

***Roseburg District BLM  
Planning Update  
Spring 2000***

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Dear Citizen:

The Planning Update is published to provide interested people with current information about specific projects and future events taking place on the Roseburg District of the Bureau of Land Management. If you have any concerns or compliments about the proposed actions, please send written comments during the public comment period for the specific environmental assessment. The earlier you involve yourself the more capable we are to adjust or change planned actions. Your comments and concerns are welcomed and may influence the final decision on these projects.

Thank you for your continued interest.  
Sincerely,

Cary A. Osterhaus  
District Manager

USDI - Bureau of Land Management

## **Key Contacts**

*For more information about projects in the field offices, contact the respective area environmental assessment coordinators at (541) 440-4931:*

Jim Luse, Swiftwater Field Office, ext. 254

Paul Ausbeck, South River Field Office, ext. 270

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## **Project Updates**

### **Recreation**

Construction of the entry Kiosk at the north end of the Cow Creek Back Country Byway is complete. Crews have finished the installation of off highway parking, sidewalks, and the Kiosk structure. Interpretive panels are being designed with installation scheduled for Spring of 2000. The site will interpret historical gold mining use within the canyon, the original O&C Railroad grade, and use of Cow Creek as spawning habitat for anadromous fish.

A day use area has recently been installed at mile post 3 along the Byway that is open to the public for gold panning and picnicking. The area contains parking and restroom facilities, with installation of picnic tables scheduled for late winter of 2000.

Both sites were designed to accommodate people with limited mobility.

For more information about the Byway or a map to get there, call Dave Mathweg at 440-4931, ext. 364, or stop by our office.

### **Guided Forest Hikes**

The Roseburg District Office is offering two guided nature hikes this April including discussions and information about plants and wildlife. One hike will be along Susan Creek Falls Trail on April 15, 2000, and the other along Wolf Creek Falls Trail on April 29, 2000. The hikes will begin at 10:00 a.m. and last about 2 hours.

Participants should dress for inclement weather, wear sturdy boots or shoes and bring water and a lunch as there is no drinking water along the trail.

For additional information about the hikes, contact Laura Allen at 440-4931, ext. 353.

If you are planning on camping at Susan Creek Campground this year, plan on attending one of our evening campground programs. Presentations take place on Saturday evenings between 6:00-8:00 p.m. during July, August, and September. Topics will include bugs, slugs, birds, fire and other forest and backyard critters.

For more information about weekend topics, contact our office at 440-4930 or contact Laura Allen at 440-4931, ext. 353.

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## **Watershed Analysis Status**

### ***South River Field Office***

Watershed analysis for the Middle South Umpqua watershed is complete. Watershed analysis for the Lower South Umpqua watershed was initiated on December 1, 1999, with completion tentatively scheduled on or about May 26, 2000.

## **Plan Conformance Record**

This procedure is used for documenting plan conformance and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for proposed actions that do not require an EA or EIS. The Plan Conformance Record is used when the existing NEPA document, such as a Resource Management Plan / EIS, satisfies all of the criteria for ensuring NEPA compliance for the proposed action.

### ***Roseburg District***

The district noxious weed coordinator is preparing a Plan Conformance for anticipated noxious weed control projects in FY2000. Noxious weeds are non-native plants that are especially undesirable, troublesome and difficult to control. Serious economic and ecological impacts have already occurred and are expected to increase if control measures are not taken. About 500 acres infested with noxious weeds will be treated with biological, manual, mechanical, cultural and chemical techniques. Biological control is the primary means to control weeds that are widespread and well established. These consist of releasing insects that attack specific noxious weeds and reduce their spread. Manual and mechanical control refer to hand pulling, cutting and mowing. The primary cultural technique that will be used on the district will be reseeding treated sites. Seeded species will compete with weed seedlings and help prevent future infestations. Chemical control refers to the use of herbicides on specific targeted weeds. All chemical treatments are done by trained herbicide applicators, under strict environmental controls established in the Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and District Weed Environmental Assessment (EA). A combination of treatments may be used on individual sites. All documentation required under the National Environmental Policy Act has been completed and is on file in the Roseburg District office.

For more information about noxious weeds and their impacts, contact Jeanne Klein at 440-4931, ext. 389.

