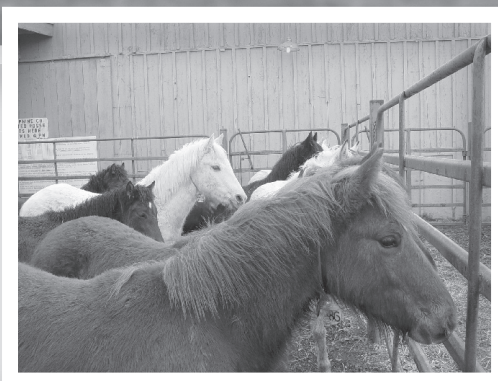
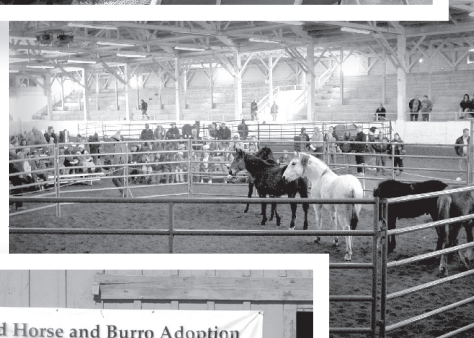
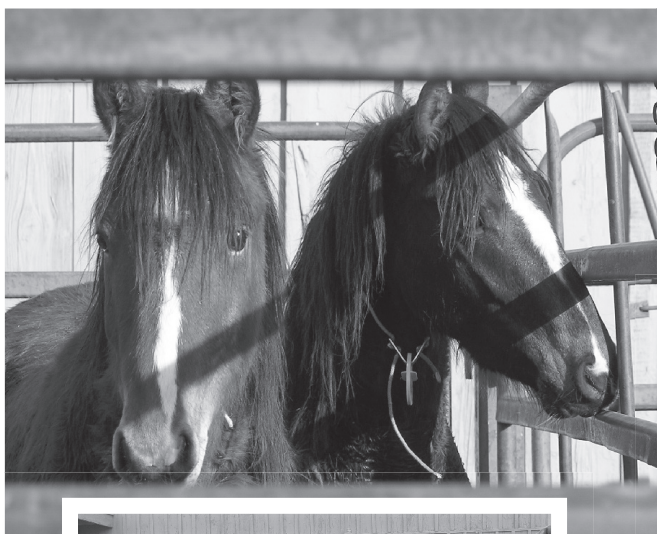
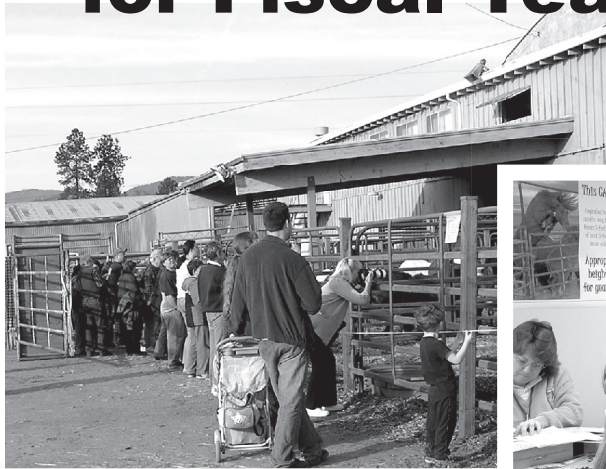


ANNUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY AND MONITORING REPORT for Fiscal Year 2006

BLM



Medford District

Public Lands U.S.A.: Use, Share, Appreciate



Cover Photos: Scenes from the 2006 Wild Horse and Burro Adoption at the Josephine County Fairgrounds in Grants Pass, OR. Clockwise from the top: Horses in the corrals draw plenty of visitors. BLM employees help the public fill out the paperwork for adoption. Oral bidding in progress. Adoption banner. Available horses in the corrals (last 3 pictures).

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504

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**ANNUAL PROGRAM
SUMMARY and
MONITORING REPORT**

for Fiscal Year 2006

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INTRODUCTION

This Annual Program Summary is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management for the period of October 2005 through September 2006. The program summary is designed to report to the public, local, state and federal agencies a broad overview of activities and accomplishments for fiscal year 2006. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, Jobs-in-the-Woods, forestry, recreation, and other programs. Included in this summary is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

In April 1994 the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl was signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior. The RMP/ROD was approved and adopted in April 1995, and incorporated the Standards and guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan in the form of Management Actions/Directions.

Both the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) and the Resource Management Plan (RMP) embrace the concepts of ecosystem management in a broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land use allocations covering all federal lands within the range of the spotted owl were established in the NFP. The BLM conducts analyses such as watershed analyses and late-successional

reserve assessments at a landscape scale and keeps adjacent landowners informed of the results. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been developed for implementation at the regional level.

Implementation of the NFP began in April 1994 with the signing of the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision. Subsequently, with the signing of the RMP Record of Decision in April 1995, the Medford District began implementation of the RMP which incorporates all aspects of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The Medford District administers approximately 859,000 acres located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, and Curry counties. Under the NFP and RMP/ROD, management of these lands are included in three primary Land Use Allocations:

1. Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur;
2. Late-Successional Reserves, where providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized; and
3. Riparian Reserves, where maintenance of water quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized.

The RMP established objectives for management of 17 resource programs occurring on the District. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in a detailed manner in the APS because of the overlap

of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource programs is not included in the APS to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in RMP/ROD and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both of which are available at the District Office.

Medford RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions and Accomplishments

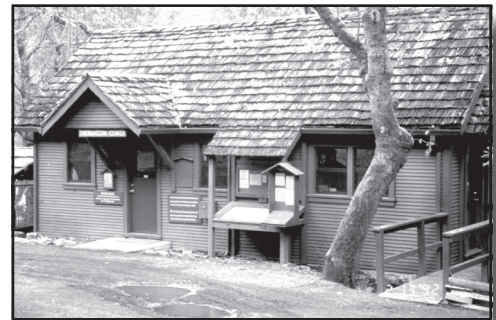
RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2006 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices (2005-2014)	Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014)
Forest and Timber Resources				
Regeneration harvest (acres offered)	Acres	192	560	10,400
Commercial thinning/density management/uneven age harvest (acres offered) (HLB)	Acres	1,781	9,834	44,900
Salvage (acres offered) (Reserves)	Acres	240	240	N/A
Timber volume offered (HLB)	MM board feet/MM cubic feet	28/4.5	71/11.9	571/96.9
Timber volume offered (reserves)	MM board feet/MM cubic feet	1/3	2.5/0.56	N/A
Pre-commercial thinning (HLB)	Acres	362	1452	78,000
Pre-commercial thinning (Reserves)	Acres	230	258	N/A
Brushfield/hardwood conversion	Acres	0	0	N/A
Site preparation (prescribed fire)	Acres	984	984	6,000
Site preparation (other methods)	Acres	270	270	1,000
Fuels Treatment Acres (prescribed fire, handpile & underburn)	Acres	11,500	17,583	18,000
Fuels Treatment Acres (other methods)	Acres	7,700	17,724	N/A
Planting—regular stock	Acres	473	1056	2,700
Planting—genetically selected	Acres	936	936	10,300
Fertilization	Acres	0	0	57,000
Pruning	Acres	882	1262	18,600

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2006 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices (2005-2014)	Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014)
Forest and Timber Resources				
Noxious Weeds				
Noxious weeds chemical control	acres	2,471	6,601	N/A
Noxious weeds, by other control methods	acres	533	1,265	N/A
Livestock Grazing				
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Annual leases/10 yr renewals	24	N / A	N/A
Animal Unit Months (actual)	Animal Unit Months	9786	N / A	N/A
Livestock fences constructed or maintained	Units/miles	33/14	66/29	N/A
Realty Actions				
Realty, land sales	Actions/acres	0	20	N/A
Realty, land purchase	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Realty, land exchanges	Actions/acres acquired/acres disposed	0	0	N/A
Realty, R&PP leases/patents	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Realty, road easements acquired for public/agency use	Actions	11	18	N/A
Realty, road rights-of-way granted	Actions	45	110	N/A
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted	Actions	22	38	N/A
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted (communication sites)	Actions	4	16	N/A
Special Use Permits	Actions	4	22	N/A
Realty, withdrawals completed	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Realty, withdrawals revoked	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Energy and Minerals Actions				
Mineral/energy, total oil and gas leases	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral/energy, total other leases	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mining plans approved	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mining claims patented	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral materials sites opened	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral material sites closed	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicles				
Maintained off-highway vehicle trails	Number/miles	2/105	4/210	N/A
Maintained hiking trails	Number/miles	8/114	16/228	N/A
Recreation sites maintained	Number/acres	8/200	16/400	N/A
Cultural Resources				
Cultural resource inventories	Sites/acres	21/3,855	47/6,332	N/A
Cultural/historic sites nominated	Sites/acres	0/0	0/0	N/A
Hazardous Material Sites				
Hazardous material sites, identified	Sites	4	24	N/A
Hazardous material sites, remediated	Sites	4	12	N/A

BUDGET

The Medford District receives its annual operating budget from congressionally appropriated funds and other non-appropriated revenue sources. All BLM appropriated funds are identified in the Interior Appropriations and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill or emergency supplemental appropriations. In fiscal year 2006, the Medford District received a total of \$19,532,000 in Oregon and California (O&C) Land Grant appropriations, \$2,053,000 in Management of Lands & Resources appropriations, and \$19,447,000 in special appropriations, fire related appropriations and non-appropriated funds. Special appropriations include those appropriation excluding MLR and O&C appropriations and include emergency fire rehabilitation, fuels treatment and hazard reduction, emergency flood repair, and land acquisition funds. Non-appropriated sources include funding from forest ecosystem health and recovery funds, timber sale pipeline restoration funds,

road use fee collections, recreation fee demonstration collections, reimbursements for work performed for other agencies, trust funds, appropriated funds transferred to BLM from other agencies, and other miscellaneous collection accounts. The total available monetary resources in fiscal year 2006 to the Medford District were \$41,032,000.



The Smullen Visitor Center, built in 1933 by the CCC, was once Rand Ranger Station of the Siskiyou National Forest. In 1996, BLM took over all responsibilities at Rand and, in 1999, the Rand site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2004, this building was remodeled and enlarged according to NRHP guidelines to accommodate the ever-growing river program.

Appropriation	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006
Oregon and California Land Grant	21,532,000	22,650,000	21,673,000	22,499,000	20,026,000	19,532,000
Management of Lands & Resources	1,867,000	2,714,000	2,885,000	3,206,000	2,200,000	2,053,000
Special Appropriation and Other Non-appropriated Funds	11,989,000	19,294,000	26,940,000	27,047,000	21,473,000	19,447,000
Total	35,388,000	44,658,000	51,498,000	52,752,000	43,699,000	41,032,000

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

Lands administered by the BLM will be managed to maintain or restore healthy, functioning ecosystems from which a sustainable production of natural resources can be provided. Ecosystem management involves the use of ecological, economic, social, and managerial principles to achieve healthy and sustainable natural systems.

The building blocks for this strategy are composed of several major land use allocations: riparian reserves; late-successional reserves; adaptive management areas; matrix, which includes general forest management areas and connectivity/diversity blocks; and a variety of special purpose management areas such as recreation sites, wild and scenic rivers, and visual resource management areas.

The Medford District has the following major land allocations:*

Late-Successional Reserves

Late successional reserves are areas established by the NFP and the Medford District RMP to maintain functional interactive late successional and old growth forest ecosystems. They are designed to serve as habitat for late-successional and old growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

The Medford District contains portions of five late-successional reserves designated in the Resource Management Plan: Elk Creek, Azalea, Galice Block, Munger Butte, and Jenny Creek.

All reserve areas have had assessments completed on them.

Congressional Reserves	14,267
Late-Successional Reserves	178,467
Late-Successional Reserve within AMA	32,937
Marbled Murrelet Reserve	3,478
District Defined Reserves	1,290
Connectivity/Diversity Blocks	27,237
Applegate Adaptive Management Area	113,912
Reserved Habitat Area	16,732
General Forest Management Area	470,776
Total	859,096

**Allocations do not have any overlapping designations. There are approximately 369,200 acres of riparian reserves.*

APPLEGATE ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Applegate AMA continues to serve as a focal area to test involvement with the community and to test innovations developed in partnership and collaborative settings. The Medford District BLM continues to work cooperatively with the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest and the Applegate community in implementing the goals and objectives of the Applegate AMA, especially goals involving community innovations regarding fuels reduction/fire restoration, small diameter/biomass, and timber management.

Work continues with the Applegate Fuels Demonstration Project, a collaborative study to develop and test several approaches to fuels reduction in an ecological context. This is a joint project with the Rogue River Siskiyou NF, local environmental organizations, the Applegate Partnership/Applegate River Watershed Council, The Nature Conservancy, and the Indigenous People's Restoration Network. Plots have been established, data has been collected, and implementation will likely begin in 2007. Upon completion of the treatments, post operations data collection and analysis will begin. Monitoring has been collaboratively developed to measure impacts to soils, vegetation, wildfire behavior, and potentially some selected small animals and insects. This project will add significant information to various approaches for fuels reduction.

Implementation is planned for 2007 at the Neighbors "Backyard" project using the Secure Rural Schools Act Title 2 funds. The project consists of a cooperative experiment by a group of landowners adjacent to a landlocked BLM parcel (60 acres) to collaboratively design a treatment proposal with the BLM and then implement the forest health treatments. The project may also yield information on the amount of forest product that should logically be planned for in the wildland urban interface (called rural interface zone in the forest plan).

