



WESTERN OREGON PLAN REVISIONS NEWS

NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 6

APRIL 2007

Welcome...

to the sixth issue of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Western Oregon Plan Revision Newsletter. We began to revise BLM's resource management plans in western Oregon in September of 2005. Since then, we've worked with citizens, groups, and government agencies to determine issues to be addressed and alternatives to consider in the plan revisions.

Right now, BLM specialists, working with partner agencies and scientists are preparing an environmental impact statement to analyze the expected impacts of the management alternatives that we've identified.

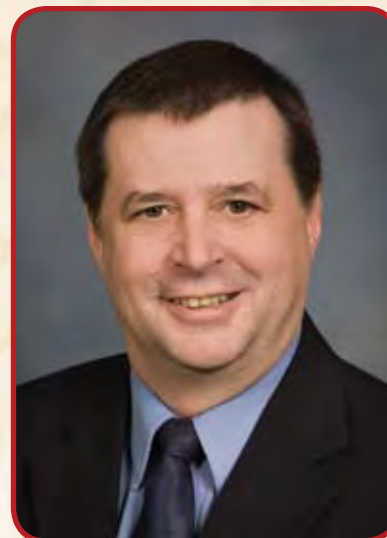
Late this spring or early summer, you'll have the opportunity to examine the analysis and provide us comments and suggestions on future management. **Please use the postcard at the end of the document to choose an option for reviewing the draft plan materials.**

Thank you for being involved.

If you're new to the project or need some background information, feel free to contact us in person, on the phone, through e-mail, or go to our web page where you'll find past issues of the newsletter and other information.

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Meet Ed Shepard – BLM State Director, Washington & Oregon



I'm excited to be back in Oregon. Earlier in my career I was a silviculturist in BLM's Medford District, an Area Manager in Roseburg, a District Manager in Coos Bay and a Deputy State Director here in the state office before my more recent tour in BLM's Washington D.C. Office.

Oregon feels like home and I'm delighted to be back.

Revising the BLM's Resource Management Plans in western Oregon is very important. In 1994, when our current plans were prepared, we sought to find a balance between timber production on the 2.1 million acres of O&C lands (as required by the O&C Land Act of 1937) and environmental protection. Over the past decade, scientific knowledge has improved and we have learned that many of the processes associated with the Northwest Forest Plan hindered implementation and prevented us from meeting many of the goals and objectives of the plans.

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What's Inside?

1. A message from BLM's new State Director, Ed Shepard
2. County Funding and the BLM
3. Information about recent changes to the alternatives being analyzed
4. Information about plans being made for involving the public in the review of the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement
5. The latest schedule for plan completion
6. Return Postcard – Let us know how you want to review the Draft
7. Special Insert – A Summary of the Planning Alternatives



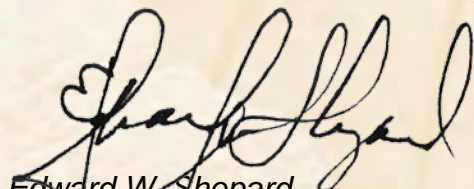
The BLM personnel in western Oregon have done some exemplary work in rehabilitating streams, protecting habitat for endangered species, and maintaining recreation opportunities. And, many of these efforts have occurred in close partnership with watershed associations, adjacent land managers, other agencies and private parties.

Unfortunately, we have not fully met our obligations to provide a sustainable flow of timber products to support local economies and provide necessary funding for the 18 counties in western Oregon as required by the O&C Lands Act. Our most experienced professional foresters, working closely with our other resource specialists, regulatory agencies and other partners, and using the standards and guidance from the Northwest Forest Plan, have prepared timber sales that are repeatedly challenged on technical and procedural questions.

We simply must find a better way to do business.

This plan revision process is a unique opportunity for all of us to reaffirm our commitment to sustainable management of these lands in western Oregon and find a better and more efficient way to meet our legal commitments. It is my goal in this process to help us reach long-term and sustainable decisions that make positive contributions to the environmental, social, and economic needs of western Oregon.