### ***Swiftwater Field Office***

The Swiftwater Field Office will be preparing a Plan Conformance Record for cooperative helicopter use of a BLM landing under a reciprocal right-of-way agreement located in T27S, R3W, Secs. 3, 15,17, 21, 31, & 35 and began November 2, 1999.

### ***South River Field Office***

The South River Field Office will be preparing a Plan Conformance Record for a cooperative fencing agreement in the first quarter of 2000. This agreement will cover the construction of a fence on a portion of the property line between a private land owner and the North Myrtle Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area (ACEC/RNA), located in T28S, R4W, Sec. 33. The fence will help to protect unique plant communities from potential grazing by livestock.

### **Categorical Exclusions**

A Categorical Exclusion is the title given to projects that are documented under the National Environmental Protection Act that are considered to be routine or would have little effect on the natural or human environment. For example, routine repair of recreation facilities or brushing vegetation out and away from the roadsides are considered a categorical exclusion. The different types of Categorical Exclusions are published in the Bureau of Land Management Departmental Manual (516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4.). For questions relating to Categorical Exclusions, please contact the Environmental Coordinators for specific projects.

### ***Swiftwater Field Office***

- Swiftwater Recreation Site Hazard Tree treatment
- Susan Creek Campsite #2 Renovation
- Bridge Removal (North Bank)
- Stream Crossing Bypass Trail
- Little Wolf Creek. Culvert Replacement
- Gassy Creek Culvert Replacement
- Little Tom Late Precommercial Thin

### ***South River Field Office***

- Application of Big Game repellent on replanted harvest units
- Land Use Permit for Agricultural Purposes
- Right-of-Way for Waterlines
- Temporary Use Permit for Cellular Communications Siting on Canyon Mountain
- TreeLine Temporary Log Haul Permit

## New Area Projects

### *Roseburg District*

Analysis for a programmatic Environmental Assessment has been initiated for the District 3P Fall, Buck and Scale program. This sampling method is used in conjunction with timber cruises to help assure cruise accuracy and cruiser proficiency, and for preparation of local volume tables for managed second-growth stands.

### *Swiftwater Field Office*

<b>Title and Project Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Issue Identification</b>	<b>Analysis</b>	<b>Public Review</b>	<b>Decision Date</b>
Wolf/Miner Creek Instream Structures and Culvert Replacement	T25S, R8W, Sec. 1	Initiation expected in Feb. 2000			

### *South River Field Office*

Analysis has been initiated for the South Umpqua Connectivity Density Management Plan. This project will involve density management of stands within Connectivity/Diversity Blocks located within the Matrix lands. Completion of the EA is anticipated by March 31, 2000.

Analysis has been initiated on the South River Watershed Restoration Environmental Assessment. The analysis will involve proposed culvert replacement, road renovation/upgrading, stream channel stabilization and realignment, placement of in-stream structures for fish habitat, and road decommissioning in several fifth field watersheds within the Resource Area.

Initiation of an analysis for commercial thinning of General Forest Management Area (GFMA) stands in the Resource Area is slated for early March. At this time, candidate stands are still being evaluated and no firm locations have been determined. This would be a multi-year action designed to generate thinning sales for 2001, 2002 and 2003.

## Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items

### *Swiftwater Field Office*

<b>Title and Project Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Issue Identification</b>	<b>Analysis</b>	<b>Public Review</b>	<b>Decision Date</b>
<b>FY2000 Thinnings (Off Little River, Upper Eastside, Bearbuck</b>	T27S, R3W, Secs. 1, 7; T22S, R4W,	Initiation expected in 1/2000	In Progress	Expected by 7/2000	

