckleberry Patch Special Interest Area
- Participated in tourism and marketing efforts of a multi-agency family of brochures with Rogue Umpqua Scenic Byway partners, and Douglas County Recreation Providers group (BLM, Douglas County Parks, Umpqua National Forest).

## Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

- Successfully worked with the Oregon State Marine Board in jointly funding and awarding contracts for improvement to three boating facilities at Diamond Lake.
- Participated with Roseburg BLM in North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River Corridor management through Service First activities.

### Watershed Focused

#### Regional Priority - Aquatics

- Completed another highly successful year with eight partners of Umpqua Fishwatch, a long-running program of salmon protection and public information. The consortium of local, state, and federal agencies and groups resulted in no fish losses from illegal activities while providing conservation education to a large number of Forest visitors.
- Progressed with the Watershed Improvement Tracking Pilot of the NRIS/Water Module. Enabled the Umpqua to use WIT to report watershed accomplishments through the Interagency Restoration Database to REO and the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.
- Monitored aquatic and terrestrial realm including falcons, eagles, aquatic macro-invertebrates, fish populations, and water quality.
- Southwest Oregon PAC field reviewed a habitat enhancement project for *Calochortus umpquaensis*, a lily on the Tiller Ranger District; the PAC determined that the project complied with the Northwest Forest Plan.
- Developed a new gauging plan and installed 8 USGS gages on the North Umpqua River.



Steamboat Creek Steelhead, North Umpqua Ranger District

### Watershed Restoration Accomplishments

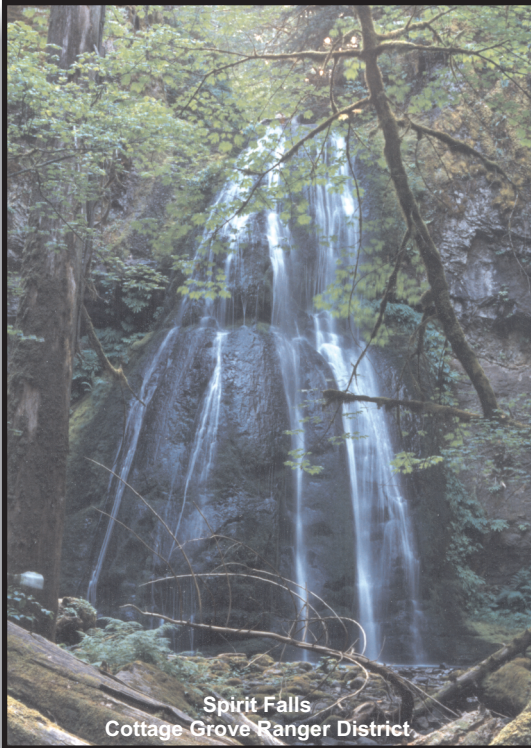
- Completed aquatic habitat enhancement, erosion control projects and culvert inventory as part of the North Umpqua Hydropower Project.
- Completed 4.8 miles of road decommissioning using Title II, Hydropower and Forest Service Funds.
- Fish passage improvements completed or underway at two road crossings.
- Restored and enhanced four miles of anadromous fish streams - placed large wood in Boulder Creek within fire restoration area; met target.
- Restored/enhanced 235 acres of terrestrial wildlife habitat, including thinning in LSR within Steamboat Creek, our highest priority watershed; exceeded target.
- **Diamond Lake** - kept public safe throughout the season. The Forest cooperated in developing sampling techniques and management guidelines for public health in response to toxic algae blooms in 2001. Protocols are now used to deal with algae bloom health issues in high elevation lakes in the Region. Completed Diamond Lake Restoration Project DEIS and will release the FEIS this fall. Leveraged Title II monies to reconstruct the draw down canal; on track to treat the lake in 2006 pending funding.
- Completed Upper South Umpqua Watershed Assessment; met target.

### Leading, Coaching, Supervising and EEO/CR

- Successfully implemented new Forest engineering and timber organizations with Forest-wide timber sale planning team, timber presale and administration teams, Forest-wide road maintenance team, and two Forest-wide project engineering teams.
- Complied with direction to add Leadership, Planning and Monitoring supplemental standards to Element #4 of the Performance Standards for the Forest Supervisor, and all Rangers, Supervisors and Managers. Additional supplemental standards were added for the Forest Supervisor and Rangers with fire program management responsibilities.
- Forest Supervisor served as line officer on the Dorena GRC Steering Committee.

# Fiscal Year 2004 Final Report to the Regional Executive Team

D. Hudson



Spirit Falls  
Cottage Grove Ranger District

## Challenges and Emerging Issues

Restore Diamond Lake to a "fishable, swimmable" condition.

Increase hazardous fuels reduction and other thinning activities to improve resource conditions and reduce hazards to communities and firefighters.

Commitment to recovery of areas burned in 2002 and 2003.

Commitment to a safe, productive work environment for our employees.

In the next year, we will begin support efforts to re-authorize Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and find greater community agreement about elements of our timber program.

- Forest Supervisor served on Steering Committee for R6 Invasive Plants EIS, a fire Cost-Containment Team, and was a member of the Regional Leadership Team and the National Recruitment Council.

## EEO/Civil Rights

- Conducted a Tri-Forest Civil Rights program review (Umpqua, Rogue River-Siskiyou national forests).
- Filled a full-time Umpqua, Rogue River-Siskiyou national forests Equal Employment Specialist position.
- Provided an American Indian Council member to the Workforce Diversity Council.
- EEO Specialist serves on the USDA Asian American Pacific Islander Advisory Council.

## Safety

- All of the Forest's required safety programs were reviewed and updated. In addition, Forest and site-specific programs were drafted and include such programs as lockout-tag-outs, hearing conservation, fall protection, forklifts, occupant emergency plans, respiratory protection, used oil, and personal protective equipment.
- Initiated an allergic reactions program with the assistance of the Regional Office; permission was granted by the Regional Forester to allow the Forest to obtain prescription medications for treatment of life-threatening allergic reactions.

- Engaged in Unit Managers in the Forest's annual facility review process, which assists unit staff and employees in anticipating and recognizing hazards which are evaluated, and corrected.
- Continued an excellent working relationship with Federal and State OSHA and demonstrated a continuing good-faith effort to provide safe employment and a safe place of employment.

## Teamwork

---

### Program Integration

- The Forest Executive Team provided oversight of the implemented new budget management guidelines, a new program of work and budget process ("work chunk").
- The Forest Executive Team implemented a new team making decisionmaking process, self-facilitation process for team meetings.

### Team Relations

- Coordination with Rogue River-Siskiyou national forests.
- Huckleberry Patch Mineral Special Interest Area.
- Rogue-Umpqua Scenic Byway dedication and enhancements.
- Share boundary survey skills.
- Title II project development.
- Implemented the FY2004 Target Forest organization through negotiated Memorandum of Agreement with local Union on implementation process. We resolved all of the 26 filled positions on the Forest that were to be reduced.
- Continued healthy relationship through the Umpqua Partnership Council.