I invite you all to stay involved in the efforts. In late spring or early summer we'll be coming to you again with three alternatives clearly explained, and their effects identified, in the draft plan and environmental impact statement. We'll designate one of those alternatives as our "preferred" but we only do that to focus our discussions with you during the three-month public comment period. We need your help to verify our assumptions, examine our analysis, suggest improvements, and help us craft a proposed action that makes sense for the management of these important lands. I'm confident we can find some common ground on these issues.



Edward W. Shepard
State Director

County Funding and the BLM

Recently you may have heard concerns about the financial future of rural counties in western Oregon in light of the end of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. You may have asked, how is this county funding issue tied to federal timber receipts, and how are timber receipts tied to the BLM's plan revision process.

There is a relationship. Because most of the BLM-administered lands in the plan revision area are managed under the O&C Act of 1937, western Oregon counties that contain O&C lands received one-half of the receipts from timbers sales on these lands. For many years, timber receipts from O&C lands enabled counties to fund basic county services such as libraries, public health services, law enforcement, and county road maintenance. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, timber sales on federal land (and the resulting revenue to counties) decreased sharply due to legal challenges and harvest adjustments to meet the habitat needs of the northern spotted owl, listed under the Endangered Species Act. Congress provided financial relief to counties containing federal timber land through the passage of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

This legislation expired in September 2006 and, at the writing of this newsletter, Congress has not extended the legislation or provided another replacement for O&C timber receipts. If Congress does not provide a permanent funding alternative, western Oregon counties will once again rely on federal timber receipts which, under the BLM's current management plans, will be only a small fraction of recent receipts. These plan revisions will explore alternative ways to maintain a sustainable and predictable flow of timber from these lands (as required by the O&C Act of 1937) while continuing to meet the requirements of other federal laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act.

Plan Alternatives Refined and Expanded

In the October 2006 issue of the Western Oregon Plan Revisions newsletter, we outlined the four alternatives that would be analyzed in detail in the environmental impact statement, including:

- *one alternative that would continue current management under the existing plans (the “no action” alternative) and,*
- *three new “action alternatives.”*

As the analysis began, several important modifications were made to those alternatives. Those changes are summarized below. The description below is only a summary of changes to the planning alternatives. For an up-to-date summary of the alternatives being analyzed, see the enclosure to this newsletter. Details of the alternatives and their effects will be available in the Draft Resource Management Plan and EIS later this year.

Changes to Alternative 2

In the October newsletter, the description of Alternative 2 stated, “Late-successional management areas will align with critical habitat currently designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet.”

The designation of critical habitat for these listed species is currently under review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and existing designations may change in the future. The BLM continues to work very closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with their process, but has decided to propose late-successional management areas in Alternative 2 based on rule sets developed in the “Report of the Interagency Scientific Committee to Address the Conservation of the Northern Spotted Owl (May 1990) coupled with new science and information available. Maps of these possible late-successional management areas will be available in the BLM’s Draft Plan and EIS.

A copy of the report listed above can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/arcata/es/birds/reports/ConservationStrategyForTheNorthernSpottedOw_May1990.pdf

Expanded use of Variations to Alternatives (Sub-Alternatives)

The analysis of each of the three action alternatives is broadened by the use of “sub-alternatives”. Sub-alternatives are used to expand or enrich the analysis of an

alternative by answering important questions that are raised by managers or the public.

Sub-Alternatives to Alternative 1

- No harvest of forest stands over 80 years of age within the harvest land base.
- No harvest of forest stands over 200 years of age within the harvest land base.

These two sub-alternatives will help answer the question:

- What happens to wildlife habitat and allowable sale quantity if we would decide not to harvest older stands within the lands otherwise designated for intensive forest management?
- No regeneration harvest within the harvest land base until all thinning opportunities are exhausted.

This sub-alternative will help answer the question:

- *Is thinning sustainable for meeting the annual allowable sale quantity?*
- Enlarge the late-successional management areas by adding all currently designated critical habitat for northern spotted owls.

This sub-alternative will help answer the questions:

- How would this additional habitat improve the conditions for the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet?
- How would the allowable sale quantity be affected?

