Roseburg District BLM Planning Update



Summer 2008

Dear Citizen:

The Planning Update is published to provide current information about specific projects and future events planned on the Roseburg District of the Bureau of Land Management. Please send written comments, including the specific project and field office name, to 777 N.W. Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon 97470, during the public comment period.

SPECIAL NOTICE: To better conserve resources and serve you, we are changing to electronic delivery of our updates. In the future, we will be sending an email notification and link to the update, so that you may access it from our website at the time of publication. A hard (paper) copy will still be available at the Roseburg branch of the Douglas County Library and our Roseburg District Office.

If you wish to help us conserve resources and receive this notice electronically, please provide our office with your email address by sending an email to: or100mb@blm.gov. If you wish to continue receiving a paper update please confirm your address in written correspondence to our office (address above), or by emailing us. If you already receive an electronic notice of Quarterly Planning Updates by email, no further action is necessary. If you currently receive a paper update and choose not to reply, we will remove your name from the distribution list. Please write soon, as this change will be effective with the next Quarterly Planning Update in September!

Thank you for your continued interest in public lands and helping us reduce paper waste!!!!

Sincerely,

Jay K. Carlson District Manager

Table of Contents

Key Contact	1
Non-Discretionary Actions Under Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreements	1
South River Field Office	
Swiftwater Field Office	
Categorical Exclusions	2
South River Field Office	
Swiftwater Field Office	2
New Projects	3
South River Field Office	
Swiftwater Field Office	
Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items	4
South River Field Office	
Timber Management Activities	
Restoration Activities	
Swiftwater Field Office	
Roads and Facilities Management Activities	
Timber Management Activities	7
Restoration Activities	
North Bank Habitat Management Activities	
Watershed Analysis Status	
South River Field Office	8
Swiftwater Field Office	8
Volunteer Opportunities	8
South River Resource Area Map	1
Swiftwater Resource Area Map	2
Abbreviations and Definitions	

SPECIAL NOTICE: Please notify us if you would prefer to receive the Roseburg District BLM Planning Update via email. Instead of receiving future paper copies through the standard mail, you will receive electronic email copies or notifications regarding future planning updates. This will save time and energy for everyone. Please send your email address to us at or100mb@blm.gov, and indicate that you would like to help us conserve natural resources by receiving future Planning Updates electronically. If you choose not to respond, you will remain on our current postal mailing list. Thank you!

Key Contact

For more information about projects in the Quarterly Planning Update, contact Bob Hall, Public Affairs Officer at (541) 464-3245.

Non-Discretionary Actions Under Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreements

A reciprocal right-of-way agreement is a document exchanging access rights between BLM and a permittee pursuant to 43 CFR 2812 regulations. BLM has 140 individual agreements and easements that were executed prior to the implementation of the Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP p. 71). These 140 agreements are subject to regulations in effect at the time the agreements were executed or assigned. The BLM's discretion on activities pursuant to these agreements (such as road construction) is limited to that described in the agreement itself.