<p>Commercial thinning on an estimated 60 acres</p> <p>Project is in Connectivity or Little River Adaptive Management Area</p> <p>Background analysis found in Elk Creek 5<sup>th</sup> Field WA, Upper Coast Fork Willamette 5<sup>th</sup> Field Watershed Analysis, and the Little River 5<sup>th</sup> Field Watershed Analysis</p>	<p>Secs. 9, 27; T21S, R4W, Secs. 23, 27, 35</p>				
<p><b>Smith River Restoration</b> Restoration of the Upper &amp; Middle Smith River subwatersheds</p> <p>Reduce road impacts that are high risk to streams, water quality, and aquatics</p> <p>List and decommission roads with other management activities</p> <p>Enhance habitat</p>	<p>Upper &amp; Middle Smith R. Subbasins</p>	<p>Initiated 9/29/99</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>Expected by 5/30/2000</p>	
<p><b>Susan Creek Trailhead Toilet</b> Installation of single vault disabled accessible toilet</p>	<p>T26S, R2W, Secs. 23, 24</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>3/2000</p>	<p>Expected 4/2000</p>
<p><b>Shingle Lane Regen &amp; CT</b> Regeneration harvest on an estimated 30 acres and commercial thinning on an estimated 225 acres</p> <p>Project is in Matrix (General Forest Management Area).</p> <p>Background Analysis: Elk Creek Watershed Analysis</p>	<p>T23S, R4W, Sec. 27</p>	<p>Now through 6/99</p>	<p>Completed</p>		
<p><b>Gallegher Ridge CT</b></p>	<p>T24S, R6W, Secs. 9, 19</p>	<p>Project on hold.</p>			
<p><b>What A Gas</b></p>	<p>T25S, R3W,</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Completed</p>	

<p>Regeneration harvest on an estimated 195 acres.</p> <p>Project is in Matrix (General Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Block).</p> <p>Background Analysis: No Watershed Analysis (not required)</p>	<p>Secs. 7, 17, 19; T25S, R4W, Sec. 13</p>				
<p><b>Pipeline</b> Regeneration harvest on approximately 225 acres.</p> <p>Project is in Matrix (General Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Block).</p> <p>Background Analysis: Brush Creek.-Hayhurst Valley-Yoncalla Watershed Analysis</p>	<p>T23S, R5W, Secs. 7, 19, 21; T23S, R6W, Secs. 1, 13</p>	Completed	Completed	Completed	
<p><b>Powell Creek</b> Regeneration harvest on an estimated 52 acres.</p> <p>Project is in Matrix (General Forest Management Area) and is in a Rural Interface Area.</p> <p>Background Analysis: No Watershed Analysis (not required)</p>	<p>T24S, R7W, Sec. 33; T25S, R7W, Sec. 5</p>	Completed	Completed		
<p><b>Watson Mountain</b> A sub-watershed level project that includes: Mariposa Lily habitat enhancement, commercial thinning, Jim and Fall Creek roadwork, slide stabilization, control of noxious weeds and regeneration timber harvest.</p>	<p>T25S, R1W, Secs. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35 Little River AMA</p>	Ongoing	In Progress	5/15/2000	6/2000

Background Analysis: Little River Watershed Analysis					
<p><b>Green Thunder</b> Regeneration and Commercial Thinning harvest in the Little River AMA.</p> <p>Approximately 215 ac. of regeneration and 325 ac. of commercial thinning is proposed.</p> <p>Background Analysis: Little River Watershed Analysis</p>	<p>T26S, R2W, Secs. 31, 33; T26S, R3W, Sec. 25</p> <p>Little River AMA and Middle North Umpqua Fifth Field Watershed</p>	Completed	Completed	Completed	
<p><b>Bear Hill</b> Regeneration harvest in Matrix.</p> <p>Approximately 50 acres are proposed.</p> <p>Background Analysis: Brush Cr.-Hayhurst Valley-Yoncalla Watershed Analysis</p>	<p>T22S, R6W, Sec. 23</p>	Completed	Completed		
<p><b>Tyee Mountain</b> Regeneration harvest on an estimated 195 acres. Project is in Matrix (General Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Block).</p> <p>Background Analysis: No Watershed Analysis (not required)</p>	<p>T25S, R7W, Secs.13, 14</p> <p>Upper Umpqua fifth field watershed</p>	Project initiated on 5/8/99	Project on Hold	Project on Hold	Project on Hold
<p><b>North Bank Habitat Management Area</b> This project was developed previously as an Environmental Analysis (EA). An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Habitat Management Plan is being prepared for the</p>	<p>T25S, R4W, Secs. 31, 33; T25S, R5W, Secs. 35, 36; T26S, R4W, Secs. 4, 8, 17, 19; T26S, R5W, Secs. 1, 3, 10, 14,</p>	Completed	Completed	<p>DEIS 12/30/99-3/13/2000</p> <p>FEIS expected May - June</p>	Expected by 6/15/2000



management of this area for Columbian white-tailed deer as well as other sensitive plants and animals.  Background Analysis: North Bank Watershed Analysis.	23, 26				
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***South River Field Office***