Sub-Alternative to Alternative 2

- Practice intensive forestry through short rotations (no thinning) on the harvest land base.

This sub-alternative will help answer the questions:

- What is the economic gain of short rotation forestry?
- What impacts on other resources could be expected?

Sub-Alternative to Alternative 3

- Alternative 3 sets a standard of maintaining at least 50% of the BLM-managed lands in older forests. This sub-alternative would eliminate that standard in areas where BLM manages only a small percentage of the landscape.

This sub alternative will help answer the questions:

- How would following this prescription affect harvest level?
- How would following this prescription affect late-successional species?



PLAN REVISIONS NEWS

WESTERN OREGON

NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 6 (supplement)

APRIL 2007

BLM
Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Coos Bay, Medford, and Klamath Falls Offices

Description of the Alternatives Being Analyzed

(as of March 2007)

The following are brief preliminary summaries of the alternatives that will be analyzed in detail in the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement (EIS) to be released in the summer of 2007. Because this information is being made available prior to the release of the draft, some slight modifications may occur.

Maintain Current Management - The No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative (required by the National Environmental Policy Act) will analyze the effects of continuing to implement the decisions made in the six existing resource management plans. Because the existing plans were based on the Northwest Forest Plan, the no action alternative incorporates the goals, objectives, and standards and guidelines of the Northwest Forest Plan, including the presence of large late-successional reserves and riparian reserves. This alternative includes all approved changes (amendments and maintenance) made to the six original 1994 resource management plans.

Alternative 1

Alternative 1 would establish three land use allocations to guide future management.

Late-Successional Management Areas - Alternative 1 would establish late-successional management areas based on the large blocks of late-successional reserves in the current plans. The objective of these late-successional management areas is to promote the development of old-growth characteristics such as large mature trees, multi-layered forest canopies and structurally complex forests. Harvesting or forest treatments would occur for the purpose of moving forest stands toward old-growth characteristics. If trees were killed through natural forces, such as insects, fire, and wind, no salvage would be permitted in late-successional management areas except for safety or operational considerations (including the clearing of roads to allow access.)

Riparian Management Areas - This alternative would establish riparian management areas along perennial and fish-bearing streams. In general, the riparian management areas under this alternative are one-half the width of the current riparian reserves. The management objectives of these riparian management areas is to protect streams by providing stream shade, sediment filtering, stream bank stabilization, and a source of large wood for streams. Some trees could be harvested from these areas to promote the development of structurally complex stands.

Timber Management Areas - Timber management areas would be designated outside of late-successional and riparian management areas and other areas such as wild and scenic rivers and developed recreation sites. The management objective of these areas would be to achieve a high level of continuous timber production that could be sustained in perpetuity through a balance of tree growth and harvest. Intensive forest management practices would occur to achieve this objective. This intensive management could include regeneration harvest in most areas, but uneven-aged management would be applied in the eastern portion of the Klamath Falls Resource Area. Salvage in the timber management areas would be permitted for economic reasons.

Sub-Alternatives to Alternative 1

Many comments received during the scoping process asked the BLM to stop clear-cutting. One sub-alternative will analyze the effects of not allowing regeneration harvests of older stands until all appropriate thinning of younger stands has been accomplished.

Another common suggestion from the public was to stop cutting old-growth forests. The term "old-growth" has many definitions. In addition to having old trees, old-growth forests have a complex structure with several layers of vegetation and a significant component of dead wood. A set of sub-alternatives to Alternative 1 will examine the effects of not harvesting older forests. For the purposes of modeling, this set of sub-alternatives will examine the effects not harvesting stands over 80 years old and over 200 years old.



A third sub-alternative will analyze the effects increasing the size of the late-successional management areas from that defined by the current late-successional reserves by adding all critical habitat of the northern spotted owl that would fall outside of the late-successional management areas.

Alternative 2

Like Alternative 1, Alternative 2 establishes late-successional, riparian, and timber management areas on the landscape.

