Roseburg District BLM Planning Update



Fall 2001

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. If you wish to save paper and postage, and have access to the internet, you can find the Planning Update at www.blm.gov/roseburg. Please remember to ask us to remove your name from our mailing list. For your convenience, you can also find a copy of the Planning Update at the Douglas County Library. 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 Roseburg District Office 777 N.W. Garden Valley Blvd. Roseburg, OR 97470

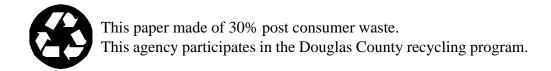


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For more information about projects in the field offices, contact the following environmental coordinators at (541) 440-4930:

Jim Luse, Swiftwater Field Office, 464-3254 Paul Ausbeck, South River Field Office, 464-3270

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

There are 140 individual agreements and easements that were executed prior to implementation of the Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (p. 71). These agreements are subject to regulations in effect at the time they were executed or assigned. Discretion on the part of the BLM to object to road construction is limited to one environmental reason - excessive erosion damage. These actions were previously disclosed under the **Categorical Exclusions** or **Plan Conformance** sections in the Planning Update, but are being presented here under a separate heading to reflect the non-discretionary nature of the actions, on the part of the BLM.

South River Field Office

- ! Seneca Jones Timber Company under Agreement No. R-656 Road construction in NE¹/₄SE¹/₄ of Section 9, T. 29 S., R. 8 W., W.M.
- ! Seneca Jones Timber Company under Agreement No. R-656 Road construction in the N½NW¼ of Section 15, T. 29 S., R. 8 W., W.M.

Swiftwater River Field Office

- ! Seneca Jones under Agreement No. R-645A Permittee Road construction and renovation in Section 3, T.22S., R.7W., W.M.
- ! Lone Rock Timber Co. under Agreement No. R-768 Permittee Road construction and renovation in Section 7, T.24S., R.6W., W.M.

Categorical Exclusions

This is a category of actions that federal agencies have determined not to significantly affect the human environment, individually or cumulatively. Neither an EA or EIS is required (40 CFR 1508.4).

South River Field Office

- ! **Kernel John #5 Site Preparation by Brushing** Brush would be cut to prepare the unit for site preparation by broadcast burning in the spring of 2002.
- ! Road Right-of-Way OR 56741 Authorization for the use of BLM Road No. 30-4-3.1 for access to estate property located in the S½NW¼, N½SW¼, N½SW¼, SE¼SW¼, and S½SE¼ of Section 3, T. 30 S., R. 4 W., W.M. Access was requested to meet Douglas County Planning Department legal requirements for access to partition the estate. Grant involves no road construction, nor ground-disturbing activities.

- ! **Mistletoe control on Jeffrey pine** in NE ¼ SW¼ of Section 1, T. 30 S., R. 6 W., W.M. Project would treat 1-2 acres by girdling infected trees greater than 8 inches diameter at breast height, removing diseased trees 4-8 inches in diameter, and pruning healthy trees 4-8 inches in diameter. Treatment would only involve the use of chainsaws and pruning saws.
- South River Pre-commercial Thinning Project will pre-commercially thin approximately 875 acres in Matrix and accomplish density management on 1525 acres in Late-Successional and Marbled Murrelet Reserves. Work will be accomplished in the autumn using chainsaws.
- ! Road Right-of-Way OR 56705 Authorization for the use of BLM Road Nos. 30-2-23.0, 30-2-23.2 and an unnumbered road off of the 23.2 road, crossing lands in the W½NE¼ and NE¼NW¼ of Section 23, T. 30 S., R. 2 W., W.M. Access was requested to meet Douglas County Planning Department legal requirements for access to adjust boundary lines. Grant involves no road construction, nor ground-disturbing activities.
- ! Grants Pass-Dixonville 230kV Transmission Line Right-of-Way OR 56652 Re-authorization of use of powerline corridor and access roads to PacifiCorp for transmission line maintenance. No road construction, nor ground-disturbing activities are involved.
- ! **Weasel Flats Pond Repair** Stabilization and armoring of slipping revetment, and replacement of overflow culverts on Weasel Flats pond in Section 17, T. 30 S, R. 8 W., W.M. Pond provides water for road maintenance and fire suppression.

