

Spring 2003

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 you have access to the internet, you can find the Planning Update at <u>www.blm.gov/roseburg</u>.

Please remember to ask us to remove your name from our mailing list if you no longer wish to receive the Planning Update. For your convenience, you can also find a copy of the Planning Update at the Douglas County Library. Your comments and concerns are welcome 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, Oregon 97470

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# Key Contact

For more information about projects in the field offices, contact the following environmental coordinators:

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

## Non-Discretionary Actions Under Reciprocal Right-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 (ROD/RMP) (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.

### South River Field Office

- Lone Rock Timber Co., Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-543 Permittee Road Construction in Section 31, T. 28 S., R. 3 W.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-851 Permittee Road Construction in Section 7, T. 31 S., R. 3 W.
- Roseburg Resources Co., Reciprocal Right-of-Way Agreement R-851 Permittee Road Improvement and Road Construction in Sections 17 and 21, T. 31 S., R. 8 W.

### Swiftwater Field Office

None completed for the first quarter 2003.

## 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

- Silviculture Reforestation of previously harvested timber sale units. This would consist of 49 acres of initial planting and 65 acres of replanting. All planted seedlings will be mulched. Trees will be tubed on 16 acres to reduce browse damage. (OR-105-03-02)
- Silviculture South River Manual Maintenance, cutting of brush and competing hardwoods in recently replanted harvest units. (OR-105-03-06)
- Silviculture Outplanting site pre-commercial thinning. (OR-105-03-07)

## Swiftwater Field Office

• Tom Folley Blowdown Redistribution – Approximately 20-30 blowdown trees will be salvaged in T21S, R7W, Secs. 27 & 35 to use for instream restoration in Upper Smith River watershed (Halfway Creek and Cleghorn Creek) The logs will be stockpiled on the 22-7-2.0 road. (OR-104-03-01)

- Special Forest Products (SFP) This Categorical Exclusion annually reviews the SFP program for a variety of special forest products; firewood, beargrass, greenery, Christmas trees, etc. The CE incorporates the SFP Handbook (5400-2) and guidelines provided by District and Field Office Environmental Specialists and special provisions for each separate product. (OR-104-03-04)
- Douglas Electric Hazard Tree Removal Harvest and sale of dead, dying, and other hazard trees potentially within reach of Douglas Electric power lines. This is a preventive measure due to high likelihood that these trees will fall into the power lines. (OR-104-03-05)

## New Projects

#### South River Field Office Early Commercial Thinning

This analysis was initiated in January, 2003. It will consider the consequences of early commercial thinning in forest stands which were not pre-commercially thinned, and in which pre-commercial thinning is no longer considered viable. The analysis would be programmatic in nature and provide sideboards for selecting areas for thinning. Characteristics likely to form the basis for selection would include high stand density, recession of individual tree crowns, and the onset of suppression mortality. Units could be located throughout the Matrix land use allocations. Density management in Riparian Reserves associated with the units would also be considered.

#### Martin Creek Instream Restoration

Initiated in November of 2002, this analysis proposes the placement of instream structures in approximately 2 miles of Martin Creek. Martin Creek is located in the Lower Middle Creek subwatershed, an area designated as Tier 1 Key Watershed. The project area is situated on BLM and private lands in Section 35 of T. 31 S., R. 7 W., and Sections 1 and 2 of T. 32 S., R. 7 W. The structures would consist of single or multiple logs, or boulders.

#### **Ben Irving Trail**

This analysis was initiated in November, 2002. It proposes to construct a low elevation, loop trail around Ben Irving Reservoir in conjunction with the Douglas County Parks Department. The trail would be constructed on BLM and County lands in Sections 17, 18, 19 and 20 of T. 29 S., R. 7 W. and Section 13 of T. 29 S., R. 8 W. Use of the trail would be open to hiking, horse riding and bicycling. No motorized use would be authorized.

#### Swiftwater Field Office Summit Creek Blowdown

This project, located in Township 20 south, Range 6 west, section 26, will remove some blowdown logs from the Summit Creek blowdown (LSR RO267) and redistribute the logs to provide for instream structures in stream segments where it is found to be lacking within the Upper and Middle Smith River Watersheds. The logs will be stockpiled for current or future stream restoration projects. They are primarily targeted for stream segments with adjacent forests 0 - 30 years of age.

## Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items

### District-Wide Projects

#### **Outplanting Site Project**

**Description:** This project would thin approximately half of the surviving genetically superior trees in each research plantation (an average of 480 trees per acre were planted). Due to the nature of these research plantations, every other tree would be cut, as well as any naturally seeded trees and brush.

Location: Roseburg District Outplanting Sites.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: January 28 to February 27, 2003.

Decision Dates: Multiple Decisions. First is Expected March 2003.