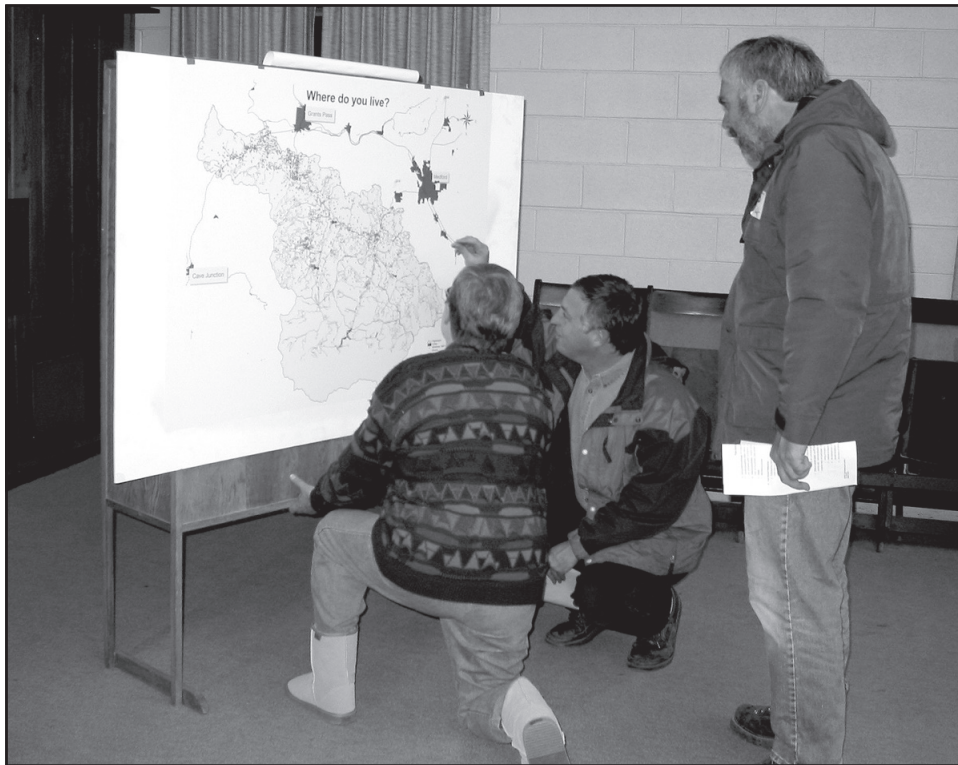
A group consisting of The Nature Conservancy, the Applegate Partnership, a number of community members, and the Rogue River-Siskiyou NF and the Medford District—called the *Applegate Fire Learning Network*—is collaborating on desired conditions and landscape level implementation strategies for fire restoration and fuels reduction. An assessment of the most crucial areas for treatments to restore fire to the landscape is expected in 2007.

The Applegate Partnership is heading up an effort to study the feasibility of a biomass facility in the Applegate Valley. This collaborative project involves the Rogue River Siskiyou NF and Medford District BLM, as well as a number of Applegate citizens. The assessment is currently underway and will be completed in 2007.

After more than a year preparing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Applegate Neighborhood Network (ANN) and the Medford District BLM have formed a partnership to develop alternative and innovative methods for managing timber for sustained permanent yield per the O&C Act, while accommodating community concerns for watershed health and other non-extractive values in the Little Applegate area.

Finally, work is underway to provide for cooperative opportunities in design and management of the Johns Peak

Designated OHV Area. Establishment of cooperative agreements with the Motorcycle Riders Association is planned for 2007 to design jointly and implement projects to reduce social and environmental impacts and provide education and outreach. There is also a larger effort to group Johns Peak into a larger cooperative management structure to gain a greater efficiency in enforcement, restoration and maintenance associated with OHV activities on federal and cooperator lands in southwestern Oregon.



A Medford District planner helps Applegate residents determine where they live relative to BLM projects.

AQUATIC CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) was developed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems contained within them on public lands. The strategy is to protect salmon and steelhead habitat on federal lands managed by the BLM. This conservation strategy employs several tactics to approach the goal of maintaining the “natural” disturbance regime. The ACS strives to maintain and restore ecosystem health at watershed and landscape scales to protect habitat for fish and other riparian-dependent species and resources and restore currently degraded habitat.

Silvicultural practices have been implemented within riparian reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. These silvicultural practices include tree planting, precommercial thinning, and density management thinning.

Watershed analysis is required by the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision. Watershed analysis includes:

- Analysis of the at-risk fish species and stocks, their presence, habitat conditions and restoration needs;
- Description of the landscape over time, including the impacts of humans, their role in shaping the landscape, and the effects of fire;
- The distribution and abundance of species and populations throughout the watershed; and
- Characteristics of the geological and hydrologic conditions.

This information was obtained from a variety of sources including field inventory and observation, history books, agency records, and old maps and survey records.

Watershed Council Coordination

The District coordinates and offers assistance to a number of watershed associations. This provides an excellent forum for exchange of ideas, partnering, education and promoting watershed-wide restoration. The District is active with approximately 14 watershed associations.

AIR QUALITY

All prescribed fire activities conformed to the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. Air quality considerations in prescribed burn plans include burning when good smoke mixing and dispersal exists. Prompt mop-up of burned units reduces residual smoke. Qualitative and some quantitative monitoring occurred during prescribed burning episodes during 2006.

WATER AND SOIL QUALITY

Water Quality Limited - 303(d) Streams

Approximately 249 stream miles included on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ's) 2002 Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Waterbodies cross BLM-administered land in the Medford District. These streams are primarily listed as water quality limited due to temperature, but some stream segments are listed for additional reasons such as dissolved oxygen, biological criteria, fecal coliform, e-coli, and sedimentation. These stream segments are evaluated as part of the watershed analysis process. The Medford District is working cooperatively with the Oregon DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) for 303(d) listed streams on BLM-administered lands. Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRPs) for federal lands are prepared by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service and incorporated in DEQ's WQMPs. Eleven WQRPs have been completed for the Medford District and approved by DEQ: Sucker-Grayback Creek (1999), Grave Creek (2001), Lower Sucker Creek (2002), West Fork Cow Creek (2004), Middle Cow Creek (2004), Upper Cow Creek (2004), Applegate Subbasin (2005), Lower East Fork Illinois River (2006), South Rogue River-Gold Hill (2006), West Bear Creek (2006), and North and South Forks Little Butte Creek (2006). The following restoration projects were implemented in FY 2006 to improve water quality on 303(d) listed streams.

Watershed	Stream Name	Water Quality Limited Parameter	Restoration Project
Grave Creek	Big Boulder Creek	Summer temperature	Replaced culvert with bottomless arch at road crossing to improve channel morphology and reduce risk of failure
Jenny Creek	Jenny Creek	Summer temperature	Manually treated 105 acres of noxious weeds to benefit riparian vegetation
Jumpoff Joe Creek	Louse Creek	Year around temperature	Added large wood and boulders to stream channel to improve stream habitat and reduce the channel width to depth ratio
Middle Cow Creek	Fortune Branch	Summer temperature	Replaced four culverts with a bridge at road crossing to improve channel morphology and reduce risk of failure
Middle Cow Creek	Quines Creek	Summer temperature	Replaced culvert with a bridge at road crossing to improve channel morphology and reduce risk of failure
Middle Cow Creek	Woodford Creek	Summer temperature	Replaced culvert with bottomless arch at road crossing to improve channel morphology and reduce risk of failure

Monitoring

Riparian assessments for functioning condition status were conducted on 78 stream miles in FY 2006. These stream miles plus an additional 63 stream miles were surveyed for stream and channel characteristics. This information is being

used for project planning and updating the hydrography dataset. Summer stream temperature was monitored using recording instruments at 15 sites; streamflow, turbidity,

TERRESTRIAL HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Wildlife habitat work generally occurs through implementation of other projects such as timber sales, fuels treatments or silviculture projects. Wildlife biologists in each of Medford's four resource areas—Ashland, Butte Falls, Glendale and Grants Pass—review those projects through interdisciplinary team processes. Biologists prioritize surveys for species and habitats to evaluate what species might occur in or adjacent to the project areas, conduct appropriate surveys through contracts or in-house personnel, analyze literature and talk with species experts to determine potential effects of proposed projects. Through the interdisciplinary compromise process, biologists offer recommendations to managers to reduce impacts, minimize effects on species during sensitive periods (generally the reproductive period). When opportunities and funding allow, they also offer suggestions that may improve habitat for key species or restore habitat in the project area.

Objectives of the land use allocations delineated in the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) dictate the type and degree of wildlife conservation or management. Most timber harvest volume is planned in the RMP to come from matrix lands, which includes General Forest Management Areas (GFMA), Adaptive Management Areas (AMA) and Connectivity Blocks. Major habitat components are retained in timber projects through land use allocation, specific formulas for green

tree retention, snag retention and recruitment, and management of coarse woody debris (CWD). These formulas were designed in the NWFP to meet the needs of most priority wildlife species found in the District.

In 2006, the Medford Wildlife program continued to provide information in response to several wildlife-related lawsuits, including cases on northern spotted owl critical habitat and the Survey and Manage program. Several consultations were reinitiated and completed in response to litigation and other legal concerns. The programmatic consultations are posted on our Medford BLM website.

Wildlife biologists continued to provide information for incorporation into the Western Oregon Planning Revision (WOPR). This is a settlement-driven planning revision that will revise the land use plans of the six Western Oregon Districts managed under the O&C Act. The WOPR will re-evaluate the following standards and may result in decisions different from those listed below.

Green Tree Retention

Timber sales in the south GFMA maintain 16 to 25 large green trees per acre in regeneration harvest units. Units in the north GFMA maintain 6 to 8 trees per acre.

Snags and Snag Recruitment

Standing dead trees which meet RMP requirements are left in units if they do not conflict with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety guidelines and if they do not conflict with prescribed burning.

Connectivity

Designated connectivity blocks are spaced across the District. Twenty-five to 30 percent of each block (640 acre section) is to be maintained in late-successional forest and managed on a 150-year rotation. Regeneration harvest areas in connectivity blocks maintain a minimum of 12 to 18 green trees per acre. Additional connectivity is provided by the riparian management network (100 to 300 feet on each side of a creek) and by 250 100-acre owl cores (which are managed as Late Successional Reserves-LSR).

Wildlife Survey and Manage— Wildlife Special Status Species

In 2006, wildlife biologists continue to operate under the revised Special Status Species list (2003). The Survey and Manage Record of Decision (2004) which eliminated the Survey and Manage category was litigated and the court overturned the decisions resulting

from that ROD. The Survey and Manage and Special Status Species program is likely to undergo significant changes as BLM responds to this court ruling. The Resource Areas developed a district-wide red tree-vole contract to handle the reinstatement of Survey and Manage requirements.

Medford's Ashland Resource Area completed the field work on six great gray owls which were radioed with harness transmitters. Analysis of data collected on great gray owls (*Strix nebulosa*) continues. Home-range size was calculated using the minimum convex polygon method. Analysis of vegetative structure and composition in proximity to great gray owl nest sites is nearly completed. Biologists in other resource areas also identified great gray owl sites when they occurred in project areas.

Work on Mardon Skippers, a rare butterfly, continued through the Interagency Special Status Species Team in Portland. A graduate student is studying the Washington population to determine habitat use by eggs/larvae.

Siskiyou Short-horned Grasshopper:

Surveys were conducted for Siskiyou short-horned grasshopper (*Chloaltis aspasma*), a Bureau Sensitive Species, on the Medford District. Seventeen sites, totaling 600 acres were surveyed a minimum of 2 times each for a minimum

of 1 person hour(s) per 2.5 acres, using Visual Encounter Survey method (VES). The target species was located at two of the seventeen sites surveyed. One adult and three developmental stage grasshoppers were found at the Hobart peak site and one developmental stage grasshopper was found at the Mount Ashland site.

Franklin’s Bumblebee:

Surveys were conducted for Franklin’s Bumblebee (*Bombus franklini*), a Bureau Tracking Species, on the Medford District. Seventeen sites, totaling 600 acres were surveyed a minimum of 2 times each for a minimum of 1 person hour(s) per 2.5 acres, using Visual Encounter Survey method (VES). The target species was not located at any of the survey sites. However, one individual of the species was observed during 2006 near Mount Ashland by Robbin Thorp (species expert retained for assistance with this project).

Federally-listed species management

Northern spotted owls are federally listed as threatened. The owl demographic study continued in the Glendale Resource area as one of two BLM long-term owl effectiveness projects designed

to rigorously monitor northern spotted owl populations trend. The USFWS was sued on their regulatory language related to critical habitat, which triggered the BLM to reinitiate consultation on many of our projects in northern spotted owl critical habitat.

To the extent time and other budget priorities allowed, monitoring of 12 bald eagles (federal threatened) and five peregrine falcons (recently delisted) were conducted. Although peregrine falcons have been delisted from the Federal Endangered Species list, some post-delisting monitoring is required to track their recovery. Future monitoring is required to confirm occupancy. Medford biologists participate in nationwide winter bald eagle monitoring.

Special Habitats

The District continues to manage special habitats as specified in the Resource Management Plan. Biologists are reviewing these areas for consideration in the WOPR. Meadows are managed for their unique characteristics, as are caves and abandoned mines, talus habitats, and riparian/marshlands. BLM continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and associated vernal pool habitat.

Big Game and Furbearers

Big game and mammal habitat objectives were included in fuels treatment prescriptions across much of the District, focusing primarily in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) zones. The District continues to participate with ODFW in road and habitat management for big game, including participation in the Jackson Cooperative Travel Management Area, also known as the “green dot program.” The District continues to try to restore habitat destroyed by a few members of the public that violate road closure regulations and cause extensive damage to roads and streams.

We also deal with resource damage caused by vehicles being driven off road in areas that are not closed. Mud bogging has become a recreational activity for some people and low elevation meadows are especially vulnerable to resource damage from deep ruts and mud holes which diminish wildlife habitat suitability. Resource Areas continue to spend money and time to protect sensitive areas, replace vandalized road closures and gates, and educate the public on the importance of wise stewardship and prudent OHV use on public lands.

Protocol surveys for fishers, a candidate fur-bearer of the weasel family, which is warranted but precluded for listing, took place in limited areas on the District. We documented two new

fisher locations in the “gap” between the native Siskiyou fisher population and the introduced population from the Crater Lake area, but were unable to snag hair for DNA analysis. At this point, no genetic interchange is known to occur between the two populations.