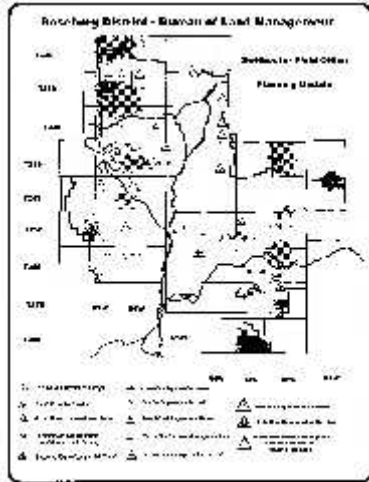
<b>Title and Project Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Issue Identification</b>	<b>Analysis</b>	<b>Public Review</b>	<b>Decision Date</b>
<b>Commercial Thinning</b> (Kola's Ridge); Middle Fork Coquille WA.	T30S R9W Secs. 23, 27	Complete	EA in draft	*	*
<b>Dickerson Heights Timber Sale</b> Matrix. Approx. 8,800 hundred cubic feet from approx. 180 acres is proposed for harvest.  Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Analysis.	T29S R7W Secs. 9, 15 & 21	Currently in progress	*	*	*
<b>Ragu Timber Sale</b> Matrix. Approx. 6,208 hundred cubic feet from approx. 150 acres is proposed for harvest.  Middle Fork Coquille and Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Analysis.	T29S R8W Secs. 9, 21, 29 & 33; T30S R8W Sec. 5	Complete	EA in draft	Opened 7/27/99 Closed 8/26/99	*
<b>Loose Laces Timber Sale</b> Matrix. Approx. 7,300 hundred cubic feet from approx. 200 acres is proposed for harvest.  Cow Cr. Watershed Analysis.	T31S, R6W, Secs. 1, 3, 10, 11, 13, 15, 23	EA 105-98-04 is being replaced by a new analysis. The new EA is 105-99-14	FONSI signed 1/7/98 is withdrawn	*	*
<b>Cow Catcher Timber</b>	T31S, R6W,	Complete	EA in	*	*

<p><b>Sale</b> Matrix. Approx. 7,700 hundred cubic feet from approx. 190 acres is proposed for harvest</p> <p>Cow Creek Watershed Analysis.</p>	Secs. 5, 7, 9, 17		draft		
<p><b>Recreational Trails</b> Matrix and Key Watershed. To provide trails and interpretive sign.</p> <p>Deadman Dompier Watershed Analysis.</p>	T29S, R2W, Secs. 4, 8, 9, 17	Complete	Pending removal of salvage.	Unknown pending completion of salvage	Unknown pending completion of salvage
<p><b>Parent Tree (PT) Cleaning</b> Matrix, Tier 1, and unmapped LSR. Removal of competing trees from around PTs to enhance cone production.</p>	Area-wide	Complete	FONSI signed 6/24/93.	Complete	6/24/93 Project is on-going.
<p><b>North Myrtle Timber Sale(s)</b> Matrix. Approx. 20,000 hundred cubic feet from approx. 480 acres is proposed for harvest.</p> <p>Myrtle Creek Watershed Analysis.</p>	Myrtle Creek Watershed T27S R3W Secs. 7, 17, 19; T27S R4W Sec. 35 T28S R4W Secs. 1, 15, 17, 21; T28S R5W Secs. 26, 35	Complete	EA in draft	*	*
<p><b>Can-Can Watershed Level Project Plan</b> Matrix. Approx. 22,000 hundred cubic feet from approx. 489 acres is proposed for harvest. Potential restoration opportunities would also be identified and analyzed.</p>	Shively-O'Shea, Lane-Judd, and Canyon Creek Subwater-sheds  T30S R4W Secs. 5 T30S R5W Secs. 9, 10, 11, 15	Complete	*	*	*