Swiftwater Field Office

- ! **Precommercial Thinning and Manual Release** ten to twenty year old over dense stands to two different spacing criteria. Item 1 would treat approximately 1,656 acres, at 14 x 14 foot spacing of Late-Successional R and MMR; Item 2 would treat 507 acres at 12 x 12 foot spacing and Item 3 would treat 829 acres at 12 x 12 foot spacing. The project would occur at various locations throughout the Swiftwater Resource Area. (OR-104-01-20)
- ! **Tree Pruning** limbs from selected Douglas-fir trees to a height of 9. 10, or 18 feet using hand tools. (OR104-01-22D)
- ! **Fire Breaks along Roadsides** by cutting brish and vegetation to create defensible space by reducing fuel loads. Approximately 15 miles of road existing roads would be treated. Treatment would avoid stream sides and near proximity to owl sites. (OR-104-01-24)
- ! Construction of a Temporary Bridge on the Tioga Segment of the North Umpqua Trail approximately 24 feet long x 4 feet wide. Douglas-fir trees would be felled in the upland area above the proposed bridge location and carried by hand to the bridge location above the normal high water mark. Bridge work would occur within the Riparian Reserve to replace a bridge that was previously washed away. (OR-104-01-26)

Watershed Analysis Status

South River Field Office

Work on the second iteration of watershed analysis for the Lower Cow Creek watershed is continuing. Completion is now anticipated by the end of September, 2001.

New Projects

South River Field Office

An interdisciplinary team was convened to conduct an assessment of forest health and attempt to identify risks such as fire, insects and disease on a landscape scale, and propose locations and potential treatments to address these risks. Any treatments proposed will require evaluation and analysis by a separate team, and preparation of appropriate environmental documentation.

Swiftwater Field Office

Swiftwater Public Firewood Area

Description: Analyze and design programmatic guidelines to allow the cutting of hardwoods

and conifers within specifically designated areas to meet the demand for firewood on

lands administered by the Roseburg BLM Field Office.

Location: Swiftwater Resource Area; GFMA, Connectivity, LSR, and Riparian Reserve.

Issue Identification: November 2001

Analysis: January 2002

Public Review: To be announced **Decision Date:** To be announced

Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items

South River Field Office

South River Firewood Cutting Areas

Description: Establish programmatic guidelines for the establishment of public firewood

cutting areas for the purpose of providing a stable supply of firewood for home heating.

Firewood cutting would be limited to hardwood species.

Location: Matrix lands within the Resource Area located within a maximum of 200 feet

from surfaced, all-weather roads. Riparian Reserves, owl activity centers and cultural

sites would be excluded from consideration.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time. **Decision Date:** Unknown at this time.

South River FY 2001 Regeneration Harvest Project Plan

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 640 acres allocated as GFMA and

Connectivity/Diversity Blocks. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sections 33 and 35, T. 27 S., R. 4 W.; Sections 3, 5 and 10, T. 28 S., R. 4 W.; Sections 3 and 4, T. 30 S., R. 4 W.; Sections 27 and 33, T. 31 S., R. 6 W.; and Section 3, T. 32 S., R. 6 W. The timber sales would be expected to yield approximately 26,900 CCF of timber.

Location: Lower South Umpqua River Watershed, South Umpqua River and Lower Cow Creek watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time. **Decision Date:** Unknown at this time.

Middle Fork Coquille Commercial Thinning 2001

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 1,000 acres of managed second-growth stands in GFMA, Connectivity/Diversity Block and Riparian Reserve land use allocations. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 29 and 31 of T. 28 S. R. 8 W.; Sec. 31, 32, and 33 of T. 29 S., R. 8 W.; Sec. 5 and 7 of T. 30 S., R. 8 W.; and Sec. 1, 2, and 3 of T. 30 S., R. 9 W. The action is expected to result in 5 timber sales that would be expected to yield approximately 18,000 CCF of timber.

Location: Middle Fork Coquille River watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time. **Decision Date:** Unknown at this time.

South River Commercial Thinning 2000

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 300 acres of managed second-growth stands in GFMA and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 19, T. 28 S., R. 8 W.; Secs. 13 and 24, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Secs. 3 and 4. T. 30 S., R. 3 W.; Sec. 19. T. 29 S., R. 2 W.; and Sec. 9, T. 30 S., R. 2 W. The timber sales would be expected to yield approximately 5,590 CCF of timber.