A wildlife biologist from the Butte Falls RA continues to be the BLM representative on the Fisher Biology Team. This team has developed a detailed risk analysis for fishers to present to the Interagency Steering Committee. The Fisher Science Team, initiated in 2006, is composed of experts from the Forest Service and universities to advise the agencies on fisher research needs and management.

Neotropical Migratory Birds

The Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas continued fall and spring Monitoring Population and Avian Productivity in partnership with Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) at a site which provides important spring and fall migration habitat for willow flycatchers, a Bureau special status species, and other neotropical migrants.

This data is being analyzed for longterm trends in abundance, reproduction, and survivorship and is being compared with other similar stations from within the Klamath Demographic Monitoring Network.

As part of this partnership, KBO, in cooperation with Southern Oregon University, trains college level interns. KBO continues to promote monitoring efforts and its partnerships with the BLM and others by presenting at various meetings and by submitting articles and papers to be included in newsletters and technical publications.

Bats

Biologists throughout the District continued to collect data on these cryptic, nocturnal species and contribute data for regional species group evaluations. Several biologists from the District are

associated with the Bat Working Group—a group of professional biologists from private, state and federal agencies—who are looking for efficient mechanisms to evaluate bat populations, some of which are on Special Status Species lists. Biologists from Grants Pass and Butte Falls Resource Areas participated in mist net and acoustic monitoring of eight sites in southwest Oregon as part of a long-term, interagency (FS and BLM) effort to evaluate bat populations. Grants Pass RA wrote a management plan for Townsend's big-eared bats (Bureau sensitive) on the Resource Area.



Two wildlife biologists weigh, measure and band birds during the Neotropical Bird Survey. Data from this survey is then analyzed for longterm trends in abundance, reproduction, and survivorship.



A fisher, candidate species of the weasel family, grabs for bait and trips the camera for this nighttime photo. An interagency team has developed a detailed risk analysis for fishers.

AQUATIC HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

A variety of activities to maintain or enhance fisheries and fish habitat were conducted in fiscal year 2006. The primary focus of the fisheries program was environmental impact assessments for timber sales and landscape management plans. Other assessments included fish passage projects; road maintenance; fuels treatment activities; and monitoring of grazing allotments, fish habitat and populations. Additionally, biological assessments were completed for Endangered Species Act consultations. These activities represent the majority of the workload and also involve considerable time spent in field visits and meetings. The following are other activities performed by fisheries personnel on the Medford District.

Watershed Council Cooperation

The District provided technical assistance to Watershed Councils and Counties in support of the Bureau's commitment to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. BLM provided funding to Watershed Councils for various projects, including participation in watershed council planning meetings with the Upper Rogue. Other coordination includes projects with the Applegate, Williams Watershed Councils, and Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District.

Specifically, the Grants Pass Resource Area initiated cooperative agreements with three watershed councils: Applegate, Williams and Illinois. We developed a new assistance agreement with the Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District for fish passage improvement through irrigation dam removal. The Glendale Resource area partnered with the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council through an assistance agreement to replace a culvert (coho barrier) on Woodford Creek. The funding came from BLM funding sources and from the Watershed Council through grants. The Watershed Council provided the design for the culvert through an architectural and engineering contract and wrote the contract for the culvert installation. The BLM provided technical support and project inspection during installation.

Fish Passage

Fish passage is a high priority for range extension for salmon and an ongoing need in the Medford District. The district has a proactive program to replace culverts which impede coho salmon passage. Culverts were replaced with bridges or bottomless structures on the following streams:

- Rock,
- McCullough,
- Quines, Woodford,
- Big Boulder,
- Rat,
- Fortune Branch,
- West Fork Salt, and Spring Creek, a tributary to West Fork Williams Creek.

Population/Habitat Monitoring

Cattle grazing surveys were conducted for Lick Creek, Jackass Creek, Beaverdam Creek, North Fork Big Butte Creek and Elk Creek. Photo points were established for cattle grazing and restoration projects. Spawning surveys were conducted on 4.5 miles on West Evans Creek, West Trail Creek, Sugarpine Creek, and Hawk Creek. Snorkeling surveys were conducted on two miles on Sugarpine Creek, Hawk Creek West Evans Creek and West Trail Creek. Fish sampling was conducted on Bowen Creek. Other aquatic inventories were conducted on Bowen Creek, Double Day Creek and Hukill Creek.

Two-and-a-half miles total of spawning surveys were conducted on the following creeks: North Fork Deer, Pickett, Crooks, East and West Fork Williams, Sucker, Thompson, White, Draper, Waters, and Bear (Waters). Snorkeling surveys were conducted on a total of two miles on the following creeks:

North Fork Deer, Pickett, Crooks, East Fork Williams, Galice, and Sucker. Fish sampling on North Fork Silver Creek was completed. Fall chinook spawning was monitored for the recreational section of the Rogue River. Coho spawning surveys were conducted on a total of 2 miles on Whitehorse, Hogum, East Fork Elk Valley, and Walker Creeks.

Instream and Riparian Habitat Improvement

Fish habitat enhancement consisted of adding logs and boulders to streams and riparian fencing. Logs and boulders were added to the following streams:

- Sugarpine Creek
- Hawk Creek
- West Evans Creek
- West Trail Creek
- Elk Creek
- Louse Creek
- Waters Creek, and

Jackass and North Fork Big Butte Creeks were fenced and willows planted for 0.5 miles.

Endangered Species Act

The District submitted seven biological assessments to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for Section 7 consultation of the Endangered

Species Act. These assessments were for timber sales and landscape management projects. Assessments represent the major part of the fisheries program workload. Additionally, there were two Magnusen-Stevens essential fish habitat consultations with NMFS for two landscape management projects.

Public Outreach

Many educational presentations were conducted for watershed councils, schools and various other community groups. Fisheries specialists taught schoolchildren about water quality, riparian vegetation, aquatic insects and salmon life cycles at several of Oregon Trout's Salmon Watch events held around the Rogue Basin. Free Fishing Day and CAST for Kids Day events were held at BLM's Hyatt Lake Campground. Loaner fishing gear, boat rides and educational

activities were provided for attendees. Other outreach activities include National Public Lands Day, the Junior Achievement Program, and the Little Butte School Field Day. BLM continued a long-term display of chinook eggs and fry growing in an aquarium in our office lobby for public enjoyment and education.

The Glendale Resource Area had a unique partnership Swanson Timber Company to replace two anadromous fish barrier culverts. One culvert was replaced with a bridge on McCullough Creek. The second culvert replacement is scheduled for 2007 on Totten Creek. The BLM used an Assistance Agreement to transfer Title II funding to Swanson. Swanson installed the new bridge, provided labor, and some material. The BLM purchased the bridge and the technical support for the design and installation.

WEED MANAGEMENT

Management and treatment of noxious weeds in the Medford District uses all aspects of integrated pest management and continues to be a critical element for all resource programs. Currently, the Medford District is emphasizing control of 15 species of exotic plants—yellow starthistle, purple loosestrife, puncturevine, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, spotted knapweed, dalmatian toadflax, rush skeletonweed, leafy spurge, tansy ragwort, Canada thistle, Scotch broom, Spanish broom, and dyer's woad. The number of sites targeted for treatment each year is subject to change, depending on new infestations, funding, cooperation from adjacent landowners, and effectiveness of control methods.

The following is a partial list of accomplishments completed in 2006:

- Education/Awareness: Weed control presentations were made at county fairs, elementary to college level students, commercial businesses, federal agencies, contractors, and other interest groups. Television and newspaper ads, as well as talk-radio shows aided in educating the general public. A Jackson County Weed Management Area is being formed to greatly enhance education and coordination.
- Prevention: Clean equipment is required prior to engaging in any soil disturbing activities. Contract stipulations were created requiring contractors to clean equipment prior to bringing it on BLM-administered lands. A BLM/FS-funded vehicle wash facility aides in cleaning agency vehicles of weed seeds and parts. All seed used in restoration efforts is tested for noxious weed content prior to purchase. Gravel and rock pits are closely monitored for clean aggregate.
- Inventory: Approximately 43,446 acres were inventoried for noxious weeds during vascular plant surveys.
- Control: Many, if not all, species targeted for control in the district were treated using the following methods: 378 acres using hand-pulling methods; 2,471 acres using chemical controls; and 155 acres using seedings for a total of 3,004 acres treated.
- Monitoring: Monitoring previously treated sites continues on most weed treatment projects. In 2006, 178 acres were monitored.

BOTANICAL SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

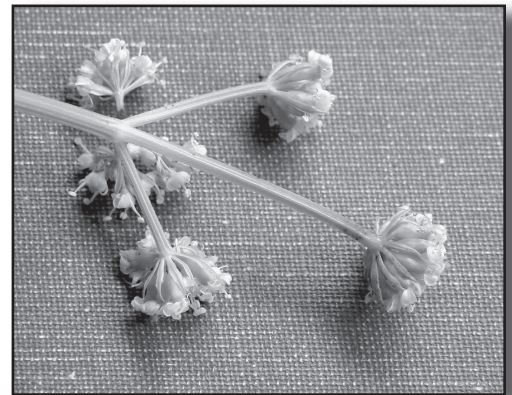
Botanical Inventories

In support of all BLM districtwide activities, botanists surveyed 54,596 acres for T&E and special status plants (including Survey and Manage) and weeds, and 40,209 acres for non-vascular plants (mosses, lichens). The two different surveys were done mostly over the same acres. Nearly all acres were accomplished by survey contracts with local contractors. The average cost of the surveys (vascular surveys at approximately \$6.00 per acre and non-vascular surveys at approximately \$8.00 per acre) resulted in an estimated \$644,590 going into the local Medford economy.

Surveys in 2006 documented a total of 473 new rare plant sites. Most sites are small, occupying less than a meter square. The following table summarizes the finds by status.

Of note were 4 new species range extensions, most of which had never before been documented in the state of Oregon. The five new federally endangered plant sites, were all Gentner’s fritillary

(*Fritillaria gentneri*), and all were small in numbers and not far from existing sites. No new sites were documented for the other federally listed plants, Cook’s lomatium (*Lomatium cookii*) or largeflowered woolly meadowfoam (*Limnanthes floccosa* var. *grandiflora*). One species (a *Pseudoleskella* lichen) which was documented in serpentine habitats is believed to be new to science. This has been verified by taxonomic experts, but no name is yet given to this species.



Federally listed *Lomatium cookii*, Cooks lomatium.

Federally Listed	State Listed	Bureau Sensitive	Bureau Assessment	Bureau Tracking	Survey and Manage	Total
5	79	119	86	159	25	473

Monitoring

Formal monitoring usually consists of formal sampling protocols and plots monitored through time to assess trends. Informal monitoring includes revisiting sites and doing total recounts of a species. This type of monitoring may not be connected to a sampling methodology or a conservation plan. Most of the monitoring is formal, and a number done through Challenge Cost Share partnerships. District botanists, contractors and partners monitored the following number of sites/populations.



Cypripedium fasciculatum, a state-listed species, clustered lady's slipper orchid, continues to be stable.

Federally listed	State Listed	Bureau Sensitive	Bureau Assessment	Bureau Tracking	Survey and Manage	Total
62	35	32	6	7	4	146

Major Monitoring Results

- Populations of the federally listed *Fritillaria gentneri* were all dramatically reduced in 2006. Many sites had a reduction of more than 75 percent in flowering individuals. Because the reduction was range wide and in numerous habitats, we believe it is the result of climatic variables that are not well understood. As the species is long lived and has been shown to have the ability to go dormant (remain underground) for at least a year, there is likely no cause for concern, but monitoring is funded for 2007.

- Twenty-nine monitored populations of clustered lady's slipper orchid (*Cypripedium fasciculatum*), a state listed species, continue to be stable overall. Twenty-four percent of the populations show an increasing trend, 62% are stable, and 13 % have declining trends (including 2 sites that appear to be extirpated).
- Monitoring as part of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument Grazing study on Green's mariposa lily (*Calochortus greenei*) shows that there is little direct effect from cattle grazing and documents

some significant effects from insect/rodent grazing. Adjustments in the monitoring protocol will be done next year in an attempt to isolate the unknown grazer and document any adverse effects.

- Monitoring of the only federal candidate plant species (*Calochortus persistens*) occurring on the BLM in Oregon found the plant extant. Several plants flowered this year in a population has fewer than 10 plants. The rest of the population occurs just south in the mountains surrounding the Shasta Valley, California (near Yreka, CA). USFWS has not determined whether or not to list this species. This species and its habitat are threatened from OHV use on ridgelines. A Conservation Agreement with the USFWS is due out in 2007 for this species.

Botany Interpretive/Outreach

The following activities were accomplished by BLM Botanists, even though not “regular” part of their job. Much of this work occurred by ‘volunteering’ hours (unpaid).

Interpretive Outreach Type	Number of events	People reached
Wildflower Walks	5	61
Shows & Fairs	3	350
Environmental Education	7	745
One on One with the public	24	24
Publications – flyers	1	*

**The one publication (in press GPO), is a field guide to rare plants of the Rogue Valley done in cooperation with the US Forest Service and will be available to field crews and the general public.*

Listed Plant Recovery Actions

The BLM outplanted greenhouse grown bulbs of the listed Gentner’s fritillary, under a partnership with the Oregon Department of Agriculture/OSU. The ODA has developed the protocol for cultivating the rare lily. Following the recovery plan for the species, bulblets taken from three listed plant sites were returned to the sites as mature bulbs after two years. This

period was used to increase population size. We are monitoring the outplantings which, initially, looks successful. More collections were made from two additional sites in the fall of 2006 and put in the greenhouse at OSU. These plants will be outplanted in 2008. Thousands of plants can be cultivated using this technique. Additional collections are funded in 2007 per the USFWS recovery plan.

In 2006, the BLM funded (in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Agriculture/OSU) the initial trial collection of seed and growing trials from the listed Cook's lomatium populations in the Illinois valley. No protocol has been established for cultivation of this species. Trials in the occupied habitat will take place in 2007. The recovery plan calls for augmentation of populations from greenhouse grown plants.

