

1998 Northwest Forest Plan Accomplishment Report

Ecosystem Benefits

The direct results of land management include clean water, healthy forests and thriving fisheries. The other benefits include products useful to the citizens living near and within watersheds.

Ecosystem Analyses

It is our responsibility as land stewards and managers to know the conditions of the land and the natural variability of these conditions. This knowledge is gained through the use of the latest scientific research methods. These analytical procedures tell us the extent to which ecosystems can be modified without harmful effects.

Ecosystem Protection

Agencies have assessments completed for 75% of late successional reserve acres. Almost every forest is doing protection treatment in those late successional reserves. Treatments include thinning young tree stands to help move them toward late successional conditions. This work will help protect species dependent on these condition.

Ecosystem Monitoring

Plan actions are monitored in the adaptive management process, evaluated, and used to revise Plan goals, provide new knowledge and technology and supplement ecosystem inventories.

Ecosystem Benefits



Northwest Forest Plan rural community assistance training is available to workers about how to collect special forest products and ensure sustainable crops in the future.

1998 Accomplishments - Ecosystem Benefits

This table reflects the amount of timber offered for sale, as well as values of special forest products, from lands managed by the Forest Service under the Northwest Forest Plan.

MMBF = Million Board Feet

	Timber Offered MMBF	Christmas Trees (\$ Thousand)	Firewood (\$ Thousand)	Other* (\$ Thousand)
California	159.1	121.2	97.7	68.4
Oregon	317.2	103.2	197.0	644.1
Washington	99.9	73.4	105.3	562.9
Total	576.2	297.8	400.0	1,275.4

*Includes mushrooms, boughs, medicinal herbs, cones, beargrass, etc.

Ecosystem Analysis



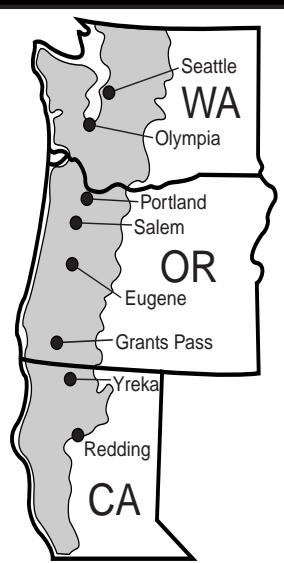
Information learned from assessment of late successional reserves is used to improve land management -- for example, the treatment of young forest stands to create future late successional/old growth forests.

1998 Accomplishments - Ecosystem Analysis

This graph illustrates the number of watershed analyses completed in 1998. Also shown is the area managed by the Forest Service and included in the analyses.

	Number Completed	Acres
California	4	268,000
Oregon	13	446,704
Washington	15	813,485
Total	32	1,528,189

Watershed analysis establishes a comprehensive, shared and standardized information base for use by all agencies and the public.



The Northwest Forest Plan presents a vision for a sustainable future for Federal natural resources and for local timber dependent communities within the range of the northern spotted owl (area in gray).