Location: East Fork and Middle Fork Coquille River; South Umpqua River, and Middle South Umpqua River/Dumont Creek watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Released for public review on July 23, 2001. **Decision Date:** Sale decisions to be released over the next year.

South Umpqua Connectivity Density Management

Description: Density management of approximately 140 acres allocated as

Connectivity/Diversity Blocks and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 17, T. 30 S., R. 2 W and Sec. 17, T. 30 S., R. 3 W. The timber sales would be designed to accelerate the development of old-growth habitat and yield an estimated 2,040 CCF of timber.

Location: Deadman/Dompier and South Umpqua River watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

South River Watershed Restoration

Description: The EA analyzed an array of restoration projects to be implemented over a 5 year period. Projects include road renovation and decommissioning, culvert replacement, stream bank stabilization, tree-lining and placement of logs in stream for habitat structure.

Location: S. Umpqua River, Myrtle Creek, Lower Cow Creek, Olalla-Lookinglass and Middle Fork Coquille Watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete. **Public Review:** Complete.

Decision Date: Decisions on projects analyzed in the EA but not yet implemented will be issued

over the next 3 to 4 years.

South Umpqua Connectivity Density Management

Description: Density management of approximately 140 acres allocated as

Connectivity/Diversity Blocks and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 17, T. 30 S., R. 2 W and Sec. 17, T. 30 S., R. 3 W. The timber sales would be designed to accelerate the development of old-growth habitat and yield an estimated 2,040 CCF of timber.

Location: Deadman/Dompier and South Umpqua River watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete. **Public Review:** Complete.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

South River Watershed Restoration

Description: The EA analyzed an array of restoration projects to be implemented over a 5 year period. Projects include road renovation and decommissioning, culvert replacement, stream bank stabilization, tree-lining and placement of logs in stream for habitat struc-

Location: S. Umpqua River, Myrtle Creek, Lower Cow Creek, Olalla-Lookinglass and Middle Fork Coquille Watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete. **Public Review:** Complete.

Decision Date: Decisions on projects analyzed in the EA but not yet implemented will be

issued over the next three to four years.

Slimewater Creek Density Management

Description: Density Management of approximately 255 acres of early and mid-seral aged stands in the South Umpqua River/Galesville Late-Successional Reserve. These stands are located in Sec. 27, T. 30 S., R. 4 W. and Sec. 9, T. 31 S., R. 4 W. The objective would be the accelerated development of late-seral habitat characteristics for the northern spotted owl and other species.

Location: Shively-O'Shea Subwatershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Ragu Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 150 acres allocated as GFMA. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 9, 21, 29, and 33, T. 29 S., R. 8 W.; and Sec. 5, T.30 S., R. 8 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately 6,208 CCF of timber.

Location: Olalla Creek/Lookingglass Creek and Middle Fork Coquille River watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete. **Public Review:** Complete.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Kola's Ridge Commercial Thinning

Description: Commercial thinning in GFMA of approximately 67 acres of managed second-growth

stands in Sec. 27, T. 30 S., R. 9 W.

Location: Middle Fork Coquille River watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: First Sale Notice published on June 26, 2001.

Dickerson Heights Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 180 acres allocated as GFMA and Connectivity/

Diversity Blocks. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 3, 11, 9, and 15,

T. 29 S., R. 7 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately

8,800 CCF of timber.

Location: Olalla Creek/Lookingglass Creek watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time. **Decision Date:** Unknown at this time.

Loose Laces Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 200 acres allocated as GFMA and Connectivity/

Diversity Blocks. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 1, 3, 13, and 15,

T. 31 S., R. 6 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately

7,300 CCF of timber.

Location: Lower Cow Creek watershed.

Issue Identification: EA OR105-98-04 and FONSI withdrawn and replaced by EA OR105-99-14.

Issue identification completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment work in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time. **Decision Date:** Unknown at this time.

Cow Catcher Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 190 acres of Matrix lands in Sec. 5, 7, 9, and

17, T. 31 S., R. 6 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately 7,700 CCF of

timber.

Location: Lower Cow Creek watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time. **Decision Date:** Unknown at this time.

The following projects are not presently considered action items. Further work on the environmental assessments has been deferred. At such time as analysis is resumed, it will be noted in the Planning Update.