Challenge Cost Shares

2006 Challenge Cost Share projects included the following ongoing botany projects:

- Federally listed *Fritillaria gentneri* demographic monitoring
- Federally listed Cook's lomatium demographic monitoring
- Greene Mariposa lily monitoring (grazing study)
- State listed Clustered lady slipper orchid monitoring
- State listed Howell's lily monitoring (serpentine endemic)
- State listed Redroot yampah monitoring

All monitoring was completed and the reports are available at the Medford District of the BLM on request.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

The following events and actions occurred regarding Areas of Environmental Concern (ACECs) and Research Natural Areas (RNAs) on the Medford District.

New Proposals: No new ACECs were proposed for the Medford BLM in 2006.

Management Plans: No ACEC/RNA management plans were written in 2006. The Oregon Gulch RNA, and Scotch Creek RNA plans that are in the final Cascade Siskiyou National Monument EIS are awaiting signature.

ACEC Actions: No actions occurred in 2006.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The Cultural Resources program provided cultural and historic input into the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project, the Energy Corridor, the Western Oregon Plan Revision and other planning documents as requested.

The program continues to solicit tribal input for important projects and to keep an updated list of interested tribes. In addition to consulting with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians on various projects in their area of interest, the District held several information sharing meetings with the tribe to further our relationship.

Program personnel have assisted law enforcement officers with the assessment of damage to archeological and historic sites as requested.

Public outreach and education goals were addressed through the continuation of the Assistance Agreement with Southern Oregon University for the archeological field school which teaches students the proper archeological field methods. District personnel also participated in a number of public presentations.

RURAL INTERFACE AREAS

The objective of the resource management plan for the rural interface areas is to consider the interests of adjacent and nearby rural residential landowners during analysis, planning and monitoring activities occurring within managed rural interface areas. These interests include personal health and safety, improvements to property, and quality of life.

The BLM manages rural interface areas encompassing approximately 136,000 acres within one-quarter mile of private land zoned for 1-5 acre or 5-20 acre lots located throughout the Medford District.

In the past year, the BLM has worked with numerous local individuals and groups such as watershed councils, fire protection groups, area citizen groups, and environmental coalitions to mitigate many features of land management that are in close proximity to private residences.

Gates and other barricades are used to stop unauthorized use of public roads and dust abatement measures to mitigate impacts to neighbors. The BLM is also attempting to reduce fuels hazards on public lands adjacent to private properties.

SOCIOECONOMIC

The Medford District continues to successfully contribute to local, state, national and international economies through monetary payments, sustainable use of BLM-managed lands and resources, and use of innovative contracting as well as other implementation strategies.

The District provides employment opportunities for local companies, contractors, and individuals through a wide variety of contractual opportunities and through the harvesting of forest products. These opportunities include the sale of commercial timber; silvicultural treatment projects such as thinning; planting trees; repair of storm damaged roads; collection of special forest products including ferns, mushrooms and firewood. The District also provides developed and undeveloped recreational facilities (such as campgrounds, hiking trails, boat ramps and wildlife viewing facilities) that bring visitors to the area, providing indirect benefits to tourism-related businesses.

Monetary Payments

The Bureau of Land Management contributes financially to the local economy in a variety of ways. One of these ways is through financial payments. They include Payments in Lieu of Taxes and O&C Payments. Payments of each type were made in FY 2006 as directed

Total Payments and Total Acres by County Fiscal Year 2006		
County	Payment	Total Acres
BAKER	\$367,039	1,020,642
BENTON	\$4,108	20,301
CLACKAMAS	\$105,832	522,983
CLATSOP	\$7,611	1,348
COLUMBIA	\$0	1
COOS	\$13,670	67,553
CROOK	\$190,183	939,816
CURRY	\$119,684	591,437
DESCHUTES	\$289,911	1,432,636
DOUGLAS	\$192,091	949,242
GILLIAM	\$48,218	34,616
GRANT	\$354,585	1,752,233
HARNEY	\$600,090	4,465,166
HOOD RIVER	\$41,641	205,773
JACKSON	\$93,214	460,631
JEFFERSON	\$60,119	297,088
JOSEPHINE	\$70,839	350,063
KLAMATH	\$437,002	2,159,510
LAKE	\$600,090	3,703,245
LANE	\$277,201	1,369,828
LINCOLN	\$37,326	184,449
LINN	\$96,328	476,021
MALHEUR	\$1,474,780	4,298,133
MARION	\$41,363	204,378
MORROW	\$38,628	149,960
MULTNOMAH	\$15,365	75,930
POLK	\$0	435
SHERMAN	\$76,763	53,672
TILLAMOOK	\$18,802	92,913
UMATILLA	\$141,707	419,206
UNION	\$429,941	624,346
WALLOWA	\$236,408	1,168,165
WASCO	\$44,845	221,611
WASHINGTON	\$3,777	2,604
WHEELER	\$61,098	301,926
YAMHILL	\$5,219	25,790
TOTAL	6,595,478	28,643,651

in current legislation. The specific amounts paid to the counties under each revenue sharing program in FY 2006 are displayed in the table on page 20. Each type of payment program is described below.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (or PILT) are Federal payments made annually to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands within their boundaries. The key law that implements the payments is Public Law 94-565, dated October 20, 1976. This law was rewritten and amended by Public Law 97-258 on September 13, 1982 and codified as Chapter 69, Title 31 of the United States Code. The Law recognizes that the inability of local governments to collect property taxes on Federally owned land can create a financial impact.

PILT payments help local governments carry out such vital services as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and search-and-rescue operations. These payments are one of the ways that the Federal government can fulfill its role of being a good neighbor to local communities. This is an especially important role for the BLM, which manages more public land than any other Federal agency.

Payments to Counties

In 2006, payments were made to counties under “The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.” The purpose of the act is “To restore stability and predictability to the annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System lands and public domain lands managed by the BLM for use by the counties for the benefit of public schools, roads and other purposes.” The “Public domain lands managed by the BLM” refers only to Oregon and California Revested Grantlands (O&C) and Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands (CBWR), not public domain (PD) lands. The O&C lands consist of approximately 2.5 million acres of federally owned forest lands in 18 western Oregon counties, including approximately 74,500 acres of Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands in the Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM Districts.

Fiscal Year 2006 was the sixth year that payments were made to western Oregon counties under “The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000” (P.L. 106-393). Counties made elections to receive the standard O&C payment as calculated under the Act of August 28, 1937 or the Act of May 24, 1939, or the calculated full payment amount as determined

under P.L. 106-393. All counties in the Medford District elected to receive payments under the new legislation. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2001 and continuing through September 30, 2006 payments were made based on historic O&C payments to the counties. The table on the following page displays the statewide payments made under each Title of P.L. 106-393 as well as the grand total and the table at right displays the Title II payments for this District. Actual payments made in 2006 for fiscal year 2007 projects were distributed October 24, 2006.

Title I payments are made to the eligible counties based on the three highest payments to each county between the years 1986 and 1999. These payments may be used by the counties in the manner as previous 50 percent and “safety net” payments.

Title II payments are reserved by the counties in a special account in the Treasury of the United States for funding projects providing protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resource objectives as outlined in P.L. 106-3983. BLM is directed to obligate these funds for projects selected by local Resource Advisory Committees and approved by

the Secretary of Interior or her designee.

Title III payments are made to the counties for uses authorized in P.L. 106-393. These include:

1. Search, rescue and emergency services on Federal land,
2. Community service work camps,
3. Easement purchases,
4. Forest-related educational opportunities,
5. Fire prevention and county planning, and
6. Community forestry.

Title II Medford District RAC (Payments were made October 24, 2006)	
Curry	\$174,791.97
Douglas	425,312.61
Douglas (CBWR)	2,267.12
Jackson	1,350,598.43
Klamath	325,988.11
Total	\$2,278,958.24

FY2006 Secure Rural Schools Payments to Counties Payments Were Made October 24, 2006					
County	Title I Paid to County	Title III Paid to County	Total Paid to County	Title II Retained By BLM	Grand Total
Benton	\$2,772,872.51	\$440,397.40	\$3,213,269.91	\$48,933.04	\$3,262,202.95
Clackamas	\$5,476,669.89	\$715,188.66	\$6,191,858.55	\$251,282.50	\$6,443,141.05
Columbia	\$2,032,781.97	\$240,346.58	\$2,273,128.55	\$118,379.66	\$2,391,508.21
Coos	\$5,822,045.47	\$462,338.91	\$6,284,384.38	\$565,080.88	\$6,849,465.26
Coos (CBWR)	\$728,877.97	\$57,881.49	\$786,759.46	\$70,744.04	\$857,503.50
Curry	\$3,601,773.89	\$286,023.22	\$3,887,797.11	\$349,583.94	\$4,237,381.05
Douglas	\$24,719,023.57	\$1,090,545.16	\$25,809,568.73	\$3,271,635.47	\$29,081,204.20
Douglas (CBWR)	\$131,764.34	\$5,813.13	\$137,577.47	\$17,439.40	\$155,016.87
Jackson	\$15,462,958.06	\$1,364,378.65	\$16,827,336.71	\$1,364,378.65	\$18,191,715.36
Josephine	\$11,920,391.41	\$2,103,598.48	\$14,023,989.89	\$0.00	\$14,023,989.89
Klamath	\$2,309,082.44	\$81,497.03	\$2,390,579.47	\$325,988.11	\$2,716,567.58
Lane	\$15,068,243.11	\$1,356,141.88	\$16,424,384.99	\$1,302,959.85	\$17,727,344.84
Lincoln	\$355,243.45	\$37,614.01	\$392,857.46	\$25,076.01	\$417,933.47
Linn	\$2,605,118.65	\$229,863.41	\$2,834,982.06	\$229,863.41	\$3,064,845.47
Marion	\$1,440,709.55	\$190,682.15	\$1,631,391.70	\$63,560.72	\$1,694,952.42
Multnomah	\$1,075,598.23	\$172,811.45	\$1,248,409.68	\$17,000.00	\$1,265,409.68
Polk	\$2,131,460.71	\$319,719.11	\$2,451,179.82	\$56,421.02	\$2,507,600.84
Tillamook	\$552,600.93	\$32,668.47	\$585,269.40	\$64,849.34	\$650,118.74
Washington	\$621,676.04	\$0.00	\$621,676.04	\$109,707.54	\$731,383.58
Yamhill	\$710,486.91	\$125,380.04	\$835,866.95	\$0.00	\$835,866.95
Total	\$99,539,379.10	\$9,312,889.23	\$108,852,268.33	\$8,252,883.58	\$117,105,151.91

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations” directs all federal agencies to “...make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing ...disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities.”

New projects with possible effects on minority populations and/or low-income populations will incorporate an analysis of Environmental Justice impacts to ensure any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects are identified, and reduced to acceptable levels if possible.

RECREATION

The Medford District's Recreation Management program continues to be one of the most diverse in the state. Developed sites include campgrounds at Hyatt Lake, Tucker Flat, Elderberry Flat and Skull Creek. Day use sites are maintained at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, Hyatt Lake, and along the Recreation Section of the Rogue River. Interpretive trails and sites are maintained at Eight Dollar Mountain, Table Rocks, Hyatt Lake, Gold Nugget, Rand Administrative Site, and at three National Register Sites—the Whisky Creek Cabin, the Rogue River Ranch, and the Smullin Visitor Center at Rand on the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River. A hang-gliding site is maintained at Woodrat Mountain near Ruch. A winter tubing hill and a system of cross country and snowmobile trails are maintained near Hyatt Lake. More people than ever before were taken on guided interpretive hikes on the Table Rocks with over 3,500 school children and 2,500 adults participating in this ever popular activity.

In addition, two nationally designated trails—the Rogue River National Recreation Trail and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail—are maintained.

Forty-seven miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River are managed by the district, with BLM administering both the commercial and

private permits. Rafting, boat and bank fishing, motorized tour boat travel, hiking on river trails, and all other manner of water-related activities continue to flourish and grow.

For users who enjoy driving for pleasure, three Back Country Byways and three designated Off Highway Vehicle areas are managed. For non-motorized cyclists, the 74-mile Glendale to Powers Bicycle Recreation Area is maintained.



Off Highway Vehicle riding is becoming a popular pastime for users who enjoy seeing the back country areas from a different perspective.

In addition to the 5,867-acre Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area, developments at Hyatt Lake are now included the established Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. The Soda Mountain WSA continues to be managed under the non-impairment criteria of the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review, pending Congressional action.

Winter recreation use continues to increase with over 20 miles of cross-country ski trails and 60 miles of snowmobile trails maintained.

Dispersed use throughout the district includes hunting, fishing, camping,

driving for pleasure, horseback riding, hang gliding, caving, shooting, mountain biking, water play, sightseeing, hiking, rockhounding, geocaching, off highway vehicle use, recreational mining and mushroom and berry gathering. The types of uses increase every year as does the amount of use. As the outdoor recreation equipment industry continues to develop newer and more effective equipment, new unanticipated recreation activities emerge.

In addition to these activities, the District issues approximately 150 Special Recreation Permits for commercial, group events and competitive activities. The majority of these permits are issued

to commercial outfitters and guides on the Rogue River. Additional permits are issued for coonhound trials, paintball wars, archery events, hunting guides, equestrian events, bicycle events, automobile road races, and OHV events.



Two young gold panners work to find “color” in one of the areas available for panning.

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND TIMBER RESOURCES

The Medford District manages approximately 859,096 acres of land in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos counties. Under the Northwest Forest Plan, approximately 191,000 acres (or 22 percent of the Medford District land base) are managed for timber production. The Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District Resource Management Plan provide for a sustainable timber harvest, known as the Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ), of 57.1 MMBF (million board feet) annually from Medford District-administered public lands.

Because of a number of legal challenges affecting western Oregon, the district has not been required to offer its full ASQ for several years. In Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06), Medford was committed to offering 53.4 MMBF (an increase of 5.7 MMBF from Fiscal Year 2005) as a step toward reaching the full ASQ. As a result of the 2005 settlement agreement in *American Forest Resources Council v. BLM*, it became necessary to offer volume in support of the ASQ from

Matrix and Adaptive Management Area lands and additional volume from Late Successional Reserve (LSR) lands. To satisfy the LSR volume requirement of the settlement agreement, Medford District was given an LSR target volume of 1.8 MMBF in FY06. As a result of continuing litigation on Survey and Manage requirements, the district was only able to offer 28.1 MMBF for FY 06.