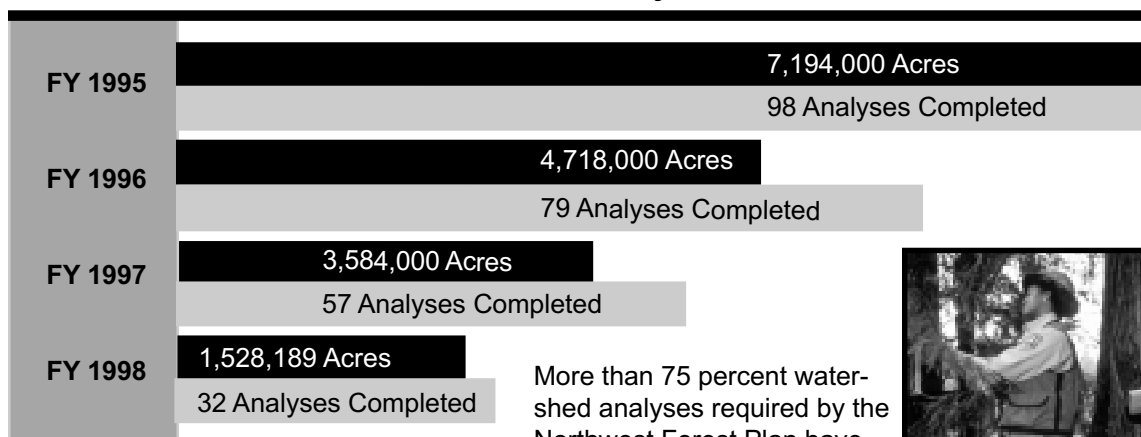
Building on Success

This unique Plan is making a difference. Now more than ever before, agencies are working side by side to achieve mutually acceptable actions to restore and maintain ecological and economic sustainability.

Ongoing efforts to find ways to protect and restore salmon runs (and other fish populations) in the Northwest are drawing heavily on ecosystem analysis process, forest management direction, and interagency cooperation demonstrated in the Plan.

Across 19 National Forests, more than 75 percent of watersheds covered by the Northwest Forest Plan have been analyzed, and are now setting the stage for a variety of watershed efforts, including watershed restoration.

1995 - 1998 Watershed Analysis Trends



More than 75 percent watershed analyses required by the Northwest Forest Plan have been completed since 1995.



Monitoring helps track results, adjust the course of the Northwest Forest Plan

Under the Northwest Forest Plan, we monitor what we do and how well we do it.

Monitoring what we do (implementation monitoring) is an interdisciplinary process. We allow other federal agencies, province advisory committees, and citizens to view our work and evaluate our accomplishments. These people help us to determine whether or not the plan is being implemented correctly.

We also monitor how well we do in managing for certain species (effectiveness monitoring) and deter-

mine whether or not the plan's objectives are being met.

Locally focused ecosystem analysis and management guides have been developed for nearly all watersheds, Late-Successional Reserves, and Adaptive Management Areas in the Northwest Forest Plan area. Innovative systems for monitoring the compliance with and effectiveness of the Northwest Forest Plan were developed and implemented.

Please visit our website at www.fs.fed.us/r6 or contact our Regional Office, Public Affairs, for more information at (503) 808-2971 or write to us at PO Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208-3623.

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A Review of Progress by the USDA Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest and Northern California.

Ecosystem Restoration

Ecosystem restoration activities may include repairs to roads that are causing damage to stream channels, replanted stream-side vegetation, or forests thinned to promote late-successional old growth species.



NW Economic Adjustment Initiative

Communities are making decisions about their futures together with interagency natural resource managers. Cooperating partners have left lasting impressions on the landscape and upon each other.

Ecosystem Restoration



The expense of restoring damaged resources is a responsible investment in the future -- increasing the future values and benefits of healthy and functioning ecosystems.

FY 1998 Accomplishments - Ecosystem Restoration

This table reflects improvements made to roads -- such as drain dips, bridges, outsoles, water-bars, stabilized fill slopes, and culvert replacements -- that reduce and prevent damage from erosion to water quality, riparian ecosystems and fish habitat.

	Culverts & Bridges (Sites)	Road Stabilization (Miles)	Road Surface (Miles)	Road Revegetation (Acres)	Road Decommissioned (Miles)
California	136	963	32	35	25
Oregon	25	468	78	146	71
Washington	24	128	8	251	95
Total	185	1,559	118	432	191

Ecosystem Restoration



Stream restoration projects can include placing logs and boulders into streams. These materials are vital for salmon and steelhead because they create pools and riffles that are more characteristic of healthy salmon habitat.

FY 1998 Accomplishments - Ecosystem Restoration

Reported here are mechanical, structural and non-structural improvements that are made to riparian areas, streams and uplands to stabilize and restore their structures and functions. These improvements include actions -- such as the placement of logs on the slope contour -- that stabilize soil movement.