North Myrtle Timber Sales Can-Can Watershed Level Project Plan North Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Level Plan Middle South Umpqua / Olalla-Lookingglass Watershed Level Plan

Swiftwater Field Office

Cavitt Creek Road Restoration

Description: Road-related restoration in the Cavitt Creek; reduce or eliminate sedimentation to streams; providing for unobstructed movement of aquatic fauna; road renovation, decommissioning, and culvert replacement.

Location: Secs. 21, 23, 25-27, 35, T. 27 S., R. 3 W.; Secs. 19, 30, T. 27 S., R. 2 W.; Secs. 2, 3, 5, T. 28 S., R. 3 W. W.M.

Issue Identification: Expected by August, 2001.

Analysis: Expected by October, 2001

Public Review: Expected by December, 2001

Decision: April, 2002

Wolf/Miner Creek Instream Structures and Culvert Replacement

Issue Identification:

To Be Announced. Initiation is pending.

Wahl Tract Crossing Plat Rights-of-Way Amendment

Description: Amend 50 foot R-O-W into both BLM 80s and Lone Rock property.

Location: T25S, R5W, Sections 27 & 29.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed. Public Review: Completed **Decision:** July 31, 2001.

ERFO (Emergency Repair of Federally Owned) roads EA -

Description: Repair of existing roads and culverts damaged by winter storms.

Location: T24S, R6W Section 5; T25S, R2W, Sections 22 & 30.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed.

Decision: April 30, 2001

Eagleview Campground - Project is being reopened.

Description: Conversion of formerly leased camp area (1948 - 1992) into a public access

camp area; Project is in Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve; Background

Analysis found in the Middle Umpqua Frontal Watershed analysis.

Location: T24S, R7W, Section 11. **Issue Identification:** Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: To Be Announced.

Millpond Group Campsite -

Description: Construct a group reservation camping area; Construct associated structures

and facilities; Background Analysis found in Rock Creek Watershed Analysis.

Location: T25S, R2W, Section 21. **Issue Identification:** Completed

Analysis: Completed

Public Review: July 2, 2001.

Stream Crossing Project EA -

Description: Reduce or eliminate stream crossings from being a direct source of

sedimentation to streams; Provide for unobstructed movement of aquatic fauna.

Location: The project would range throughout the Swiftwater Resource Area, crossings

being selected by priority.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed. **Decision:** April 30, 2001.

Susan Creek Exchange -

Description: Exchange an isolated BLM parcel containing approximately 68 acres of public

domain land located near the mouth of the Umpqua River, near the south jetty, in Coos Bay BLM District for land of equal value located within the North Umpqua River Wild and Scenic River Corridor in the Roseburg BLM District; ll parcels are located in Douglas County; Background Analysis found in Roseburg District Old Fairview Watershed

Analysis and Coos Bay District Lower Umpqua Frontal Watershed Analysis.

Location: T22S, R13W, Section 13, Lot 1 SWNW; 68 acres; T26S, R2W, Section 14, S2SWSESE; 10 acres; T26S, R2W, Section 23, part lot 4 between highway 138 and North Umpqua River; 17.5 acres; T26S, R2W, Section 24, strip 100 feet wide adjacent to high water line along both the north and south banks of the North Umpqua River; 18

acres.

Issue Identification: Expected in 2001.

Analysis: Expected in 2001. **Public Review:** Expected in 2002.

Gallagher Thinning -

Description: Commercial thinning on an estimated 300 acres; Background analysis in the

Upper Umpqua 5th Field watershed.

Location: T26S, R4W, Sections 9 & 19.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed

Public Review: Expected by July 1, 2001.

FY 2001 Commercial Thinnings -

Description: Commercial thinning on an estimated 160 acres; Background analysis found in

the Calapooya Watershed Analysis.

Location: T24S, R3W Section17; and T25S, R4W, Section17

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: July 11, 2001 through August 9, 2001.

FY2000 Thinnings (Off Little River, Upper Eastside, Bearbuck) Note - this project has been renamed CT2000 -

Description: Commercial thinning on an estimated 190 acres; Project is in Connectivity and Little River adaptive Management Area (AMA); Background analysis found in Elk Creek 5th Field Watershed Analysis (WA), Upper Coast Fork Willamette 5th Field Watershed

Analysis, and the Little River 5th Field Watershed Analysis. **Location:** T27S, R3W, Secs. 1,7; T22S, R4W, Secs. 9,27; T21S, R4W, Secs. 23, 27, 35

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed.