South River Field Office

- Seneca Jones Timber Company, Reciprocal Right-of Way Agreement R-656 Construction of approximately 826 feet of surfaced new road across BLM lands through an early-seral stand in Government Lot 22, Section 9, T. 29 S., R. 4 W. and a late-seral stand in the NW¹/4NW¹/4, Section 15, T. 29 S., R. 4 W., W.M. to access company lands in Sections 10 and 15, T. 29 S., R. 4 W., W.M. The BLM lands involved are allocated as Connectivity/Diversity Block (Section 9) and General Forest Management Area (Section 15).
- Seneca Jones Timber Company, Reciprocal Right-of Way Agreement R-642 Construction of approximately 125 feet of surfaced new road across BLM lands through an early-seral stand in the SE¹/₄SW¹/₄, Section 11, T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M. to access company lands in Section 14, T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M. The BLM lands involved are allocated as Connectivity/Diversity Block.
- Seneca Jones Timber Company, Reciprocal Right-of Way Agreement R-656 Improvement to 2,445 feet of BLM Road No. 29-3-13.1 where it crosses BLM lands in the NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, Section13, T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M. to access company lands in Section 12, T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M. The BLM lands involved are allocated as General Forest Management Area.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of Way Agreement R-851 Construction of approximately 70 feet of temporary road and a landing on BLM land in a late-seral stand in the NW¹/₄NE¹/₄, Section 27, T. 29 S., R. 9 W., W.M. to access company lands in Section 22, T. 29 S., R. 9 W., W.M. The BLM lands involved are allocated as Late-Successional Reserve. The road will be decommissioned to BLM standards after operations are completed.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of Way Agreement R-851 Construction of approximately 714 feet of new road and a landing on BLM in a mid-seral stand in the NW¹/₄SW¹/₄, Section 23, T. 31 S., R. 7 W., W.M. to access company lands in Section 22, T. 31 S., R. 7 W., W.M. The BLM lands involved are allocated as Late-Successional Reserve.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of Way Agreement R-851 Improvement of 327 feet of Segment A, BLM Road No. 29-8-21.0 in an early-seral stand in the SE¹/₄SE¹/₄, Section 21, T. 29 S., R. 8 W., W.M. to access company lands in Section 28, T. 29 S., R. 8 W., W.M. The BLM lands involved are allocated as General Forest Management Area.

Swiftwater Field Office

- Seneca Jones Timber Company, Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-912A --- Construct 940 feet of road on BLM lands located in the SW1/4SW1/4 Section 7, T. 24 S., R. 3 W., W.M. This action occurs in early- to mid-seral stands on lands allocated as General Forest Management Area.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-735 --- Construct 1175 feet of road on BLM lands located in the SE1/4SW1/4 Section 19, T. 24 S., R. 7 W., W.M. This action occurs in late-seral stands on lands allocated as Late-Successional Reserve.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-735 --- Construct two roads 930 feet, total length of road on BLM lands located in the NW1/4NW1/4 Section 13, T. 24 S., R. 8 W., W.M. and NW1/4NW1/4 Section 23, T. 24 S., R. 8 W. Additionally, improvement of 820 feet of the 24-8-23.3 road in Section 14 T. 24 S., R. 8 W. W.M. This action occurs in late-seral stands on lands allocated as Late-Successional Reserve.
- Seneca Jones Timber Company, Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-645A --- Construct 4500 feet of road on BLM lands located in the NE1/4 Section 1, T. 22 S., R. 7 W., W.M. This action occurs in late-seral stands on lands allocated as Late-Successional Reserve.

Categorical Exclusions

Categorical Exclusions are categories of actions determined to have no significant effect to the human environment, individually or cumulatively. As such, neither an EA not an EIS is required (40 CFR 1508.4). For more discussion of Categorical Exclusions, please see page 9 of this Update.

Roseburg District

• Sample Tree Felling – Felling of sample trees associated exclusively with commercial thinning and density management timber sales for the 2008 calendar year at locations across the District (OR-103-08-26).

South River Field Office

• Salvage Associated with Road Maintenance – Salvage of dead, dying and leaning trees that pose a danger to traffic along roads in both Matrix lands and Late-Successional Reserves at various locations in the Upper Middle Fork Coquille and Olalla Creek/Lookingglass Creek fifth-field watersheds (OR-105-08-15).

Swiftwater Field Office

- Harvest of Special Forest Products for calendar year 2008. Harvest of Special Forest Products: including firewood, beargrass, boughs, burls, etc. in accordance with SFP Handbook 5400-2 and Guidelines provided by District and Field Office Environmental Specialists and Special Provisions for each separate product. Permits are issued for designated locations throughout the Resource Area. (OR-104-08-12).
- Manual Release. Cutting of brush (scotch broom, etc.) and hardwoods (Pacific madrone, big leaf maple, etc.) around conifer seedlings that are 20 years old in Section 19, T. 21 S., R. 5 W., W.M. (OR-104-08-13).
- Oregon Bicycle Ride 2008 Authorizes the crossing and use of BLM administered lands for a seven (7) day bicycle ride, between August 10 and August 16, 2008 for 250 people. The ride will utilize road numbers 30-6-32.0, 26-3-1.0, and 21-3-13.0, as well as the Millpond Campground ball-field and pavilion. (OR-104-08-14).