The Medford District held six public timber sale auctions in FY06, offering a total FY06 volume of 28.1 MMBF. Additional FY06 volume resulting from negotiated sales, stewardship contracting and modifications to ongoing sales brought the total offered volume up to 30.1 MMBF for the Fiscal Year. The District is planning to offer the shortfall in our target ASQ volume in FY 07. Typically a variety of harvest methods are employed in the Medford District including: regeneration harvest; density management; selective harvest; commercial thinning; and salvage.

Land Use Allocation	Offered FY 06 volume		Total 2005—2014 (MBF)
	MBF	CCF	
AMA	43	68	18,055
North GFMA	22,566	38,169	42,253
South GFMA	4,365	7,489	9,756
Connectivity	234	398	234
Misc. Volume	987	1,693	3,437
Total Volume Offered from ASQ Lands	28,195	47,817	73,303
LSR Volume	1,964	3,465	3,471
Riparian Reserve Volume	-	-	0
Hardwood Volume	5	-	5
Total District Volume	30,159	51,282	77,206
District FY target Volume	53,400	90,780	100,447

- Data shown is for all advertised “Offered” timber sales.
- Misc. volume includes timber sale modifications, special forest products sold as saw timber and stewardship contract saw log volume.

As a result of continuing litigation on Survey and Manage requirements, the district was only able to offer 28.1 MMBF for FY 06. Additional FY06 volume resulting from negotiated sales, stewardship contracting and modifications to ongoing sales brought the total offered volume up to 30.1 MMBF. Compare this to the 53.4 MMBF the Medford was committed to offering as a step toward reaching the full ASQ.



Harvest Land Base (HLB)— The following lands are available for harvest under the District RMP Land Use Allocations (LUA), General Forest Management Area (GFMA), Connectivity/Diversity Blocks, Adaptive Management Areas (AMA), and within the designated Key Watersheds which overlay the other LUAs. The harvest land base is composed of the net available acres of suitable commercial forest land on which the ASQ calculation, using the TRIM-PLUS model, is based. Volume from the harvest land base is called “chargeable volume” as it is charged toward or against (a credit) the ASQ level declared in the RMP. The GFMA and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks equate to the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) Matrix land use allocation.

1) Summary of Volume Sold

Sold ASQ/Non ASQ Volume	FY06	FY 05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
ASQ Volume—Harvest Land Base	24.9	48.2	570.2
Non ASQ Volume—Reserves	0	0.1	n/a
Total	24.9	23.4	n/a

Sold Unawarded (as of 09/30/06) ASQ/Non ASQ Volume	FY06	FY 05-14
ASQ Volume—Harvest Land Base	11.5	32.9
Non ASQ Volume—Reserves	0.373	0.373
Total	11.9	33.3

2) Volume and Acres Sold by Allocations

ASQ Volume—Harvest Land Base	FY06	FY05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
Matrix	24.9	48.1	492.0
AMA	.46	6.4	171.0

ASQ Acres—Harvest Land Base	FY06	FY05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
Matrix	1,929	4,300	23,299
AMA	61	61	6,686

Key Watershed ASQ Volume— Harvest Land Base	FY06	FY05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
Key Watersheds	1.7	7.7	90.0

3) Sales Sold by Harvest Types

ASQ Volume—Harvest Land Base	FY06	FY05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
Regeneration Harvest	8.6	12.6	344.0
Commercial Thinning & Density Management	15.0	30.5	222.5
Other	3.6	3.6	4.3
Total	27.2	46.7	570.8

ASQ Acres—Harvest Land Base	FY06	FY05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
Regeneration Harvest	192	578	11,277
Commercial Thinning & Density Management	1,558	4,120	18,584
Other	244	244	548
Total	1,994	4,942	29,985

Reserve Acres	FY06	FY 05-14
Late-Successional Reserves	263	327
Riparian Reserves	0	0
Total	263	327

SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

The Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program in FY 2006. These sales included mushrooms, boughs, Christmas trees, wood burls, plant transplants, edibles and medicinals, floral greenery and wood products such as poles or fence posts.

The record of decision does not have any commitments for the sale of special forest products. The following table shows the special forest product sales for fiscal year 2006 on the Medford District.

Product	No. of Contracts	Quantity	Sold Value
Boughs-Coniferous	49	170,600 lbs	4,738
Burls & Miscellaneous	7	59,000 lbs	5,780
Christmas Tree Permits	0	0	0
Christmas Tree Tags	1,234	1,234	6,169
Ornamentals	0	0	0
Edibles & Medicinals	10	7301 lbs	471
Floral & Greenery	59	77602.5 lbs	2,140
Mosses-Bryophytes	1	500 lbs	7.50
Mushrooms-Fungi	44	2470 lbs	2,290
Seed & Seed Cones	1	25 Bushels	10
Transplants	0	0	0
Wood Products	259	4,657,997 cu. ft.	57,482.86
Total	1,664		\$79,088.36

ENERGY AND MINERALS

The Medford District has 10 active mining notices and one plan of operations. This is similar to the level of notices in 2005. The District processed five 3809 mining actions in FY 2006 and inspected 45 mining claim sites. The environmental assessment for a new plan of operations is currently out for public review. Three mining sites were reclaimed and we

continued to mitigate one abandoned mine environmental hazard site.

The District continues to use rock quarries as resources to sell mineral materials to the public and for BLM management activities. BLM uses gravel for timber sale road surfacing and large rocks for fish weir projects and culvert replacement. Fifty-six permits were

issued in FY 2006 for rock, many of these for decorative rock. One mineral material trespass was initiated and a second trespass is at the Interior Board of Land Appeals. No quarries were opened or closed.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS

No land tenure adjustments occurred within the District in 2006.

ACCESS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Because public and private lands are intermingled within the district boundary, each owner must cross the lands of the other in order to gain access to their lands and resources such as timber. Throughout most of the district this has been accomplished through reciprocal rights-of-way agreements with neighboring private landowners. The individual agreements and associated permits (a total of 103 on the district) are subject to the regulations which were in effect when they were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-way have been granted for projects such as driveway construction, residence utility lines, domestic and irrigation water pipelines, and legal ingress and egress.

TRANSPORTATION AND ROADS

During 2006, the District continued developing transportation management objectives for all roads controlled by the Bureau. Transportation management objectives have been used to support watershed analyses and to determine candidate roads for the decommissioning process. Road inventories, watershed analyses, and individual timber sale projects identified some roads and associated drainage features that posed a risk to aquatic or other resource values. Those activities identified included:

- surfacing dirt roads
- replacing deteriorated culverts

- replacing log fill culverts
- replacing undersized culverts in perennial streams to meet 100-year flood events

Other efforts were made to reduce overall road miles by closure or elimination of roads.

The District decommissioned approximately five miles of road through timber sale projects. Another 7.5 miles of road were closed by gates or barricades. Since the Resource Management Plan was initiated, approximately 433 miles of roads have been closed and 181 miles have been decommissioned.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Due to a vacancy in the district hazardous materials coordinator position, fewer actions occurred on the Medford District than in previous years.

- A CASHE report finding involving decommissioned underground storage tanks was resolved through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.
- Two environmental site assessments for easement acquisitions and land exchanges were completed.
- The emergency response contract for two hazardous waste incidents (meth lab dumps) were activated and administered. Local removals were completed on two additional sites.
- Water quality monitoring at Almeda Mine continued, access road maintenance was completed

and new limestone was added to outflow ditches to mitigate acid mine drainage.

- Preliminary investigations were performed and appropriate actions carried out on 22 reported illegal dumping and abandoned vehicle incidents.
- The program sent for recycling 350 junk tires recovered from illegal dumps on Public Lands including the Rogue River.
- A metal recycling account was implemented and approximately 5,000 pounds of scrap metal recovered from Public Lands were recycled.
- The program assisted the lands and realty program in the cleanup and restoration of two illegal occupancy mining sites.

WILDFIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

The 2006 fire season began on May 24 and ended November 2. Wildland fire potential indicators predicted normal activity for large fires throughout the Pacific Northwest. The Southwest Oregon Fire season resulted in a below normal year.

Oregon Department of Forestry provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District through a cost reimbursable contract. For the 2006 fire season the District experienced 34 wildfires which burned a total of 36 acres. This figure represents

more fires than last year, but significantly less acreage. Of the 34 fires, 28 were lightning caused and burned 27 acres. Human fire starts totaled six and burned nine acres.

Medford District's Fuels Management Program

The Medford District continues as a leader in Southwest Oregon in aggressive fuels management with the continued implementation of landscape scale projects focused on a primary goal of

fire hazard reduction under the National Fire Plan, Healthy Forest Initiative and The Health Forest and Restoration Act. Most acres of hazardous fuels reduction have been performed on BLM lands in the wildland-urban interface around communities at risk.

In 2006, 11,446 acres were treated with prescribed fire and 15,338 acres were

treated by hand or mechanical methods. The 2006 total treatment acres of 26,784 is higher than the 2005 total of 25,550 acres. Since 1996, the year landscape scale projects began showing results; the Medford District has treated by burning or mechanical means approximately 160,441 acres.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Medford District has three full time BLM Law Enforcement Rangers and, through a law enforcement agreement with the counties, the services of 4 deputy sheriffs from both Jackson and Josephine Counties. For fiscal year 2006, the District Ranger position was vacant. Law enforcement efforts on the Medford District for fiscal year 2006 included the following:

- Responding to and investigating natural resource crimes throughout the District
- Investigating occupancy trespass cases, mining occupancy and other trespasses
- Investigating drug and narcotic offenses (marijuana and methamphetamine)
- Coordinating law enforcement actions with other federal, state and local departments
- Investigating crimes against federal employees and federal property

Cases and incidents have resulted in 242 citations, 156 written warnings, 52 physical arrests, three fatalities, and the referral of cases to other agencies. Forty felonies and 129 misdemeanors were charged. Approximately 57,575 marijuana plants were seized and five methamphetamine labs were investigated. The District had a total resource and property value loss of \$427,237. Several forest protests occurred at the Grants Pass Interagency Office complex and in the field.

With a population increase over the last several years, law enforcement has seen a significant increase in criminal activity within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM) and the Wild and Scenic Rogue River relating to the unlawful use of OHV's, fish and game violations, fire violations and dumping. With developed outreach efforts within the CSNM, community members have responded to law enforcement in a

positive manner. The Wild and Scenic Rogue River has seen an increase in public safety and increased compliance relating to Special Recreation Permits. The remainder of the District observed an increase in incidents relating to drug production, mining, illegal off-road vehicles, resource damage, vandalism

to government property, dumping, large drug and alcohol parties, recovered stolen vehicles, fire violations, fish and game violations, transient camps, search and rescue efforts and resource theft.

The Medford District Law Enforcement Office entered 951 incidents into the BLM LAWNET System in 2006.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

The Medford District rangeland program administers grazing leases for 51 livestock operators on 52 active allotments and 43 vacant allotments. These grazing allotments include approximately 352,313 acres of the Medford District's 863,095 total acres.

Grazing is one of the many uses of the public lands. The primary goal of the grazing program is to provide livestock forage while maintaining or improving upland range conditions and riparian areas. To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Bureau conducts monitoring studies to help the manager determine if resource objectives are being met.

A portion of the grazing fees and operational funding is spent each year to maintain or complete rangeland improvement projects. These projects are designed to benefit wildlife, fisheries, and watershed resources while improving conditions for livestock grazing. The

Medford District has conducted the long-running Jenny Creek Riparian Enhancement Project each year since 1988 in coordination with the range program. This program was renamed Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Public Lands Day in 2006. These projects have resulted in numerous improvements, enhanced riparian systems and have built strong partnerships with livestock operators, friends, neighbors, and other organizations.

Livestock grazing regulations were revised in 1995 and are currently being revised again. Current grazing regulations direct the BLM to manage livestock grazing in accordance with the August 12, 1997, "Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands in Oregon and Washington." The fundamental characteristics of rangeland health combine physical function and biological health with elements of law

relating to water quality, and plant and animal populations and communities. Assessments of rangeland health are underway and will be completed on grazing allotments over a ten year period.

Following the evaluation and determination of rangeland health, lease renewals are subject to the appropriate level of environmental analysis as prescribed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Under existing law (Public Law 108-108, Section 325), grazing leases that expire during fiscal years 2004-2008 prior to the completion of the lease renewal process would be renewed. The existing terms and conditions of these leases will continue in effect until the lease renewal process can be completed in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

An update of the Medford District Rangeland Program Summary was completed in the year 2001 and summarizes changes which have occurred since the last update. Copies of this document are available by contacting our office. All future updates will be reported annually in this report, the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

FY 2006 Accomplishments

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM):

Under the mandate of the presidential proclamation to “study the impacts of livestock grazing on the objects of biological interest in the monument with specific attention to sustaining the natural ecosystem dynamics,” the BLM has implemented a Livestock Impacts Study within the CSNM on nine allotments since 2000. Data collection, including a multitude of studies, monitoring projects and literature review, was continued through fiscal year 2006.

Allotment Monitoring:

Ashland Field Office:

Within the CSNM

- Collected monitoring data for the Livestock Impact Study on seven allotments

Outside of the CSNM

- Collected monitoring data on seven allotments

Butte Falls Field Office:

- Collected monitoring data on three allotments

Rangeland Improvements:

Projects Completed:

Ashland Field Office: (includes National Public Lands Day Projects)

Within the CSNM

- Annual Maintenance on 14 Enclosures

Outside of the CSNM

- Annual Maintenance on 18 Exclosures
- Conducted maintenance on the Stateline Fence (border of Oregon and California)

Butte Falls Field Office:

- Annual Maintenance on 3 Exclosures
- Replaced 2 cattleguards
- Removed 3 miles of barbed wire fence

FY Planned Work:

Work will continue on botany surveys, Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations, and NEPA for lease renewals planned in 2007.

Rangeland Health Assessments:

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument:

Data analysis and report of findings is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2007. The BLM will use the data from the Livestock Impacts Study to:

- evaluate whether the allotments are meeting Oregon Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health and
- determine the compatibility of grazing practices with “protecting the objects of biological interest.”