Decision: Pending BOs from USF&WS and NMFS.

Smith River Restoration

Description: Restoration of the Upper & Middle Smith River subwatersheds; Reduce road

impacts that are high risk to streams, water quality, and aquatics; List and decommission

roads with other management activities; Enhance habitat.

Location: Upper & Middle Smith River Sub-basins.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Decision: A partial decision is signed for tree falling and tree placement. Other decisions will be

signed in the future to address other aspects of the analysis. The public will be notified as

these decisions are made possible.

Shingle Lane Regen & Commercial Thinning

Description: Regeneration harvest on an estimated 30 acres and commercial thinning on an

estimated 225 acres; Project is in Matrix (General Forest Management Area); Background

Analysis: Elk Creek Watershed Analysis.

Location: T23S, R4W, Sec. 27 Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

Public Review: To be announced.

Watson Mountain

Description: A sub-watershed level project that includes: Mariposa Lily habitat

enhancement, commercial thinning, fertilization, Jim and Fall Creek roadwork, slide stabilization, control of noxious weeds and regeneration timber harvest; Background

Analysis: Little River Watershed Analysis.

Location: T25S, R1W, Secs. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35; Little River Adaptive Management Area

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

Public Review: To Be Announced.

Powell Creek

Description: A regeneration harvest on an estimated 52 ac.; Project is in Matrix (General

Forest Management Area) and is in the Rural Interface Area.

Location: T24S, R4W, Sec. 33; T25S, R7W, Sec. 5

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

Pipeline

Description: Regeneration harvest on approximately 225 ac.; Project is in Matrix (General

Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Block); Background Analysis:

Brush Creek-Hayhurst Valley-Yoncalla Watershed Analysis.

Location: T23S, R5W, Secs. 7, 19, 21; T23, R6W, Secs. 1, 13

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed.

Decision: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

What-a-Gas

Description: Regeneration harvest on an estimated 195 ac.; Project is in Matrix (General

Forest Management Area and connectivity/Diversity Block).

Location: T25S, R3W, Secs. 7,17, 19; T25S, R4W, Sec 13

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed.

Decision: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

Green Thunder

Description: Regeneration and Commercial Thinning harvest in the Little River Adaptive

Management Area; Approximately 215 ac. of regeneration and 325 ac. of commercial

thinning is proposed; Background Analysis: Little River Watershed Analysis.

Location: T26S, R2W, Secs. 31, 33; T26S, R3W, Sec. 25; Little River Adaptive Management Area

and Middle, North Umpqua 5th Field Watershed

Issue Identification: Completed

Analysis: Completed

Public Review: Completed

Decision: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

Bear Hill

Description: Regeneration harvest in Matrix; Approximately 50 ac. are proposed;

Background Analysis: Brush Creek-Hayhurst Valley-Yoncalla Watershed Analysis.

Location: T22S, R6W, Sec. 23 **Issue Identification:** Completed.

Analysis: Awaiting resolution of litigation.

Public Review: To Be Announced.

Tyee Mountain

Project is deferred for other priorities.

North Bank Habitat Management Area

Description: This project was developed previously as an Environmental Analysis (EA). An

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Habitat Management Plan is being prepared for the management of this area for Columbian white-tailed deer as well as other sensitive

plants and animals; Background Analysis: North Bank Watershed Analysis.

Location: T25S, R4W, Secs. 31, 33; T25S, R5W, Secs. 35, 36; T26S, R4W, Secs. 4, 8, 17, 19; T26S,

R5W, Secs. 1, 3, 10, 14, 23, 26

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Extended to November 6, 2000.

Decision: June 2001.

Planning Documents

Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRPs)

Transportation Management Objectives (TMO)

Watson Mountain Ecosystem Management Strategy

Third Year Evaluation

The evaluations of six western Oregon Resource Management Plans (Salem District, Eugene District, Coos Bay District, Roseburg District, Medford District and Klamath Falls Resource Area) have recently been completed. The Resource Management Plan evaluations examined the first three years of plan implementation, (May-June 1995 through September 1998).