- Oak Restoration. Cutting of oaks and conifers that are growing under the canopy of the largest heritage oaks in the stand on the North Bank Habitat Management Area in Section 11, T. 26 S., R. 5 W., W.M. (OR-104-08-16).
- Elementary Watson Negotiated Salvage. Salvage of two (2) acres of blow-down trees that are blocking and adjacent to the BLM road 27-4-13.0 in the General Forest Management Area land use allocation in Section 13, T. 27 S., R. 4 W., W.M. Salvaged trees range from 10-24 inches diameter at breast height and one (1) approximately 34 inches diameter at breast height. (OR-104-08-13).

New Projects

South River Field Office

Middle South Umpqua/Dumont Creek Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 450 acres of mid-seral forest stands allocated as General Forest Management Area, Connectivity/Diversity Block or Riparian Reserves.

Location: Proposed units are located in Sections 17, 20, 21, 29 and 32, T. 29 S., R. 2 W.; and Sections 3,

9, 11 and 15, T. 30 S., R. 2 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: To begin in July, 2008.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Swiftwater Field Office

Lurch Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 154 acres in the General Forest Management Area and Riparian Reserve. It involves the commercial thinning of approximately 90 acres of young managed stands (39-49 years old) in the General Forest Management Area and density management of 64 acres in Riparian Reserve.

Location: Section 13, T. 23 S., R. 5 W., Section 7, T. 23 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Covered under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Completed. **Decision Date:** Anticipated July, 2008.

Cedar Shingle Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 525 acres in the General Forest Management Area, Connectivity, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations. It involves the commercial thinning of approximately 147 acres of young managed stands (37-53 years old) in the General Forest Management Area, 192 acres of young managed stands (44-48 years old) in the Connectivity/Diversity Block, and 186 acres of density management in the Riparian Reserve.

Location: Section 35, T. 23 S., R. 4 W., Section 3, T. 24 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Covered under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Completed. **Decision Date:** Anticipated August, 2008.

Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items

South River Field Office

Timber Management Activities

South Umpqua River Watershed Harvest Plan (note title correction)

Description: The proposed action is threefold, consisting of: regeneration harvest of an estimated 236 acres, commercial thinning of an estimated 897 acres of forest lands in the Matrix land use allocations, including density management in associated Riparian Reserves; and density management of an estimated 574 acres in Late-Successional Reserve (LSR). The increase in the acreage being analyzed, compared to what was listed in the Winter 2007 Quarterly Planning Update, is the result of identification of additional acres suitable for commercial thinning and density management.

Location: The stands proposed for treatment are located in the Days Creek, Coffee Creek, St. Johns Creek, Shively O'Shea Creek, and Stouts Creek 6th-field subwatersheds of the South Umpqua 5th-field watershed. Individual units are located as follows:

Regeneration Harvest - Section 25, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 3 and 4, T. 30 S., R. 4 W., W.M. **Commercial Thinning and Density Management in Matrix** - Sections 8, 17, 18 and 19, T. 29 S., R. 2 W.; Sections 13, 25, 27, 33 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Section 9, T. 30 S., R. 2 W.; and Sections 3, 7, 15, 21 and 23, T. 30 S., R. 3 W., W.M.