Ashland Field Office:

- Poole Hill #20113
- Heppsie #10126

Lease Renewals:

Ashland Field Office:

Antelope Road	#10132	200 acres
Yankee Reservoir	#10134	120 acres
Canal	#10136	440 acres
Brownsboro	#10133	80 acres

Wild Horse and Burro Program:

A portion of the wild horse program consists of performing compliance checks on wild horses and burros adopted by people residing within the Medford District. Adopters are eligible to receive title to the animal after one year of care. The Medford District completed compliance checks on 25 adopters for a total of 34 horses and two burros to ensure proper care of adopted animals. Titles were issued to seven adopters for a total of nine horses and two burros.

The Medford District held a Wild Horse Adoption on February 24-25, 2006, at the Josephine County Fairgrounds. The adoption included a training demonstration and oral auction. Twenty-seven wild horses were adopted with successful adopters coming from Josephine, Jackson, and Curry counties and northern California.

Volunteers contributed their time to the wild horse program with the following:

- Support during the 2006 Wild Horse Adoption: Distributed flyers, provided information to the public regarding experiences with the wild horse program, assisted with horse trailer inspections and loading.
- Other support: Provided care and training for a promotion animal, picked up relinquished horses and transported them to new adopters, provided care for relinquished horses until new adopters were found.

CADASTRAL SURVEY

Fiscal year 2006 was once again a very busy year for the Medford District cadastral survey organization. Survey crews worked on four projects with a total of 25 miles of line surveyed or resurveyed and 25 survey monuments established or reestablished. Medford cadastral survey utilized survey-grade global positioning systems (GPS) to establish control points on the projects

that it completed, as well as using GPS to conduct surveys where practical.

Cadastral survey also responded to numerous questions and inquiries from private landowners, timber companies, private land surveyors, and district personnel regarding surveying procedures, status of ongoing surveys, and information about official plats and field notes.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Community Outreach and Action Plan

In 2006, the Medford District continued to implement its “Community Outreach and Action Plan.” The goal of the plan is to provide an effective public education and outreach program that demonstrates BLM’s role in the management of natural resources and increases understanding and support for BLM’s mission, programs and activities.

This plan focuses on five key messages:

- Forest management
- Fire and fuels
- Off-highway vehicle use (OHV)
- Management of special areas (Rogue National Wild and Scenic River and the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument)
- Watershed restoration

This year, the District’s Outreach and Public Education Network committee, environmental education coordinators and resource specialists successfully presented the District’s key messages to more than 25,000 people through the events discussed below.

Outreach Events and Shows

For these events and shows we created large educational exhibits, distributed educational materials, and provided professional staffing for each event. We met with approximately

15,000 participants at these events:

- Master Gardeners’ Show
- Safe Kids Safety Fair
- Jackson County Fair
- KTVL Kids Day
- Josephine County Fair
- Shady Cove Harvest Fair
- Salmon Festival
- Sportsmen’s Show
- Shady Cove Wildflower Show
- Earth Day

National Public Lands Day Events: For these events local volunteers joined BLM employees to complete maintenance and restoration activities on public lands. These events also provided an opportunity to discuss watershed restoration and forest management with the volunteers. Approximately 300 volunteers participated in the following events in 2006:

- Jenny Creek and Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Work Day
- Cathedral Hills Trail Maintenance
- Annual Rogue River Cleanup

Free Fishing Events: Along with our partners, the Medford District co-sponsored two events at Hyatt Lake—Free Fishing Day and CAST Day (focusing on special needs youth)—which encouraged families to experience the outdoors and learn to fish. During these local events of two national programs, the 300 participants and volunteers also learned about watershed restoration and forest management.

Environmental Education

The District's environmental education program encompasses interpretive and educational hikes and presentations given by environmental education specialists, resource specialists, and program/project leads to K-college students, service organizations, special interest groups, politicians and interested local residents. The District provided environmental education outreach to more than 10,000 participants in 2006.

Table Rocks Environmental Education Program: For more than 20 years, the District's Table Rocks Environmental Education program and The Nature Conservancy have offered a rich, field-based classroom using hands-on programs to present the diverse natural and cultural history of our area and the complexity of public land management. The program provides guided hikes for schools and community groups during the spring season.

In 2006, Table Rocks hike leads organized a weekend hike series that offered an opportunity to hike the Table Rocks with volunteer specialists from the community. The program reached more than 4,200 school children, teachers, parents, and individuals.

The program also offered in-classroom and PowerPoint presentations, regional natural history information for public events, an educational website

with accompanying curriculum. During the 2006 season, 2,600 students took part in classroom presentations.

McGregor Park Environmental Education Program: The McGregor Park facilities, along the Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway (Highway 62) just below Lost Creek Dam, are made available through a unique partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Land Management. The programs used a combination of outdoor and indoor settings providing the public and school groups exposure to natural and cultural history, and regional resource management challenges. Participants in the field school were led through hands-on, interactive, educational stations with activities and illustrative kits, interpretive hikes, and subject-specific presentations. The program at McGregor Park, open seasonally, provided outreach to 2,800 participants in 2006.

Other Outreach Programs: In 2006, more than 600 people participated in the diverse programs presented throughout the District.

- Girl Scouts-Women in Science Program
- State Park Campfire Programs
- Bear Creek Watershed Education Partners Symposium
- Native American Education Day at the V.A
- Kids Unlimited
- Latino Kids and Bugs education day

Public School Outreach

A very important component of public outreach is providing on-going environmental education within K-College school classrooms. Many city, county and private schools throughout the District participated in our educational programs. Specialists introduced the district's five outreach themes to approximately 300 students in 2006 .

Outreach Media and Materials

The District was involved in the production of numerous outreach materials and media information focusing on the District' five key themes. Media information and articles were prepared for television, magazines, newspapers,

Congressional briefings, and radio. These materials included production of interpretive panels, interpretive plans, brochures, informational flyers, educational displays, classroom curricula and educational web sites.

Outreach Partners: The District could not have achieved the extensive outreach we did without our partners who complement BLM's resource management message and increase the overall effectiveness and success of the many events in which we participated. Our partners are too numerous to list but include local, state and federal agencies; special interest groups and organizations; watershed councils; SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism); public and private schools, colleges, and universities; private businesses; and service organizations.

COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

Consultation and coordination with all levels of government have been ongoing and are a standard practice in the Medford District. On the Federal level, the District consults with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service on matters relating to Federally listed threatened or endangered species. The District coordinates its activities with the U.S. Forest Service on matters pertaining to the Applegate AMA and also through development of interagency watershed analyses. State level consultation and

coordination occurs with the State Historic Preservation Office for Section 106 compliance, and with Oregon Department of Forestry, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. On a local level, the district consults with Native American tribal organizations in Jackson and Josephine Counties.

Resource Advisory Committees have been meeting and selecting projects to fund and complete. The projects in the table on the next page were selected and funded at the listed level:

Project Name	Project Number	County	RAC Recommend/ Approve Funding
Rock Creek Culvert	118-617	Josephine	\$ 82,500
Rogue River Trail Maint.	117-612	Josephine	\$ 8,800
Medford Air Tanker Base	110-604	4 counties	\$ 15,507
Upper J Louse Sediment Reduction.	117-619	Josephine	\$ 150,040
Roadside Brushing	118-621	Josephine	\$ 42,570
London Peak and Burma Pond Trail Maintenance	118-620	Josephine	\$ 6,600
Lone Pine Prospect Trail	117-605	Josephine	\$ 5,500
Illegal Dump Patrol & Clean up	117-625	Josephine	\$ 133,118
Rogue River Cleanup Day	117-613	Josephine	\$ 11,000
Integrated Woodland Mgmt	117-626	Josephine	\$ 22,600
Sucker Ck. Restoration	117-617	Josephine	\$ 12,804
Deer Stew	117-610	Josephine	\$ 160,000
Grants Pass Stewardship	117-628	Josephine	\$ 206,250
Anderson West	117-609	Josephine	\$ 279,125
Rogue River W&S Hazardous Fuels Reduction	117-616	Josephine	\$ 174,500
Wolf Creek Hazardous Fuels Reduction	118-602	Josephine	\$ 118,250
Targeted Fuels Reduction for Citizens with Special Needs	117-623	Josephine	\$ 139,920
Bowhill Fuels Reduction	117-621	Josephine	\$ 51,700
Ecological Monitoring: Healthy Forest Initiative Rogue Pilot Proj	117-601	Josephine	\$ 33,924
Rogue River Noxious Weed Removal	117-615	Josephine	\$ 8,800
Forestry Work Exp. Youth Crews/Youth to Work	118-615	Josephine	\$ 41,076
Illinois Valley Noxious Weed Control	117-627	Josephine	\$ 25,368
Noxious Weed Removal	118-619	Josephine	\$ 20,350
McMullin Creek Habitat Enhancement	117-614	Josephine	\$ 16,830
West Fork Illinois River Bridge	117-629	Josephine	\$ 186,475
Roadside Brushing	115-616	Jackson	\$ 33,000
Youth to Work Program	118-622	Jackson	\$ 10,450
Evans Road Rocking Project	115-601	Jackson	\$ 135,300
Elk Creek Road Repair	115-609	Jackson	\$ 184,000
Fencing Pinehurst School District	116-607	Jackson	\$ 24,919
Burnt Peak/Ulrich Road Rocking Project	115-617	Jackson	\$ 187,000
Upper Table Rock Parking Lot	115-602	Jackson	\$ 38,500
Elk Creek Culverts	115-607	Jackson	\$ 36,500
Elk Creek Road Rocking Project	115-610	Jackson	\$ 74,800
Butte Creek Culvert Replacement	115-611	Jackson	\$ 36,655
BLM/ODF Cascade Siskiyou Natl. Monument Fire Project	116-603	Jackson	\$ 34,050
Star Gulch Habitat Improvement	116-609	Jackson	\$ 25,000
Seven Basins Fuels Reduction Project	115-615	Jackson	\$ 129,155
Forest Creek Water Quality & Fish Habitat Improvement	116-601	Jackson	\$ 34,379
Ashland Resource Area Weed Treatments	116-602	Jackson	\$ 110,000
Implement Timber Mountain/ Johns Peak OHV Plan	116-605	Jackson	\$ 84,445
Collection, Production, and Revegetation of Disturbed Sites Using Native Plants	110-606	Jackson	\$ 50,000
North Fork Big Butte Creek Culvert Replacement	115-606	Jackson	\$ 88,000
Indian Creek Culvert	115-605	Jackson	\$ 108,000
Timbered Rock Fire Stream Habitat Restoration Project	115-613	Jackson	\$ 41,000
Table Rock Environmental Education Program Support	115-613	Jackson	\$ 22,000
Educational Outreach Program Support	115-612	Jackson	\$ 33,000
Table Rock Environmental Education Program Enhancement	115-614	Jackson	\$ 60,500
Noxious Weed Removal	118-605	Douglas	\$ 20,350
Noxious Weed Removal & Management	118-611	Douglas	\$ 39,872
Forestry Work Experience Youth Crews/ Youth to Work	118-613	Douglas	\$ 41,076
Roadside Brushing	118-603	Douglas	\$ 42,570
Quines Creek Culvert Replacement	118-610	Douglas	\$ 220,000
Collection, Production and Revegetation of Disturbed Sites Using Native Plants	110-602	Douglas	\$ 50,000
Renovation of Snow Creek	118-606	Douglas	\$ 3,300
Tennessee Gulch Fish Habitat Enhancement	118-609	Douglas	\$ 3,850
South Douglas County Water Availability II	118-614	Douglas	\$ 148,093
Roadside Brushing	118-601	Curry	\$ 13,200
Marial Ranch Alternate Route	118-602	Curry	\$ 169,400

PLANNING AND NEPA DOCUMENTS

Plan Maintenance

The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) was approved in April 1995. Since then, the district has implemented the plan across the entire spectrum of resources and land use allocations. During the life of a plan, both minor changes or refinements and possibly major changes brought about by new information or policy may occur. The plan establishes mechanisms to respond to these situations. Maintenance actions respond to minor data changes and incorporation of activity plans. This maintenance is limited to further refining or documenting a previously approved decision incorporated in the plan. Plan maintenance will not result in expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved resource management plan. Maintenance actions are not considered a plan amendment and do not require the formal public involvement and interagency coordination process undertaken for plan amendments.

Previous plan maintenance has been published in past Medford District Annual Program Summaries. The following additional items have been implemented on the Medford District as part of the plan maintenance during fiscal year 2005. These plan maintenance items

represent minor changes, refinements or clarifications that do not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved resource management plan.

Plan Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2006

No plan maintenance was undertaken in FY 2006.

Plan Revision

In August 2003, the U.S. Department of Justice, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture signed a Settlement Agreement which settles litigation with the American Forest Resource Council, and the Association of O&C Counties, hereafter referred to as the Settlement Agreement, (AFRC v. Clarke, Civil No. 94-1031-TPJ (D.D.C.)). Among other items in the Settlement Agreement, the BLM is required to revise the six existing Resource Management Plans by December, 2008 in western Oregon consistent with the O&C Act as interpreted by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Under the Settlement Agreement, the BLM is required to consider an alternative in the land use plan revisions which will not create any reserves on O&C lands, except as required to avoid jeopardy under the

Endangered Species Act (ESA) or meet other legal obligations. In FY 2004, the BLM in western Oregon began making preparations in order to comply with Resource Management Plan revision section of the Settlement Agreement. In 2005 the BLM began the large and long task of revising the Western Oregon land use plans. Public scoping meetings were attended in the summer and fall and many comments were received on what was important and how alternatives should be assembled. Alternatives are being created and public feedback has been received. We expect to complete a draft plan in June 2007.

Survey and Manage Program Update—FY 2006

On August 1, 2005, the U.S. District Court order in Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, et al. v. Rey, et al. found portions of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards

and Guidelines (January, 2004) (EIS) to be inadequate. A subsequent order on January 9, 2006:

- set aside the 2004 Record of Decision To Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines in Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern spotted Owl (March, 2004) (2004 ROD) and
- reinstated the 2001 Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines (January, 2001) (2001ROD), including any amendments or modifications in effect as of March 21, 2004.