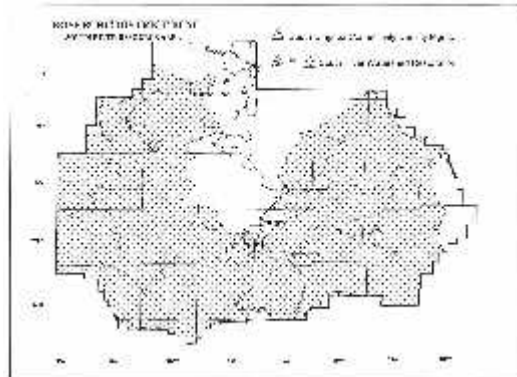
Canyon Creek-Canyonville Watershed Analysis and Cow Creek Watershed Analysis.	T31S R5W Secs. 23, 26 T30S R6W Secs.13, 25				
<b>N. Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Level Plan</b> Matrix. Approx. 16,400 hundred cubic feet from approx. 412 acres is proposed for harvest. Potential restoration opportunities would also be identified and analyzed.  Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Analysis	Lower Tenmile, Shields and Lookingglass Subwater-sheds T28S R7W Secs 8, 9 T28S R8W Secs 21, 25, 35 T29S R9W Sec 3	Complete	*	*	*
<b>Middle South Umpqua /Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Level Plan</b> Matrix. Approx. 25,200 hundred cubic feet from approx. 530 acres is proposed for harvest and planned for 2001. Potential restoration opportunities would also be identified and analyzed.  Middle South Umpqua and Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Analyses	Kent/Rice, Middle Olalla, Thompson, Willis-VanDine, Lower Cow Creek Subwater-sheds T29S R6W Secs 28, 29 T29S R7W Secs 13, 23, 33 T29½S R7W Sec 33 T30S R6W Secs 5, 7, 11	Complete	*	*	*
<b>Slimewater Creek Density Management</b> LSR. Density Management of approx. 255 acres of early and mid-seral aged stands through thinning. The objective would be the	Shively-O'Shea Subwater-shed T30S R4W Sec 27 and T31S R4W Sec 9	Ongoing	*	*	*

<p>accelerated development of stands with late-seral habitat characteristics for the northern spotted owl and other species.</p> <p>South Umpqua River/Galesville LSR Assessment and the Stouts/Poole/Shively-O'Shea Watershed Analysis</p>					
<p><b>Canyon Mountain Communication Site Management Plan</b> Matrix. Development of a comprehensive management plan for compatibility of current users and controlled development of future structures and uses.</p> <p>Canyonville/Canyon Creek Watershed Analysis</p>	<p>Canyon Creek Subwater-shed T31S R5W Sec 3</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>*</p>	<p>*</p>	<p>*</p>

\*These dates are unknown at this time due to projects being delayed for survey and management considerations.



***Swiftwater  
Field Office***



***South River  
Field Office***

## **Douglas County Noxious Weed List Updated**

On January 27, 2000 the Douglas County Weed Advisory Board adopted a new county "Noxious weed" list. The previous list was compiled in 1984. Fifty three species are on the revised list, up from 10 species on the old list. The county list includes nine species that are not on the state list but are particularly troublesome in Douglas County. These are blueweed, burnweed, English hawthorn, English ivy, European beach grass, Himalayan blackberry, Malta starthistle, marestale or horseweed and pennyroyal.

Most people are familiar with weeds, but noxious weeds are problem plants that impact everyone. "Noxious" is a legal term for non-native plants that are particularly aggressive, invasive and difficult to control. They can be described by one or all of the following:

- They cause serious economic losses to agricultural and horticultural industries.
- They endanger native flora and fauna by encroaching on wild lands.
- They hamper the enjoyment and full use of recreation sites.
- They are poisonous, injurious or otherwise harmful to humans and animals.

By designating these species as "noxious" the county can increase awareness of the problem and improve control of these problem plants.

The list was compiled with the cooperation of the Bureau of Land Management, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Douglas County OSU Extension Service and Douglas County Public Works. Copies of the list are available through the County Extension Office.

Assistance in identifying any noxious weeds on the list can be found by calling the Douglas County OSU Extension Service at (541) 672-4461 or 1-800-452-0941, Douglas County Public Works at (541) 440-4526, the Oregon Department of Agriculture at (541) 830-4385, or the Bureau of Land Management at (541) 440-4930.