LSR Density Management - Sections 29, 30 and 31, T. 30 S., R. 4 W.; Section 25, T. 31 S., R. 3 W., Sections 9, 13, 21, 23, and 30, T. 31 S., R. 4 W.; and Section 25, T. 31 S., R. 5 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Ongoing. **Discretionary Scoping:** Complete. **Analysis:** Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Anticipated in July, 2008.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Lower Cow Creek Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management is proposed on approximately 722 acres. Commercial thinning in the Matrix allocations in conjunction with density management in associated Riparian Reserves would total 402 acres. Density management in Late-Successional Reserves would total approximately 320 acres.

Location: Section 13, T. 30 S., R. 7 W.; Sections 25, 27 and 35, T. 30 S., R. 8 W.; Sections 7, 13, 15, 17 and 19, T. 31 S., R. 6 W.; and Section 13, T. 31 S., R. 7 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

Public Comment Period: Completed.

Decision Date: Multiple decisions anticipated in fiscal year 2009.

Middle Fork Coquille 2007 Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning in the Matrix allocations, density management in Riparian Reserves associated with Matrix units, and density management in Late-Successional Reserves. Approximately 835 acres were analyzed for treatment.

Location: Sections 5, 15, 29, 31, 32 and 33 in T. 29 S., R. 8 W.; Sections 1, 11, and 35 in T. 29 S., R. 9 W.; Sections 5, 9, 15, 27, and 33 in T. 30 S., R. 8 W.; and Section 3 in T. 30 S., R. 9 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

4

Public Comment Period: June 26, 2007 to July 26, 2007.

Decision Date: The first of three decisions to be generated from the assessment, Deep Six Density Management, was issued in February, 2008. Remaining decisions are anticipated in the spring and summer of 2008.

Olalla-Lookingglass LSR Density Management (note title correction)

Description: Commercial thinning in the Matrix allocations, density management in Riparian Reserves associated with Matrix units, and density management in Late-Successional Reserves. Approximately 825 acres were analyzed for treatment.

Location: Sections 21 and 27 of T. 28 S., R. 8 W.; Section 31 of T. 29 S., R. 7 W.; Sections 9 and 19 of T. 30 S., R. 7 W.; and Sections 1, 11, 13, 15, and 23 of T. 30 S., R. 8 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed. **Public Comment Period:** May 7 to June 7, 2007.

Decision Date: The first of three decisions anticipated in fiscal year 2008 was the Olly Cat DM decision issued in February, 2008. Remaining decisions are anticipated in the summer of 2008.

South Myrtle Creek Regeneration Harvest Plan

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 583 acres of mature and late-successional forest comprised of the previously sold but unawarded Buck Fever, Class of 98, Dream Weaver and Sweet Pea timber sales.

Location: Sections 29, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 36, T. 28 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 1, 3, 9 and 11, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 15, 17 and 19, T. 29 S. R. 4 W.; and Section 25, T. 29 S., R. 5 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Comment Period: Anticipated in the summer of 2008.

Decision Date: Uncertain at this time.

Can-Can Regeneration Harvest

Description: Regeneration harvest on approximately 489 acres within the Matrix. Three sales, Screen Pass, Hi-Yo Silver and Myrtle Morgan would yield an estimated 14-16 MMBF of timber.

Location: O'Shea Creek and Canyon Creek 6th-field subwatersheds in the South Umpqua River 5th field watershed, and the Judd Creek 6th field subwatershed in the Middle South Umpqua River 5th field watershed. Proposed units are located in T. 30 S., R. 4 W., Section 5; T. 30 S., R. 5 W., Sections 9, 10, 11 and 15; T. 31 S., R. 5 W., Sections 23 and 26; and T. 30 S., R. 6 W., Sections 13 and 25.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

Public Comment Period: Completed.

Decision Date: A decision for the Myrtle Morgan timber sale was issued on June 27, 2006, and for the for the Screen Pass timber sale on July 20, 2006. Offering of the Hi-Yo Silver timber sale is planned for August, 2008.