The Survey and Manage program is currently being implemented according to direction specified in Instruction Memorandum OR-2006-029.

**MONITORING REPORT
FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2006**

MONITORING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Introduction

This document represents the eleventh monitoring report of the Medford District Resource Management Plan for which the Record of Decision was signed in April 1995. This monitoring report compiles the results of implementation monitoring of the eleventh year of implementation of the Resource Management Plan. Included in this report are the projects that took place from October 2005 through September 2006. Effectiveness and validation monitoring will be conducted in subsequent years when projects mature or proceed long enough for the questions asked under these categories of monitoring to be answered.

Background

The BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9) call for the monitoring and evaluation of resource management plans at appropriate intervals.

Monitoring is an essential component of natural resource management because it provides information on the relative success of management strategies. The implementation of the RMP is being monitored to ensure that management actions:

- follow prescribed management direction (implementation monitoring),
- meet desired objectives (effectiveness monitoring) and

- are based on accurate assumptions (validation monitoring) (see Appendix L, Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan).

Some effectiveness monitoring and most validation monitoring will be accomplished by formal research. The nature of the questions concerning effectiveness monitoring require some maturation of implemented projects in order to discern results. This and validation monitoring will be conducted as appropriate in subsequent years.

Monitoring Overview

This monitoring report focuses on the implementation questions contained in the Resource Management Plan. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary, such as accomplishment reports. (A copy of both lists are included in appendix B.) The monitoring plan for the Resource Management Plan incorporates the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan.

Monitoring at multiple levels and scales along with coordination with other BLM and Forest Service units has been initiated through the Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC). At the request of the RIEC, the Regional

Ecosystem Office started a regional-scale implementation monitoring program. This province-level monitoring was completed for the eleventh year.

Monitoring Results and Findings

Implementation monitoring was based on a process developed by the Medford District Research and Monitoring Committee. The basis was Appendix L of the RMP/ROD. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary or completed reports (copies of the questions are included in Appendix B). Projects were randomly selected for monitoring for the period from October 2005 to September 2006.

The following process was used for selecting individual projects to meet the RMP ROD implementation monitoring standards:

The list of projects occurring in FY 2006 were based on the following stratification:

- All advertised timber sales
- All silvicultural projects
- Riparian Restoration Projects
- Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects
- Wildlife Habitat Restoration Projects
- Fuel Reduction Projects
- Road Restoration Projects
- Miscellaneous Projects

A random number was selected, with every fifth project from the list selected to be monitored (the monitoring plan in the ROD required 20 percent of projects within each area to be monitored.)

The NEPA documents, watershed analysis files and the Late-Successional Reserve Assessments applicable to each of the selected projects were reviewed and compared to answer the first part of the implementation monitoring question: “Were the projects prepared in accord with the underlying ROD requirements, NEPA and/or watershed analysis documentation, and/or Late Successional Reserve Assessment documentation?”

A summary of the district monitoring follows.

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects for FY 2006

Project Type	# Ashland R.A.	# Butte Falls R.A.	# Glendale R.A.	# Grants Pass R.A.	Total # District
Timber Sales	0	1	3	2	6
Silviculture Projects	3	6	0	1	10
Riparian Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	6	3	0	5	14
Road Restoration	0	0	0	1	1
Other Projects	5	20	1	6	32

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects Selected for Monitoring FY 2006

Project Type	# Ashland R.A.	# Butte Falls R.A.	# Glendale R.A.	# Grants Pass R.A.	Total # District
Timber Sales	0	0	1	0	1
Silviculture Projects	1	1	0	0	2
Riparian Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	1	1	0	1	3
Road Restoration	0	0	0	0	0
Other Projects	1	4	0	1	6

Note: See Appendix A for all projects considered and projects selected for monitoring.

Projects were selected for monitoring based on the guidelines contained in Appendix L of the RMP/ROD.

The Medford District started or completed 63 projects from October 2005 through September 2006. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, collection of special forest products and trail renovation. The projects were sorted into the following categories:

Timber Sales	Riparian Projects
Silvicultural Projs.	Fish Habitat work
Wildlife Habitat	Prescribed Burns
Road Restorations	Other

Projects that required environmental assessments or categorical exclusions were randomly selected for office and field review. Appendix L generally requires a 20 percent sample to be evaluated.

For each project selected, we answered the project-specific questions included in Appendix B. Questions of a general nature (Appendix B, second list of questions) are addressed in the specific program articles found in the beginning of this document.

The Medford District is separated into four resource areas. Projects were selected from all resource areas and answers to the monitoring questions for the individual actions based on a review

of the files and NEPA documentation. Some questions asked for information that required field review of projects before they were started and other questions required information gathered after projects were completed. Necessary monitoring field trips were conducted over the entire Medford District.

Findings

The Medford District found a high level of compliance with the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) contained in the Medford Resource Management Plan and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our eleventh year of monitoring evaluation continues to support our earlier observations that, overall the District is doing a good job of implementing the Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District RMP. The District has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

Field review of the timber sales and projects indicated that the intent and requirements for the S&Gs have been met for the sampled and completed projects.

Projects received field visits so that the selected monitoring questions could be answered or required pre-harvest measurements taken. The projects were reviewed in the field for the different factors listed below.

- Special Attention Species
- Coarse Woody Debris
- Fish Habitat
- Riparian Reserves
- Wildlife Habitat
- Structures in Riparian Reserves
- Snag Retention
- Special Status Species
- Special Areas

Riparian reserves were measured and found to have the correct size buffers for the different type of streams. All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the record of decision. The project results and information on the monitoring process is available at the Medford District Office. As a result

of observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past eleven years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.

A portion of the questions asked in the monitoring appendix concern projects that have not been completed and which deal with pretreatment conditions. Measurements of riparian reserves, surveys of green tree and snag retention, coarse woody debris levels, and special attention species were completed on projects and will be reviewed again when the project has been completed. Some projects may take up to three years to be completed.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. MONITORING

Projects subjected to sampling:

Timber Sales

Westside
Rum Creek LSR
Deer Creek Fire Salvage

August Knob Salvage
Middle Cow LSR
Wasson Fire Salvage

Silvicultural Projects

Young Stand Mgmt w/Fuels Haz Redt.
Tree Planting & Scalping
Brush & Hardwood cutting
Baker Cypress Planting
PCT, Brushing FY 2006-2007

Tree Planting/ Veg Maint
PCT / Thinning & Brushing
Tree Planting FY 2006
Conifer Pruning
PCT, Brushing Add on FY 06 - 07

Roads and Construction

Rock Creek Road Chipseal

Prescribed Burn Projects

Neighborhood Fuels Reduction Projects
Peco Hazardous Fuels Reduction
New Hope Hazardous Fuels Reduction
Forest Creek 36B
Galls Creek Fuels
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (grass)
Sykes Creek Title II Hazardous Reduction

Stringer Hazardous Fuels Reduction
Pinecrest Hazardous Fuels Reduction
Joint Fire Science Fuel Reduction
Little Applegate Forest Restoration
China Keeler 2D & Boaz 3
Fuels Reduction @ Lower TR

Other

Limestone Challenge Recreation
Althouse Tributary Culvert Replacement
West Fork Illinois Bridge
Liles Road Project

Rogue River Ranch Wall Replacement
Pistis Ministries Mountain Bike Race
Joe-Louse Sediment Reduction
Woodrat Mtn Hanglider Site Maint.

Gopher Trapping	Helispot & Safety Zone Creation
Ferris Gulch Hazard Tree Sale	Blossom Fire Rehabilitation
Worthington Fence & Construction	Qwest R/W amendment OR 22628
ARJ Fence Removal	Longbrake R/W OR 62308
Comm Site Renewal @ Flounce Rock	Berry Rock Exchange
Clark Cedar Salvage	Kneeland R/W Grant
Gopher Trapping FY 06	“A” Road Salvage
Goolaway Cedar Salvage	Dixie Blowdown Salvage
Sappinton R/W OR 63678	Sprint R/W
Temporary Corral	Nugget Falls Whitewater Rodeo
Netherlands Fence	Upper & Lower Trail Renovation
Sykes Creek Title II Project II	Flying Burl

FY 2006 Sampled Project List (by category)

Timber Sales

Middle Cow LSR

Silvicultural Projects

Tree Planting & Scalping

Conifer Pruning

Prescribed Burn Projects

Peco Hazardous Fuels Reduction
Fuels Reduction @ Lower TR

Little Applegate Forest Restoration

Other

Althouse Tributary Culvert Replacement
Worthington Fence & Construction
Goolaway Cedar Salvage

Woodrat Mtn Hanglider Site Maint.
Berry Rock Exchange
Nugget Falls Whitewater Rodeo

APPENDIX B: MONITORING QUESTIONS

Implementation Monitoring for Fiscal Year 2006

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for FY 06. The first list, 2006 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, have been used for specific projects for monitoring.

The second list, APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, have been addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

Medford District

2006 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Listed below are the Implementation Monitoring Requirements and Questions as described in Appendix L of the Medford District ROD for the RMP.

All Land Use Allocations

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

Protection of SEIS special attention species so as not to elevate their status to any higher level of concern.

Implementation Monitoring

1. Are surveys for the species listed in Appendix C conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes; projects sampled: Middle Cow LSR timber sale, Tree Planting and Scalping, Conifer pruning, Pecos hazardous fuel reduction, Little Applegate Forest restoration, Lower Table Rock fuels reduction, Althouse Tributary culvert replacement, Woodrat Mtn Hanglider Site maintenance, Worthington Fence & construction, Berry Rock Exchange, Goolaway Cedar Salvage, and Nugget Falls Whitewater Rodeo.

2. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the upland forest matrix?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes; projects sampled: Middle Cow LSR timber sale, Tree Planting and Scalping, Conifer pruning, Pecos hazardous fuel reduction, Little Applegate Forest restoration, Lower Table Rock fuels reduction, Althouse Tributary culvert replacement, Woodrat Mtn Hanglider Site maintenance, Worthington Fence & construction, Berry Rock Exchange, Goolaway Cedar Salvage, and Nugget Falls Whitewater Rodeo.

3. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being protected?
Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes; projects sampled: Middle Cow LSR timber sale, Tree Planting and Scalping, Conifer pruning, Pecos hazardous fuel reduction, Little Applegate Forest restoration, Lower Table Rock fuels reduction, Althouse Tributary culvert replacement, Woodrat Mtn Hanglider Site maintenance, Worthington Fence & construction, Berry Rock Exchange, Goolaway Cedar Salvage, and Nugget Falls Whitewater Rodeo.

Riparian Reserves

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

See Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.

Implementation Monitoring

7. Are watershed analyses being completed before on-the-ground actions are initiated in Riparian Reserves?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes, lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2006 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

8. Is the width and integrity of the Riparian Reserves being maintained?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes, the Riparian Reserve widths have been based on the established guidelines. Project sampled: Middle

Cow LSR. The Healthy Murph Project was inside a Late Successional Management Area. Areas inside the riparian zones were to be treated to create a stand that is on a trajectory to reach late-successional condition. On all units, a minimum 25ft, no treatment, buffer, from bankfull width, would be used to protect streambank stability.

Riparian Width (165' & 330') # 1 = 144'
(No cut for 25 feet) # 2 = 126'
3 = 124'
4 = 178'
5 = 305'
6 = 132'

- 10A. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Project sampled: Althouse Tributary culvert replacement.

- 10B. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Project sampled, Althouse Tributary culvert replacement.

- 10C. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Project sampled, Althouse Tributary culvert replacement.

11. Are new structures and improvements in Riparian Reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths, reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream, protect fish and wildlife populations, and accommodate the 100-year flood?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes.

- 12 A) Are all mining structures, support facilities, and roads located outside the riparian reserves? B) Are those located within the riparian reserves meeting the objectives of the aquatic conservation strategy? C) Are all solid and sanitary waste facilities excluded from riparian reserves or located, monitored, and reclaimed in accordance with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—N/A

Matrix

19. Are suitable numbers of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left following timber harvest as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

One timber sale (Healthy Murph) reviewed had no regeneration harvests in it. The Slick Sand project has not been sold yet) In the timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris is available.

20. Are timber sales being designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix?

Yes, all timber sales are designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix. All resources are analyzed for impacts including; wildlife, soils, hydrology, plants, social, cultural, as well as others.

21. Are late-successional stands being retained in fifth-field watersheds in which federal forest lands have 15 percent or less late-successional forest?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—No regeneration harvests were planned in any watersheds that had 15% or less late-successional forest in them. RMP objectives were met.

Air Quality

23. Were efforts made to minimize the amount of particulate emissions from prescribed burns?

Prescribed burns were all in the form of burn piles rather than broadcast burning. Not all of the piled material has been burned. The piles that have been burned were done so in prescription and according to their individual burn plans when prescribed conditions were available. Overall particulate emissions can be minimized from prescribed burning through ignition timing, aggressive mop-up, and the reduction of large heavy fuels consumed by fire.

24. Are dust abatement measures used during construction activities and on roads during BLM timber harvest operations and other BLM commodity hauling activities?

The timber sales contain abatement specifications as part of the contract. Water is required to abate dust during the construction phase of the contract.

Soil and Water

26. Are site-specific Best Management Practices identified as applicable during interdisciplinary review carried forward into project design and execution?

The Healthy Murph Timber Sale was the timber sale selected but has not been completed yet. Best management practices were examined based on contract specifications. Skid trail locations are to be approved ahead of time, the maximum area for skid trails is to be less than 12% of the area, existing skid roads are to be used when available, tractor yarding will be limited seasonally.

- 27B. Are watershed analyses being performed prior to management activities in key watersheds?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes, lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2006 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

Wildlife Habitat

38. Are suitable (diameter, length and numbers) of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left in a manner that meets the needs of species and provides for ecological functions in harvested areas as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Yes. The timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris are available. The Middle Cow LSR (Healthy Murph) timber sale has no regeneration units in it.

39. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Healthy Murph. Seasonal restrictions are in place for spotted owl habitat and buffers on riparian reserves and for special status plants have been put in place.

Fish Habitat

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?

The Middle Cow LSR (Healthy Murph) timber sale has identified at-risk fish species and have designed features to avoid adverse impacts to them.

44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

The Middle Cow LSR (Healthy Murph) timber sale has identified at-risk fish species and has designed features to avoid adverse impacts to them.

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

46. Are special status species being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions? During forest management and other actions that may disturb special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances?

The Medford District has consulted with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on various management projects. All major ground disturbing activities involve discussion with USFWS concerning special status species. This may consist of a verbal discussion, or range up to and include a formal biological assessment.

47. Are the actions identified in plans to recover species and the requirements and recommendations in the biological opinion being implemented in a timely manner?

Recovery Plans are met or exceeded.

Special Areas

- 53A. Are BLM actions and BLM-authorized actions/uses near or within special areas consistent with RMP objectives and management direction for special areas?

N/A

- 53B. If mitigation was required, was it incorporated in the authorization document?

No mitigation was required, projects were not close to any special areas.

- 53C. If mitigation was required, was it carried out as planned?

No mitigation required.

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

- 60A. Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?

Cultural surveys were completed. Yes.

- 60B. During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately mitigate?

No mitigation required.

Visual Resources

64. Are visual resource design features and mitigation methods being followed during timber sales and other substantial actions in Class II and III areas?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes; All of the units in Healthy Murph were partial harvests and met Visual Class II and III guidelines.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

65. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions consistent with protection of the ORVs of designated, suitable, and eligible, but not studied, rivers?

Compliance/Monitoring Result—N/A

Rural Interface Areas

67. Are design features and mitigation measures developed and implemented to avoid/minimize impacts to health, life, property, and quality of life and to minimize the possibility of conflicts between private and federal land management?

Projects sampled: Yes; Healthy Murph.

Noxious Weeds

76. Are noxious weed control methods compatible with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Yes.

Medford District APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

This list of questions are addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

All Land Use Allocations

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 225)

4. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being surveyed as directed in the SEIS ROD?
5. Are high priority sites for species management being identified?
6. Are general regional surveys being conducted to acquire additional information and to determine necessary levels of protection for arthropods and fungi species that were not classed as rare and endemic, bryophytes, and lichens?

Riparian Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 226)

- 9A. What silvicultural practices are being applied to control stocking, re-establish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 9B. Are management actions creating a situation where riparian reserves are made more susceptible to fire?

- 13A. Are new recreation facilities within the Riparian Reserves designed to meet, and where practicable, contribute to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 13B. Are mitigation measures initiated where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Late Successional Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 228)

- 14. What is the status of the preparation of assessments and fire plans for Late-Successional Reserves?
- 15A. What activities were conducted or authorized within Late-Successional Reserves and how were they compatible with the objectives of the Late-Successional Reserve Assessment?
- 15B. Were the activities consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines, with RMP management direction, and Regional Ecosystem Office review requirements, and the Late-Successional Reserve assessment?
- 16. What is the status of development and implementation of plans to eliminate or control non-native species which adversely impact late-successional objectives?
- 17. What land acquisitions occurred, or are under way, to improve the area, distribution, and quality of late-successional reserves?

Adaptive Management Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 229)

- 18A. Are the adaptive management area (AMA) plans being developed?
- 18B. Do the AMA plans establish future desired conditions?

Matrix

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 230)

22. What is the age and type of the harvested stands?

Air Quality

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 231)

- 25A. Are conformity determinations being prepared prior to activities which may: contribute to a new violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, increase the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay the timely attainment of a standard?
- 25B. Has an interagency monitoring grid been established in southwestern Oregon?

Soil and Water

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 232)

- 27A. What watershed analyses have been or are being performed?
28. In watersheds where municipal providers have agreements, have the agreements been checked to determine if the terms and conditions have been met?
29. What is the status of identification of instream flow needs for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat, and riparian resources?
30. What watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented?
31. What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
32. What is the status of development of road or transportation management plans to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

33. What is the status of preparation of criteria and standards which govern the operation, maintenance, and design for the construction and reconstruction of roads?
- 34A. What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk?
- 34B. What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within Key Watersheds?
- 34C. If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in Key Watersheds?
35. What is the status of reviews of ongoing research in Key Watersheds to ensure that significant risk to the watershed does not exist?
- 36A. What is the status of evaluation of recreation, interpretive, and user-enhancement activities/facilities to determine their effects on the watershed?
- 36B. What is the status of eliminating or relocating these activities/facilities when found to be in conflict with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 37A. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies in the development of watershed-based Research Management Plans and other cooperative agreements to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 37B. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies to identify and eliminate wild ungulate impacts which are inconsistent with attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Wildlife Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 234)

40. What is the status of designing and implementing wildlife habitat restoration projects?
41. What is the status of designing and constructing wildlife interpretive and other user-enhancement facilities?

Fish Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 235)

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?
43. Are fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities being designed and implemented which contribute to attainment of aquatic conservation strategy objectives?
44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 236)

48. What coordination with other agencies has occurred in the management of special status species?
49. What land acquisitions occurred or are underway to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species?
50. What site-specific plans for the recovery of special status species were, or are being, developed?
51. What is the status of analysis which ascertains species requirements or enhances the recovery or survival of a species?

52. What is the status of efforts to maintain or restore the community structure, species composition, and ecological processes of special status plant and animal habitat?

Special Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 238)

54. What is the status of the preparation, revision, and implementation of ACEC management plans?
- 55A. Are interpretive programs and recreation uses being developed and encouraged in ONAs?
- 55B. Are the outstanding values of the ONAs being protected from damage?
56. What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the RNAs and EEAs?
57. Are existing BLM actions and BLM authorized actions and uses not consistent with management direction for special areas being eliminated or relocated?
- 58A. Are actions being identified which are needed to maintain or restore the important values of the special areas?
- 58B. Are the actions being implemented?
59. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the SEIS ROD?

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 239)

61. What mechanisms have been developed to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes?

62. What efforts are being made to work with American Indian groups to accomplish cultural resource objectives and achieve goals outlined in existing memoranda of understanding and to develop additional memoranda as needs arise?
63. What public education and interpretive programs were developed to promote the appreciation of cultural resources?

Wild and Scenic Rivers

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 241)

- 66A. Are existing plans being revised to conform to aquatic conservation strategy objectives?
- 66B. Are revised plans being implemented?

Socioeconomic Conditions

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 243)

68. What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities?
69. Are RMP implementation strategies being identified that support local economies?
70. What is the status of planning and developing amenities (such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities) that enhance local communities?

Recreation

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 244)

71. What is the status of the development and implementation of recreation plans?

Timber Resources

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 245)

72. By land-use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management objectives?
73. Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the calculation of the expected sale quantity implemented?

Special Forest Products

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 246)

74. Is the sustainability and protection of special forest product resources ensured prior to selling special forest products?
75. What is the status of the development and implementation of specific guidelines for the management of individual special forest products?

Fire/Fuels Management

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 247)

77. What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves and Adaptive Management Areas?
78. Have additional analysis and planning been completed to allow some natural fires to burn under prescribed conditions?
79. Do wildfire suppression plans emphasize maintaining late-successional habitat?

80. Have fire management plans been completed for all at risk late successional areas?
81. What is the status of the interdisciplinary team preparation and implementation of regional fire management plans which include fuel hazard reduction plans?

APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF ONGOING PLANS AND ANALYSES

Western Oregon Plan Revision

In August 2003, the U.S. Department of Justice, on behalf of the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture signed a Settlement Agreement which settles litigation with the American Forest Resource Council and the Association of O&C Counties, hereafter referred to as the Settlement Agreement (AFRC vs Clarke, Civil No. 94-1031-TPJ (D.D.C.)). Among other items in the Settlement Agreement, by December 2008, the BLM is required to revise the six existing Resource Management Plans in western Oregon consistent with the O&C Act as interpreted by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Under the Settlement Agreement, the BLM is required to consider an alternative in the land use plan revisions which will not create any reserves on O&C lands, except as required to avoid jeopardy under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or meet other legal obligations. In FY 2004, the BLM in western Oregon began making preparations in order to comply with Resource Management Plan revision section of the Settlement Agreement. In 2005, the BLM began the large and long task of revising the Western Oregon land use plans. Public scoping meetings were attended in the summer and fall and many comments were received on

what was important and how alternatives should be assembled. Alternatives are being created and public feedback has been received. We expect to complete a draft plan in August 2007.

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument Management Plan

This management plan has been in the works since the President Clinton made the area a National Monument. The Final Plan/EIS was completed and made available to the public in the Spring 2005. A Record of Decision will be completed and available in Spring 2007.

The grazing study for this area has been completed and the Range Health Assessment will be completed in Summer 2007. The beginning NEPA steps will commence in 2007.

Timber Mountain/John's Peak OHV Plan

Numerous public meetings have been held on this management plan during the scoping process. The scoping process seeks ideas, issues and comments from the public to be able to capture all the concerns that may exist. We expect to complete the draft plan in the fall/winter of 2007.

Survey and Manage Program

On January 9, 2006, a U.S. District Court order in *Northwest Ecosystem Alliance et al. v. Rey et al.*, set aside the 2004 Record of Decision To Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines in Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern spotted Owl (March, 2004) (2004 ROD) and reinstated the 2001 Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines (January, 2001) (2001 ROD), including any amendments or modifications in effect as of March 21, 2004. The U.S. District Court subsequently modified this order to exempt four types of activities from the injunction such that the decision to eliminate the survey and manage provision is effective as to these activities. In general, these

activities are described as thinning in stands of timber less than 80 years in age, stream improvement or restoration projects, road decommissioning, and fuel hazard reduction projects other than those that would involve harvest in timber stands greater than 80 years old. Also, subsequent to this court order in *Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center et al. v. Boody et al.*, the Ninth Circuit held that the changes in survey and manage protection regarding the red tree vole resulting from the 2001 and 2003 Annual Species Reviews are invalid under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). During fiscal year 2007, we expect to resolve the concerns raised in the court opinions through a supplemental EIS.

The Survey and Manage program is currently being implemented according to direction specified in the court order and in BLM Instruction Memorandum OR-2006-029.

APPENDIX D. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACEC —Area of Critical Environmental Concern	O&C —Oregon and California Revested Lands
AMA —Adaptive Management Area	ODEQ —Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ASQ —Allowable Sale Quantity	ODFW —Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
BLM —Bureau of Land Management	OSHA —Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CBWR —Coos Bay Wagon Road	OSU —Oregon State University
CCF —Hundred cubic feet	PD —Public Domain Lands
CFR —Code of Federal Regulations	PILT —Payment in Lieu of Taxes
DEQ —Department of Environmental Quality	PL —Public Law
EEA —Environmental Education Area	REO —Regional Ecosystem Office
FY —Fiscal Year	RIEC —Regional Interagency Executive Committee
GCDB —Geographic Coordinates Data Base	RMP —Resource Management Plan
GFMA —General Forest Management Area	RMP/ROD —The <i>Medford District Resource Management Plan</i> and <i>Record of Decision</i>
GIS —Geographic Information System	RNA —Research Natural Area
GPS —Global Positioning System	ROD —Record of Decision
LSF —Late Successional Forest	SA —Special Attention Species
LSR —Late-Successional Reserve	S&G —Standards and Guidelines
MBF —Thousand board feet	SS —Special Status Species
MMBF —Million board feet	USFS —U.S. Forest Service
MOU —Memorandum of Understanding	
NFP —Northwest Forest Plan	

APPENDIX E. DEFINITIONS

Adaptive Management Area (AMA)—The Medford District’s Applegate AMA is managed to restore and maintain late-successional forest habitat while developing and testing management approaches to achieve the desired economic and other social objectives.

anadromous fish — Fish that are born and reared in fresh water, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to fresh water to reproduce, e.g., salmon, steelhead and shad.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)—An area of BLM-administered lands where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural or scenic values; fish and wildlife resources; or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

candidate species—Plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. These are taxa for which the Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposal to list, but issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions.

fifth field watershed—A watershed size designation of approximately 20-200 square miles in size.

fiscal year (FY)—The federal financial year. It is a period of time from October 1 of one year to September 31 of the following year.

hazardous materials—Anything that poses a substantive present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

iteration—Something said or performed again; repeated.

late successional reserve—A forest in its mature and/or old-growth stages that has been reserved.

lay down fence—A fence capable of being put down in winter to allow less damage from winter weather.

matrix land—Federal land outside of reserves and special management areas which will be available for timber harvest at varying levels.

noxious plant/weed—A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome and difficult to control.

precommercial thinning—The practice of removing some of the trees less than merchantable size from a stand so that remaining trees will grow faster.

prescribed fire—A fire burning under specified conditions that will accomplish certain planned objectives.

refugia—Locations and habitats that support populations of organisms that are limited to small fragments of their previous geographic ranges.

Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC)—A senior regional interagency entity which assures the prompt, coordinated, successful implementation at the regional level of the forest management plan standards and guidelines .

research natural area—An area that contains natural resource values of scientific interest and is managed primarily for research and educational purposes.

Resource Management Plan—A land use plan prepared by the BLM under current regulations in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

riparian reserves—Designated riparian areas found outside late successional reserves.

SEIS Special Attention Species—A term which incorporates the “Survey and Manage” and “Protection Buffer” species from the Northwest Forest Plan.

silvicultural prescription—A detailed plan, usually written by a forest silviculturist, for controlling the establishment, composition, constitution and growth of forest stands.

site index—A measure of forest productivity expressed as the height of the tallest trees in a stand at an index age.

site preparation—Any action taken in conjunction with a reforestation effort (natural or artificial) to create an environment that is favorable for survival of suitable trees during the first growing season. This environment can be created by altering ground cover, soil or microsite conditions, using biological, mechanical, or manual clearing, prescribed burns, herbicides or a combination of methods.

Special Status Species—Plant or animal species in any of the following categories

- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species
- Candidate Species
- State-listed Species
- Bureau Sensitive Species
- Bureau Assessment Species

stream mile—A linear mile of stream.