Late-successional management areas - These areas would be established to maintain habitat for the northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet and to promote the development of habitat for the northern spotted owl in stands that do not currently meet suitable habitat criteria.

The designation of critical habitat for the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet (listed species) is currently under review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and existing designations may change in the future. The BLM continues to work very closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with their process, but has decided to propose late-successional management areas in Alternative 2 based on rule sets developed in the "Report of the Interagency Scientific Committee to Address the Conservation of the Northern Spotted Owl (May 1990) coupled with new science and information available. Maps of these possible late-successional management areas will be available in the Draft Plan and EIS. (The report listed above can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/arcata/es/birds/reports/ConservationStrategyForTheNorthernSpottedOw_May1990.pdf)

Some timber harvest (such as thinning of dense stands) would occur in non-suitable northern spotted owl habitat to enhance the stand's development toward more suitable habitat. When stands in late-successional management areas are damaged by natural forces such as insects, fire, and wind, salvage would be permitted to recover economic value.

Riparian management areas - Riparian management areas would be established on perennial and intermittent streams to provide stream shade, sediment filtering, stream bank stabilization, and a source of large wood for streams. Perennial and fish-bearing streams would receive protection with a 25-foot no-cut zone on either side of the stream. Beyond 25 feet, partial shade (80 percent) would be maintained out to 60 feet. From 60 feet to 100 feet, 50 percent crown closure would be maintained after harvest. Along intermittent streams, trees can be harvested, but care would be taken to preserve all non-commercial vegetation within 25 feet of the channel.

Recent studies have shown that many of the logs in perennial streams come from up-stream areas along intermittent streams as the result of debris flows. Therefore, intermittent streams that have the potential to deliver debris to perennial streams would receive a 25-foot no-cut zone on either side of the stream and a 25- to 100-foot zone would be managed for mature, multi-canopied, and structurally complex forests. No salvage would be permitted in riparian management areas except for safety or operational considerations.

Timber management areas - These areas would be established outside of late-successional and riparian management areas or lands otherwise reserved. The goal in these timber management areas would be to achieve a high level of continuous timber production that could be sustained in perpetuity through a balance of tree growth and harvest. Intensive forest management practices, including regeneration harvest could occur to achieve this objective. Uneven-aged management would be applied in the eastern part of the Klamath Falls Resource Area. Salvage in the timber management area would be conducted to recover economic value.

Also under this alternative, a land use allocation would be established consisting of BLM-managed lands adjacent to or near the Coquille Tribal Forest in Coos County. On these lands, management would comply with the Coquille Tribal Cooperative Management Area Plan of July 2006.

Sub-alternatives to Alternative 2

Many comments received in the scoping process urged the BLM to find ways to increase timber production. A sub-alternative to Alternative 2 will be analyzed to answer the question what would be the economic gain of using a short harvest rotation and how would such management affect habitat. This sub-alternative would change the rotation age to the short rotation currently used by the timber industry in the area.

Alternative 3

Alternative 3 attempts to meet wildlife habitat and timber production needs simultaneously across the landscape without compartmentalizing the federal land into traditional land use allocations such as reserves or intensive management areas. Habitat conditions required for late-successional species would be created by using a variety of timber harvest methods to emulate the natural role that fire and catastrophic events historically played on the landscape. Because the planning area covers a wide geographic region and the historic role of fire varies in different areas, the management prescriptions will vary from north to south.

Research has shown that large, stand-replacing fires occurred infrequently, about every 360 years in the northern districts and about every 240 years in the Medford District. Also, occasional mixed-severity fires moved through stands every 20 to 120 years killing only some of the trees. To emulate these historic conditions, mature stands would not be regenerated until they approach the age of 360 years in the north and 240 years in the south. Partial harvests would be applied based on the 20 to 120 year average return interval of mixed-severity fires. No regeneration harvests that emulate a stand replacement event would occur in the southern portions of the Medford District, as well as the western portion of the Klamath Falls Resource Area, in order to reduce fire hazard created by even-aged forest stands. Dense even-aged stands would be thinned to hasten the development of structurally complex stands.