The evaluations were for the purpose of determining if there was new information or changed circumstances sufficient to warrant amendment or revision of the plans. The plan evaluations were not intended to re-analyze information that was previously considered in the RMP. Circumstances which have continued to evolve since the end of this specific evaluation period will be addressed in subsequent plan evaluations.

The findings of the six plan evaluations are that from 1995 through 1998, the BLM successfully implemented the Resource Management Plans and the Northwest Forest Plan, and that no amendments or revisions are warranted. The evaluations indicate, however, that minor adjustments in the annual harvest level of two districts are necessary. The annual harvest level for the Coos Bay District is reduced from 32 million board feet (MMBF) to 27 MMBF because of the transfer of lands to the Coquille Indian Tribe and additional reserves required for the protection of marbled murrelets. The annual harvest level for the Eugene District is reduced from 36 MMBF to 33 MMBF because of required harvest deferrals and the correction of an error in timber yield projections.

The plan evaluations, findings and supporting documents are available upon request at the respective local BLM offices. If you have any questions regarding these plan evaluations, please contact Chris Cadwell at (541) 683-6120 or Phil Hall (541) 464-3242.

Payments to Counties Act to Fund Projects throughout the County

Counties, agencies, watershed councils, and others have been submitting project proposals for funds under the "Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act of 2000" or the "Payments to Counties Act" as it is more commonly known.

The primary 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." These payments have declined dramatically over the last 10 years in response to the decline in federal timber sales. Under the Act, counties can choose to continue receiving timber receipts or can elect to receive these payments over the next five years. In addition the Act strives to improve resources on federal lands and strengthen the relationships between the communities federal land management agencies. Three separate titles of the Act define how the counties can spend the money.

Under the Act the total payments to Douglas County in lieu of BLM timber receipts are nearly 27 million dollars. In addition, the county will receive nearly 21 million dollars in lieu of Forest Service timber receipts. Title I projects will receive 80 to 85 percent of the funding and will benefit schools and roads. Counties will then choose how they want to divide the remaining 15 to 20 percent between Title II and Title III projects.

Projects funded under Title II are intended to improve resources and infrastructure on federal lands. The Secretary of the Interior will appoint a 15-member resource advisory committee (RAC) representing different interests in Douglas County. The committee will review projects, choose those that they feel should be funded, and then forward these recommendations to the Secretary for final. Any organization, agency, or individual may submit a project for consideration. The RAC should be formed by the end of August or early September and will begin meeting shortly thereafter. Additional RACs will represent other BLM Districts and National Forests.

Title III funds can go toward a number of different activities, including environmental education, search and rescue, community forestry, easement purchases, and fire prevention. Before these projects begin, they require a 45-day public comment period and RAC notification—not approval.

If you have questions or are interested in submitting a project proposal, contact the County Commissioners' office at (541) 440-4201 or the Bureau of Land Management at (541) 440-4930.

Length of the Act: Fiscal years 2001 through 2006. First payments to counties will occur in FY 2002.

BLM and Forest Service funds are kept separate because of the differing sources and uses of these funds. This page will only discuss the BLM funds and processes as it affects the BLM in Oregon and Washington. Counties must make decisions:

- Accept the new payment formula or keep the old 50% formula.
- Choose whether or not to put 15% or 20% of the money they receive into projects under Title II or Title III below.

Counties can direct this money to be spent under Title II or Title III of the act. See below for the difference between the two titles.

Title III — County Projects

Funds expended under this title can be used only for:

Search, rescue and emergency services on Federal lands.

- •Community service work camps for community service on Federal lands.
- •Easement purchases for non-motorized access to public lands or conservation easements.
- •Forest related educational opportunities for after school programs
- •Fire prevention and county planning to educate homeowners or planning efforts to reduce or mitigate the impact of development on adjacent Federal lands
- Community forestry cost-share requirements under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

Because of these limitation on how money can be spent under Title III, it is expected that counties will not be able to spend most of their money under this title. However, counties have the final say on approving projects under this Title. No Resource Advisory Committee involvement (other than notification) is required.

Title II — Special Projects on Federal Lands

General Limitation: Project funds may be used by the Secretary of the Interior for the purpose of entering into and implementing cooperative agreements with willing Federal agencies, State and local governments, private and nonprofit entities, and landowners for protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other resource

objectives consistent with the purpose of this title on Federal land and on non-federal land where projects would benefit these resources on Federal land.