	Riparian Structural/Mechanical Imprvmnt (Acres)	Riparian Vegetation (thinning, etc..) (Acres)	Nonfish Streams (Miles)	Fish Streams		Upland Imprvmnt* (Acres)
				Anadromous (Miles)	Inland (Miles)	
California	10	23	10	153	14	2,087
Oregon	6	3,219	22	59	34	216
Washington	36	617	31	31	12	1,248
Total	52	3,859	63	243	60	3,551

*Upland Improvement includes projects conducted in areas above the riparian zone.

Ecosystem Restoration Trends '94-'98

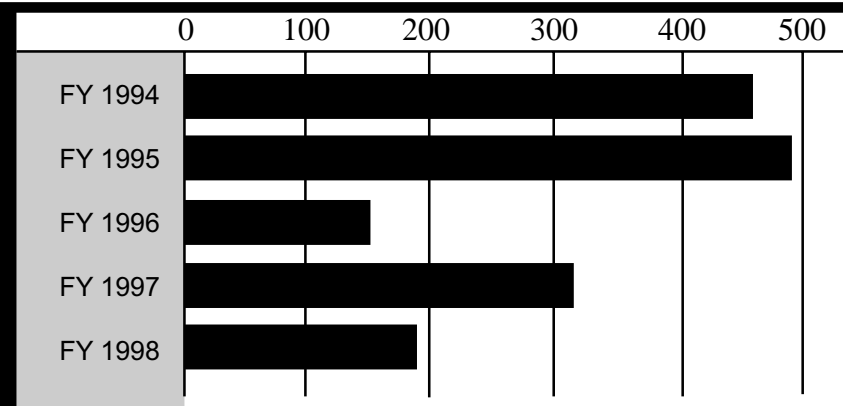


Decommissioning roads can simply involve "ripping" the road surface to restore surface soil conditions to allow for the eventual revegetation of the roaded area. It

can also involve much more, complex movement of fill-slope soil and rocks back onto the "cut" bank, removal of culverts, recontouring the slope, reforestation and reseeding native grasses and other plants on the old road surface.

1994 - 1998 Road Decommissioning (in miles)

Each year, roads are decommissioned by land management agencies under the direction of the Northwest Forest Plan. This reduction in miles and numbers of federal roads results in benefits to many resources -- especially fisheries and aquatic habitat. With fewer miles of roads, agencies can do a better job managing and maintaining essential access to federal lands and improve present transportation systems.



NW Economic Adjustment Initiative

The Forest Service Role in the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative

The Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative has combined the resources of 12 federal agencies and 3 state governments to deliver over one billion dollars in assistance to Pacific Northwest communities since 1994. The beneficiaries of this assistance have been hundreds of counties, tribes, and local governments that have been economically impacted by reductions in federal timber harvests.

The Forest Service has played a significant role in this effort, awarding over \$48 million to cost-share 790 community-determined projects in Oregon, Washington and California between 1994 and 1998. In the same time period, all cooperating agencies have spent over \$150 million actively implementing a watershed restoration/Jobs-in-the-Woods program, including more than 2,300 projects which provided in excess of 1,440 jobs, where each job represents 200 days of work.

What is especially noteworthy about the Initiative is its innovative approach to providing assistance to affected communities. Through the Community Economic Revitalization Teams formed in each of the three states, state and federal partners have acted as a clearinghouse, or "one-stop shop," to combine and leverage their funding, to eliminate duplication of services, and to reduce the confusion for communities seeking help. The result of this collaborative process has been a simple, reliable way for communities to access technical and financial help, without needing to know the regulations, application deadlines and program requirements of every agency.

Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative

	Rural Community Assistance \$Million	Jobs-in-the-Woods \$Million	Old Growth Diversification \$Million
1994	9.6	20.0	6.3
1995	9.3	12.1	4.8
1996	10.9	13.5	2.9
1997	11.4	14.3	2.9
1998	9.3	11.3	3.4
Total	50.5	71.2	20.3

*New Grants in 1998: Oregon - 57; Washington - 46; California - 45. Active Grants in All Three States: 596