Restoration Activities

South River Restoration Programmatic Environmental Assessment

Description: The analysis considered a range of restoration projects that would be reasonably implemented over the next five years or longer. These projects fall into three basic categories: (1) non-commercial riparian vegetation treatments that could include tree girdling to create snags and down wood and conversion/release of alder-dominated stands in favor of a diverse mixture of longer-

lived hardwood and conifer species, (2) road improvements and stream crossing replacements, and (3) stream restoration projects to provide grade control and create additional instream habitat structure.

Location: Various locations throughout the eight fifth-field watersheds encompassed by the South River Resource Area.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

Public Comment Period: Completed.

Decision Date: Decisions were issued for the replacement of stream-crossing culverts on a tributary to Holmes Creek, North Myrtle Creek and Beals Creek in the summer of 2005. Decisions were also issued for replacement of a culvert on West Fork Canyon Creek, and in-stream habitat restoration in Stouts Creek that was completed in the summer of 2006. A decision for the replacement of a stream-crossing culvert on Rice Creek was issued in April, 2007. Additional decisions will be forthcoming in fiscal year 2008 and beyond.

Myrtle Creek Watershed Restoration

Description: The analysis identified a range of watershed restoration projects that include the replacement of stream-crossing culverts that are at risk of failure and/or blocking passage to fish, road decommissioning, road upgrading, slide stabilization, and installation of in-stream structures to promote habitat complexity.

Location: Throughout the Myrtle Creek 5th Field Watershed.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

Public Comment Period: Completed.

Decision Date: No decisions for projects analyzed in this EA were issued from 2005 through 2008. Additional decisions for road improvements, road decommissioning and slide stabilization may be forthcoming in fiscal year 2009 and beyond.

Swiftwater Field Office

Roads and Facilities Management Activities

Little Wolf Quarry Expansion

Description: The proposed action would expand the existing Little Wolf Quarry by approximately four acres. The project would include the development of a quarry restoration plan.

Location: Section 1, T. 25 S., R. 8 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed. **Analysis:** Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Anticipated June, 2008.

Decision Date: Anticipated June, 2008.

Rone Access

Description: Issuance of a three year road use agreement for the hauling of approximately 500 MBF of timber on existing roads (24-3-30.0, 24-3-31.0, and 24-4-25.2) and construction of approximately 40 feet of road in NW ¼ of Section 31, T. 24 S., R. 3 W. The Environmental Assessment would also consider tail holds on Bureau of Land Management Lands as part of this project.

Location: Sections 31, T. 24 S., R. 3 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

Public Comment Period: Completed. **Decision Date:** Completed May 9, 2008.

Timber Management Activities

Adams Apple Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning (CT) and density management (DM) in the General Forest Management Area, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations. It involves the commercial thinning and density management of approximately 296 acres of young managed stands (47 years old). One-hundred and ninety (190) acres is located within General Forest Management Area and 106 acres is within the Riparian Reserve land use allocation.

Location: Section 19, T. 23 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Covered under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Completed. **Decision Date:** Completed May 27, 2008.

Slow Lane Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 128 acres in the Matrix, Connectivity, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations. It involves the commercial thinning of approximately 103 acres of young managed stands (37-54 years old) in the General Forest Management Area and 43 acres of density management in the Riparian Reserve.

Location: Sections 15 and 23, T. 23 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Covered under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed under Elkhead CT and DM Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Completed. **Decision Date:** Anticipated June, 2008.

Elementary Watson Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management in the Adaptive Management Area, General Forest Management Area, and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations. It involves the commercial thinning of approximately 370 acres of young managed stands (40-64 years old) and density management of 30 acres in Riparian Reserve.

Location: Section 7, T. 27 S., R. 3 W. and Section 13, T. 27 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed. **Analysis:** Environmental Assessment.

Public Comment Period: Anticipated July, 2008.

Decision Date: Anticipated August, 2008.