Also, the Secretary shall ensure that at least 50% of all project funds will be used for projects that are primarily dedicated to 1) road maintenance, decommissioning, or obliteration; or 2) restoration of streams and watersheds.

Resource Advisory Committee (Committee)

Five Resource Advisory Committees are being formed for western Oregon BLM districts that contain Oregon & California (O&C) Grant Lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) lands. One BLM Committee will be formed in southeastern Oregon. Each Committee will have a Designated Federal Official (DFO) responsible for the use and management of the Committee. The Forest Service is establishing Resource Advisory Committees for combinations of National Forests throughout the nation.

The purpose of these Committees will be to review project proposals and make recommendations on spending the county-designated funds to the Secretary of the Interior (or Agriculture for Forest Service RACs.)

Counties with both Forest Service and BLM lands within their boundaries will have to interact with both Forest Service and BLM Committees.

The BLM Committees will have 15 members appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. All Committee members will serve 3 year terms.

All proposed projects must meet the requirements of federal laws and procedures. The Committee can approve projects only if three members out of each of the three categories below vote in the affirmative.

Composition of the Committee

Committee members will represent community interests in the following three categories:

Category One — representatives of organized labor, developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle use, energy and/or mining development, timber industry, or holders of federal grazing permits. (Five members.)

Category Two — representatives of environmental and resource conservation organizations, with a focus on wildlife and/or fisheries resources, dispersed recreation, archeological and historic interests, and wild horse and burro groups. (Five members.)

Category Three — representatives of State, county and local government, Native American Tribes, school officials or teachers, and the public-at-large. (Five members.)

Resource Advisory Committee Nominations

RAC nominations have been submitted to the Secretary of Interior for review and approval.

Upcoming Events

National Weed Day 2002

The BLM is a co-sponsor of this educational event.

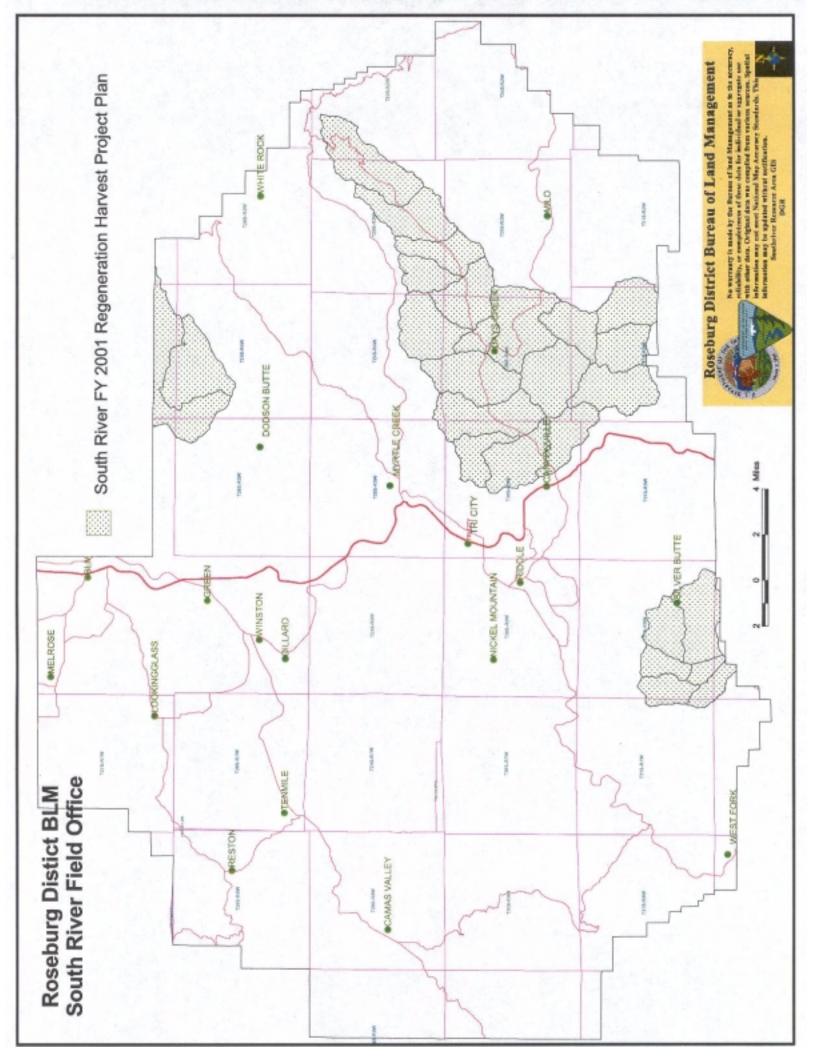
Douglas County Weed Day 2002 is planned for February 5, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Weed Day includes informational displays, practical classes for land owners and technical classes for Pesticide Recertification Credits (pending ODA approval). This is an excellent opportunity to learn about the weeds in Douglas County. Scheduled topics include: Pesticide Reporting, Personal Protective Equipment and Safe Handling of Pesticides, Sprayer Calibration, Weed Identification and more. Specialists will be available to help with specific weed problems. For more information contact Shelby Filley, Douglas County Extension Agent at 672-4461.