Because most of the federal forests are not now in the mature age classes, no regeneration harvest would occur until at least 50 percent of the BLM-managed forest stands are older than 100 years in the Coast Range and west Cascades provinces or older than 140 years in the Klamath and east Cascades provinces. Also, harvesting of stands in northern spotted owl activity centers, consisting of 215 acres in size, would be deferred until these targets are met.

Under Alternative 3, riparian management areas would be established on perennial and intermittent streams to provide stream shade, sediment filtering, stream bank stabilization, and a source of large wood for streams. Perennial and fish-bearing streams would receive protection with a 25-foot no-cut zone on either side of the stream. Beyond 25 feet, partial shade (80 percent) would be maintained out to 60 feet. From 60 feet to 100 feet, 50 percent crown closure would be maintained after harvest. Along intermittent streams, a 25-foot no-cut zone would be established on either side of the stream. When wildfires, insect infestations, disease, or wind storms do occur, salvage of damaged timber would be allowed when economically feasible. Salvage operations would be designed to emulate a partial harvest or a stand replacement harvest depending on the nature and extent of the disturbance.

Also under this alternative, a land use allocation would be established consisting of BLM-managed lands adjacent to or near the Coquille Tribal Forest in Coos County. On these lands, management would comply with the Coquille Tribal Cooperative Management Area Plan of July 2006.

Sub-Alternative to Alternative 3

Under this sub-alternative, the BLM will analyze the effects of applying the concept of “no regeneration harvests until 50% of the BLM-administered lands is in older forests” to only those areas where the government land ownership (federal, state, and local) is half or more of the total ownership.

One of the proposed alternatives (Alternative 4) listed in the Proposed Planning Criteria and State Director Guidance document, prepared in February 2006, was tied to the BLM’s checkerboard ownership pattern. This proposed alternative provided that management of late-successional (old-growth) characteristics would be emphasized only in areas where state and federal land ownership exceeded 50 percent of the local area. Timber management would be emphasized in areas where state and federal ownership was less than 50 percent of the total. It was assumed that areas with combined state and federal ownership greater than 50 percent of the landscape provide the best opportunity for developing sufficient-sized areas of habitat for late-successional forest related species. This proposed alternative was eliminated from analysis due to feedback from the public and cooperating agencies, but the concept will be analyzed as this sub-alternative to Alternative 3.

Management Common to All Action Alternatives

Many management actions, as summarized below, will be common to all action alternatives. This is only a partial list of common management actions. A complete listing will be available in the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement.

Congressionally Reserved Area Land Use Allocations

Congressionally reserved areas, such as wild and scenic rivers and wilderness areas, would be retained and managed for the purposes for which they were established.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Within each action alternative, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) would be designated to maintain or restore important and relevant values. On O&C lands, the designation must be consistent with the requirements of the O&C Act for permanent forest production. This stipulation is based on the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, which authorized ACECs, and specifically states that if the act conflicts with the O&C Act in regards to timber management or distribution of funds, the O&C Act will prevail.

Research Natural Areas (a type of ACEC) may be appropriate on O&C Lands if the results of the research could benefit timber production in the long run. Descriptions of potential designations will be listed with each alternative in the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement.

Energy and Minerals

The BLM would maintain existing opportunities and develop new opportunities for exploration and development of locatable, leasable, saleable energy and mineral resources, and for casual mineral prospecting. Areas would be available for energy and mineral resource exploration and development consistent with other resource management plan objectives.

Biomass would be available from harvesting actions, silvicultural treatments, and forest health and fuels treatments, where economically and operationally practical. Existing quarry and pit sites would be used to provide economical sources of rock and aggregate. Quarry expansion and new quarry development would be consistent with other resource management plan objectives.

Fire and Fuels Management

Within each alternative, the BLM would take actions to reduce the fire hazard within the wildland urban interface to protect communities at risk in fire-prone areas. Efforts will be made to decrease the risk of large wildfires and reduce the cost and associated hazard of fire suppression through fuel treatments (mechanical and prescribed fire) and silvicultural prescriptions.