Dog Bone Commercial Thinning and Density Management

Description: Commercial thinning and density management in the Matrix and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations. It involves the commercial thinning of approximately 191 acres of young managed stands (46-52 years old) in the General Forest Management Area and 24 acres of density management in Riparian Reserve.

Location: Sections 17, 18, and 19, T. 26 S., R. 7 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Covered under the Upper Umpqua Watershed Plan (EA # OR-104-02-09).

Analysis: Environmental Assessment completed.

Public Comment Period: Completed under Upper Umpqua Watershed Plan.

Decision Date: Anticipated July, 2008.

Restoration Activities

East Fork Rock Creek In-Stream Restoration

Description: Cooperative project with PacifiCorp and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to place approximately 25 logs into four sites along a 600 foot section of East Fork Rock Creek. Logs were obtained from hazard trees that were cut down along roads on the Umpqua National Forest and would be placed using a road-based cable yarding system.

Location: Section 19, T. 25 S., R. 01 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Ongoing.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Comment Period: May 27-June 26, 2008.

Decision Date: Anticipated July, 2008.

North Bank Habitat Management Activities

Description: Forage plot selection and implementation are ongoing. Forage plot mowing is ongoing. In-stream restoration project starts in July. Prescribed burns will occur in June on the west side. Archeology dig will occur in July in southern section. Comstock recreation area improvements will happen July through September. Surveys taking place: Yellow-legged Frog, Columbian white-tail deer, Special Status plant species, and Lepidoptera.

Location: Sections 31, 32, 33, T. 25 S., R. 4 W., W.M.: Sections 35, 36, T. 25 S., R. 5 W., W.M.; Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, T. 26 S., R. 5 W., W.M. and Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, T. 26 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed – these activities are covered by the North Bank Habitat Management Area /

ACEC Final EIS (September 2000)

Public Comment Period: Completed in September, 2000

Decision Date: September, 2000

Watershed Analysis Status

South River Field Office

No watershed analysis is being conducted at this time.

Swiftwater Field Office

No watershed analysis is being conducted at this time.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Roseburg District has specific volunteer opportunities listed on-line at volunteer.gov/gov. Please call District Volunteer Program Coordinator Ariel Hiller at 464-3356 for further details.