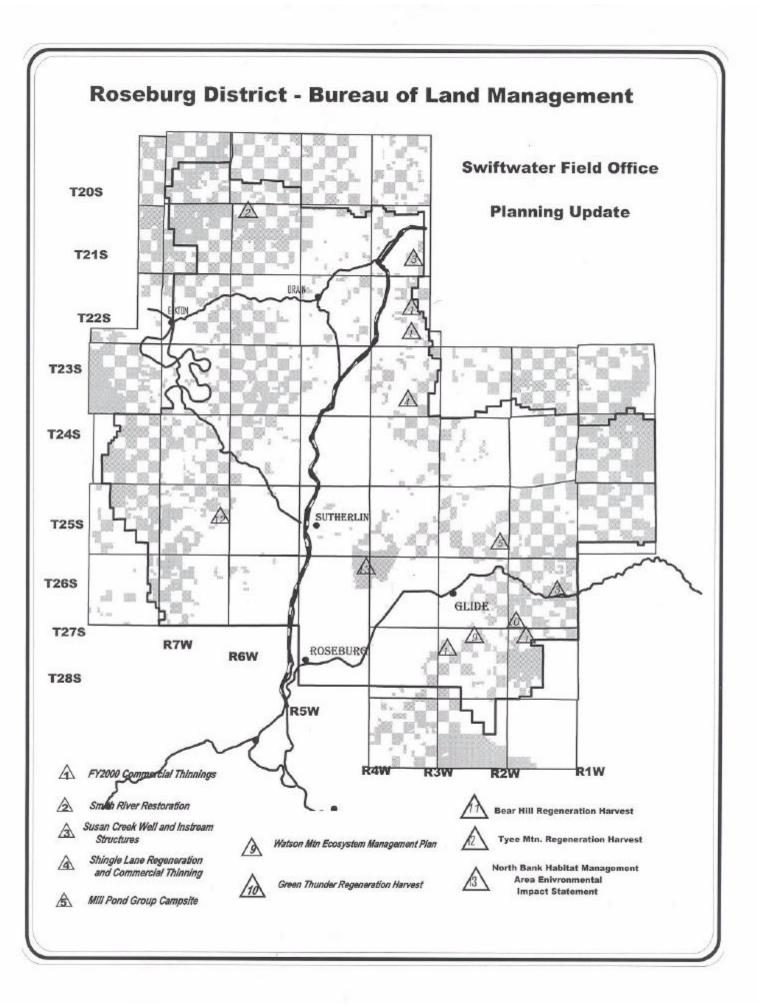
National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day will be held this year on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Last year, 360 volunteers accomplished ten projects on public lands around the county, from river cleanup to fire lookout restoration. This year, two areas will be used as staging areas...the Susan Creek and Island Creek recreation sites. Additional crews around Douglas County will clean up various stream reaches. Planned work includes trail maintenance, painting, noxious weed eradication, site reclamation. T-shirts and lunch will be provided. Please wear sturdy footwear and a long-sleeve shirt. Please call one of the site coordinators listed below:

Joe Ross for the Island Creek project (along Cow Creek about 10 miles from Riddle) - Tel. 464-3248

Bill O'Sullivan for the Susan Creek project (along the North Umpqua River about 12 miles east of Glide) - Tel. 464-3216





Abbreviations and Definitions

BO - Biological Opinion.

CF - Cubic feet.

CCF - Hundred cubic feet.

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 - 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).

IDT - Interdisciplinary Team - 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.

NFP - 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.