Prescribed fire would be used to emulate, where possible, natural fire occurrence and process. Ecosystems with the highest risk of uncharacteristic wildfire would have the highest priority for fuels treatments. Silvicultural prescriptions would be applied, consistent with other resource management plan objectives, to reduce crown fire potential.

Immediate action to control and suppress all wildfires would be taken in the checkerboard ownership and especially near communities identified as at risk. Aggressive initial attack and direct control procedures would be employed in these areas consistent with public and firefighters' safety.

Fish

Under all of the alternatives, the primary goals for the management of aquatic habitat will be to maintain and restore natural stream complexity and to restore access to stream channels for all life stages of fish species.

Improving habitat for species listed under the Endangered Species Act is key. Priority for restoration activities would be given to projects in streams with high intrinsic fish potential and high priority fish populations, as defined in recovery plans. Where livestock grazing occurs near streams with listed salmonid species, livestock would not be released into riparian areas until 30 days following the emergence of salmonids from spawning beds.

Recreation

The objective under each of the alternatives will be to provide a diversity of developed and dispersed outdoor recreation opportunities that contribute to meeting recreational demand and quality recreational experiences. The draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement will contain lists of district-specific recreation management areas, sites, trails, facilities, backcountry byways, and visitor service programs that would be carried forward in the resource management plan revision.

All BLM lands would be designated as open, limited, or closed to off-highway-vehicle (OHV) use. The redesignation of some OHV emphasis areas from the current plans is proposed to improve OHV management. OHV emphasis areas are designated areas where OHV use is more concentrated and intensively managed. These proposed changes would be the same under all alternatives.

However, within the Medford District, the designation of OHV emphasis areas will vary by alternative. Due to local controversy regarding previous OHV designations (made in the 1995 Medford District Resource Management Plan) and substantial increases in OHV activity on the Medford District, the Western Oregon Plan Revision will consider a range of designated OHV emphasis areas. This range will include undesignating some of the current OHV emphasis areas, as well as considering new designations. Decisions from on-going site-specific OHV management plans (such as the Timber Mountain / Johns Peak management planning process) will conform to OHV management decisions made in the Western Oregon Plan Revisions.

Wildlife

The primary objective under all of the alternatives will be to contribute to the recovery of species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Management would be consistent with approved recovery plans and designated critical habitat, including the protection and restoration of habitat, and other actions designed to recover populations of species.

Under all alternatives, the BLM would assist the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to meet big game management goals on Public Domain lands and on O&C lands where consistent with the O&C Act.

Opportunities for Public Participation

Public participation continues to play a crucial role in the Western Oregon Plan Revisions because the BLM believes that the public possesses tremendous knowledge about local places and local resources. Without the public, the BLM just wouldn't have the full ability to gauge the range of potential environmental, social, and economic effects that proposed actions can have on those places and resources. To assist with public involvement efforts, BLM has enlisted Daylight Decisions to help design and guide public participation activities.

The Daylight Decisions team consists of experienced mediators and facilitators who are residents of western Oregon. The team also contains technical specialists, skilled in designing simple-to-use web-based tools to facilitate participation in new and meaningful ways. More information about Daylight Decisions can be found on their website at: <http://www.daylightdecisions.com/ddweb/>.

Daylight Decisions works under contract with the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (<http://>

www.iecr.gov) and is working with the BLM to design an effective public participation strategy and serve as a neutral facilitator when appropriate. They have held conversations with BLM managers and representatives of stakeholder groups, including conservation organizations, industry, and local government. In early February 2007, two public workshops in Salem and Medford were held to collaboratively design web-based tools designed to answer two questions:

1. How can web-based tools be used to encourage and support public comments about the draft environmental impact statement
2. How can this information be communicated in a way that is of benefit to BLM decision makers?

Participants were introduced to a central concept of the Daylight Decisions strategy: the decision framework. Participants also focused on creating their own decision framework. This input, along with other comments heard at the workshops, are presently being applied to refine the design of web-based tools that will be used in the public comment period this summer.