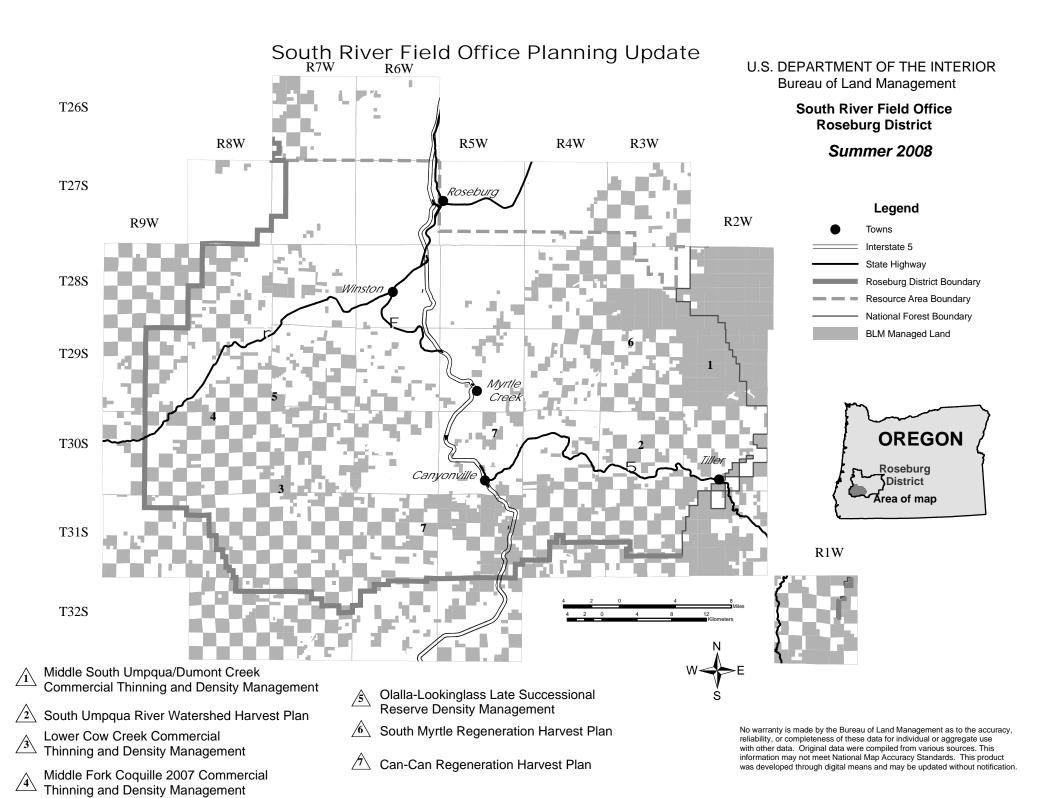


Certain activities within the BLM have been categorically excluded from preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of a categorical exclusion is to eliminate the need for unnecessary paperwork under NEPA. Specifically, Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR §1508.4 state that:

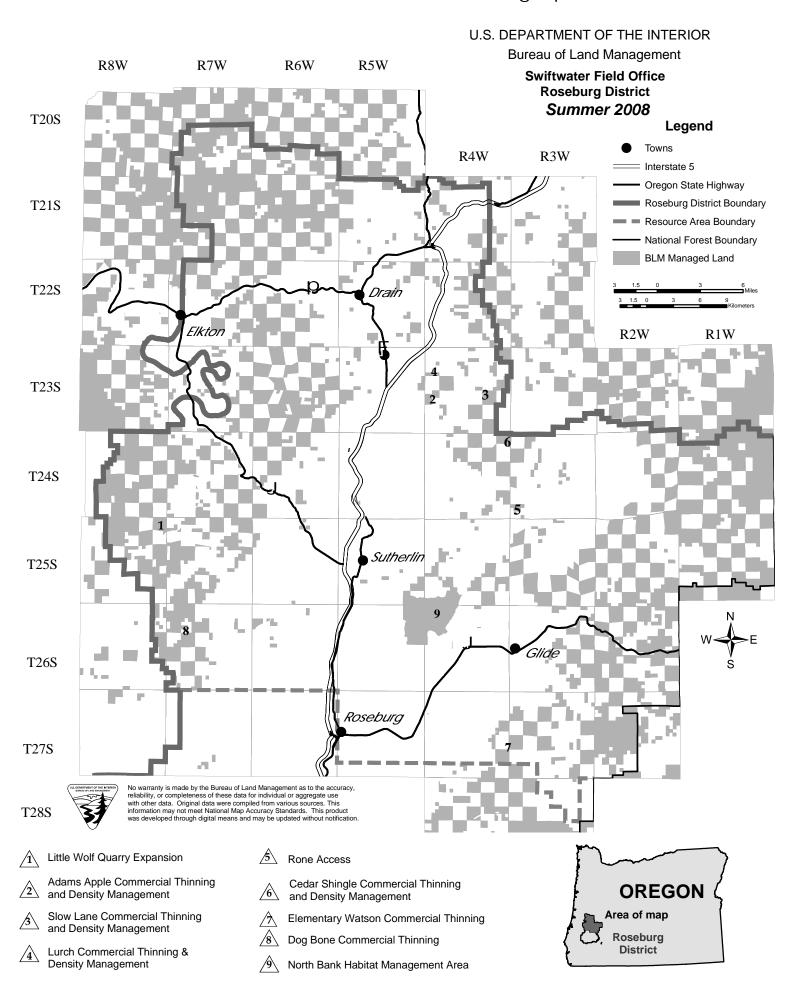
"'Categorical exclusion' means a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and which have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by a Federal agency in implementation of these regulations (Sec. 1507.3) and for which, therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required...Any procedures under this section shall provide for extraordinary circumstances in which a normally excluded action may have a significant environmental effect."

In implementation of the NEPA regulations, the BLM has developed categorical exclusions for certain silvicultural activities, such as reforestation, pre-commercial treatments, brush control, sample tree falling, and salvage, commercial thinning, and hazardous fuels reduction of limited acres. In developing categorical exclusions, the BLM demonstrated through rulemaking procedures how these actions do not typically result in significant environmental effects and set forth the methodology and criteria used to define the categories of actions. These rulemaking procedures included extensive public involvement and input, and CEQ review, regarding appropriate limits on the use of the categorical exclusion to assure that any categorically excluded action would remain within the effects of actions covered in the analysis for the rulemaking.

As such, in deciding whether to proceed with such actions, the BLM will review their particular conditions to ensure that no extraordinary circumstances exist, as listed in the Department of the Interior's NEPA Manual at 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 that would preclude the use of a categorical exclusion. The Roseburg District maintains an on-site NEPA register that lists ongoing actions, and seeks information from the public as to whether extraordinary circumstances exist for any of these ongoing actions that are categorically excluded. An "extraordinary" circumstance is one that could have significant environmental effects beyond the "ordinary" circumstances already described and considered as applicable to the excluded actions in the rulemaking procedure. These categorically excluded actions, by regulation, do not require the documentation necessary for an EA or EIS. The public was also provided a formal opportunity to participate in the agency's review and approval of these categorically excluded activities. Given this context, the BLM may choose to proceed with these actions as part of the ordinary course of business in managing forest land with the posting of a notice of decision on the District internet site. This notice would advise the public of the formal administrative review process for these individual actions available under 43 CFR §4.450. Depending on circumstances, however, the BLM may invoke, by publishing a notice in a local newspaper of record, the administrative review process under 43 CFR §5003 for certain individual forest management actions.



Swiftwater Field Office Planning Update



Abbreviations and Definitions

ACEC/RNA – Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area

BO - Biological Opinion.

CX or Categorical Exclusion - Actions which do not have significant effects on the environment and for which an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

EA - Environmental Assessment – This is a concise public document that briefly provides evidence and analysis of a proposed Federal action. It is used to determine whether further analysis needs to be done for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

ERFO – Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads

FONSI - Finding of No Significant Impact - This is a document that briefly presents the reasons why the implementation of an action will not result in "significant" environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in the Roseburg District's *Proposed Resource Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* (PRMP/EIS, October 1994).

GFMA – General Forest Management Area.

IDT - Interdisciplinary Team - A team is a group of resource specialists, whose participation is determined by the issues relating to the project proposal, and who conduct environmental analysis.

LSR – **Late-Successional Reserves** - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. These reserves will maintain a functional, interactive, late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystem. Approximately 81% of the Roseburg District BLM is reserve.

Matrix Lands - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. Most timber harvest contributing to the Allowable Sale Quantity takes place in this area. Approximately 19% of the Roseburg District BLM is matrix.

MBF - Thousand board feet.

MMBF - Million board feet.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act - A federal law which sets the systematic interdisciplinary analysis to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences to provide for an informed decision. The process provides for public participation in the development, review and revision of certain activities on Federal Lands.

NWFP - Northwest Forest Plan - A common name for the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994). It is also used to refer to the Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species with the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl which accompanies the Record of Decision.

O&C Lands - Revested Oregon and California Railroad Lands.

Resource Management Plan (RMP) - A land use plan prepared by the BLM in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

Scoping - An early and open part of environmental analysis that allows interested public and other Federal, state and local agencies the opportunity to provide issues, concerns and opportunities relative to proposed project actions. Scoping is required by regulation for Environmental Impact Statements.

USDI - Bureau of Land Management Roseburg District Office 777 N.W. Garden Valley Blvd. Roseburg, Oregon 97470