Daylight Decisions is also responsible for collecting and summarizing public comments on the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement.

Many outreach activities will occur this spring and summer, including more collaborative tools workshops in June and summer workshops and meetings after release of the draft EIS.

The second round of public workshops to help develop the web-based participation tools has been scheduled: June 1, Medford BLM office and June 5, Salem BLM office. Workshops will start at 9:00 a.m. and end around 3:30 p.m.



Web Forum

In late March the Western Oregon Plan Revision Web Forum became available on the project web site (<http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/wopr>). This website will help BLM and Daylight Decisions improve the web-based public comment tools and will serve as the hub for on-line participation when the draft plan and environmental impact statement are published later this summer. On this website, visitors are being invited to:

- Make comments on a map about the places that are important to where they live, work, and play, as well as provide input about how they would like to participate in local workshops and events.
- Make comments on the decision framework, and share their own interests and values in relation to it.
- Navigate background information on the project, the laws, and the O&C Act, and
- Review and comment on the draft plan and environmental impact statement during the public review period this summer.



Review and Comments on the Draft Plan

Within the near future, the BLM must decide how many of the draft resource management plans and environmental impact statements to print. It is expected that the draft document will contain 1000 pages or more and contain a map packet with many large printed maps. You have several choices on how you would like to review and comment on the document, including:

- review the document at your local library or at your local BLM office in western Oregon;
- review the document on the Internet in a form similar to its printed format or through interest-based and map-based tools being developed for the web;
- request that only a summary document be mailed to you in-lieu of the complete document; or

- request that a complete document and a map packet be mailed to you.

Please use the attached postcard to indicate your preference. If a postcard is not available to you, please contact us at the postal or e-mail address below indicating how you would like to review the document.

Note: *If you do not reply through the attached postcard and are already on our existing postal mailing list (you received this newsletter in the mail), we will print a complete document and a package of maps for you and send it to your postal address. If you do not want the complete document, please let us know through the attached postcard, by letter, or by e-mail to the BLM office.*

Stay Involved!

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail or are receiving an e-mail message that it's available on our web site, you are on our mailing list. We will continue to post current information on the web site and issue future newsletters as appropriate. If you are not on our postal or electronic mailing lists, let us know and we will be glad to add you.

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Project Schedule – BLM’s Western Oregon Plan Revisions

September 7, 2005	Start of Formal Public Scoping Period
October 2005	Analysis of the Management Situation Issued
January 2006	Public Involvement Assessment Issued
February 2006	Proposed Planning Criteria and State Director Guidance Issued
February 2006	Scoping Report Issued
June 15, 2006	State of the Science Conference
October 2006	Summary of the Alternatives to be Analyzed in the EIS Issued in Newsletter #5
Winter 06 – Spring 07	Analysis of Environmental and Economic Effects in Preparation
July 2007	Issue Draft Resource Management Plan and EIS for 90-day Public Review
July – October 2007	Public Forums and Open Houses to Discuss Draft Plan and EIS
October 2007	End of Public Review Period
March 2008	Publish Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final EIS
March 2008	Oregon Governor’s Review
July 2008	Publish Revised Resource Management Plans for Salem, Eugene, Coos Bay, Roseburg, and Medford District and the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District

tear off card, affix label to reverse side, affix stamp, and mail

U.S. Bureau of Land Management

Western Oregon Plan Revisions

We'd like to know how you want to review the draft resource management plan and environmental impact statement when it's released for public review in July 2007.

Please select one of the options below:

- Don't print a document for me. I am willing to review the document at my local library, at a BLM office in western Oregon, or on the Internet.
- Don't print a document for me, but send me a summary document (less than 100 pages) that I can review.
- Please print and mail me a complete document (including all volumes and the map packet)
- Please take me off of your mailing list.

Note: If you received this card in the mail and DO NOT RETURN it to us, we will assume that you want BLM to mail you the entire document and we will do so.

Please return this card by May 15, 2007. Peel your personal address sticker from the back of this newsletter and stick it to the return address portion of this card. Please indicate any corrections on the label.

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and Klamath Falls Offices

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