### South River Field Office

#### Commercial Thinning 2003

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of 520 acres of forest stands allocated to Matrix and Riparian Reserves. Proposed units would be located in Section 31, T. 29 S., R. 7 W.; Section 31, T. 29½ S., R. 7 W.; Sections 23, 25 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 31 and 32, T. 28 S., R. 2 W.; Sections 35 and 36, T. 28 S., R. 3 W.; and Sections 5 and 6, T. 29S., R. 2W.
Location: Olalla-Lookingglass, South Umpqua River and Myrtle Creek watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Analysis in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

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

#### Myrtle Creek Watershed Restoration

**Description**: An assessment of the environmental consequences of watershed restoration projects that would 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: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Anticipated by mid-February.

Decision Date: The first project decisions are expected in March or April, 2003.

#### South River Commercial Thinning 2002

- Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 490 acres of managed second-growth stands in GFMA and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sections 27, 33 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 6 W.; Sections 3 and 9, T. 30 S., R. 6 W.; Sections 25 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 7 W.; Section 29 of T. 29 S., R. 8 W.; Section 13, T. 29 S., R. 9 W.; and Sections 13 and 23, T. 30 S., R. 9 W.
- **Location**: Upper Middle Fork Coquille and Middle South Umpqua River/Rice Creek watershed analysis units.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Anticipated by March of 2003.

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 Secs. 33 and 35, T. 27 S., R. 4 W.; Secs. 3, 5 and 10, T. 28 S., R. 4 W.; Sections 3 and 4, T. 30 S., R. 4 W.; Secs. 27 and 33, T. 31 S., R. 6 W.; and Sec. 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 yielding approximately 18,000 CCF of timber.

Location: Middle Fork Coquille River watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: A Decision on the first of multiple thinning projects was issued in January, 2003.

#### Beatty Creek/Island Creek Land Exchange

- **Description**: The BLM would exchange parcels of timbered lands from the Public Domain for approximately 764 acres of Roseburg Resources Company lands in the Lower Cow Creek watershed. A majority of the lands acquired by the BLM would be added to the Beatty Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area. Lands in the Island Creek area would be managed to provide additional recreational opportunities in association with the BLM's Island Creek Day Use Area.
- Location: The lands that would be acquired by the BLM are located in Secs. 30 and 31, T. 30 S., R. 6 W. and Sec. 36, T. 30 S., R. 7 W. The BLM has identified 4 parcels of land in Sec. 4, T. 25 S., R. 3 W.; Sec. 20, T. 23 S., R. 4 W.; and Sec. 22, T. 24 S., R. 3 W. that are available and would be offered in exchange. Not all of the offered parcels are anticipated to be needed to complete the exchange.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

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: Complete.

**Decision Date**: A 34-acre commercial thinning, Hurricane Ruby, was authorized on August 27, 2001. The commercial thinning was offered and sold on September 25, 2001. A second commercial thinning consisting of 136 acres, Weaver Road, was authorized on October 30, 2001, and sold at auction on November 27, 2001. A third sale, which included Units L and M of the analysis, was sold on September 24, 2002. One additional sale from the analysis is anticipated, but no date has been scheduled.

#### 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:** The Bland Days Commercial Thinning Timber Sale was sold on September 24, 2002. The sale included Unit A from this analysis, totaling 56 acres. The remainder of the acres analyzed is still available for future offerings.

#### **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.

#### **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 Secs. 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 Secs. 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.

#### Swiftwater Field Office

#### FY 2003 Commercial Thinning Timber Sales

Description: Analyze and design two separate commercial thinnings. The two thinnings would be analyzed separately, but have one environmental assessment (EA) document; Copeland Divide, (Commercial Thinning) Sec. 3, T. 22 S., R. 6 W., W.M.; Sec. 31, T. 21 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; Sec. 7, T. 22 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; and Boyd Howdy (Density Management/Commercial Thinning) Secs. 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25 & 27, T. 25 S., R. 2 W., W.M.; Secs. 29 & 30, T. 25 S., R.1W., W.M.

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

**Issue Identification:** Completed.

Analysis: Expected February 2003.

Public Review: Expected April 15, 2003.

**Decision Dates:** To be announced.

#### **Recreation Programmatic EA**

Description: This EA analyzes a variety of repair, maintenance, upgrade, and minor improvement projects. To streamline the NEPA process this EA analyzes three project categories: 1) Repair/maintenance of damage caused by "Acts of God" (i.e. flood, wind, etc); 2) General maintenance and upgrade (e.g. pumphouses, pavilions, paving, etc.); and 3) Minor improvements (e.g. Eagle Scout projects, sprinkler systems, watchable wildlife sites, etc.)
Location: Swiftwater Resource Area Recreation Sites.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Expected by February 2003.

Public Review: To be announced.

Decision Dates: To be announced.

#### Upper Umpqua Watershed Plan (Formerly known as "Tyee Restoration")

**Description:** This EA analyzes a variety of potential and continuing projects throughout the watershed. Treatment of forests for fish, wildlife and commercial objectives; treatment or decommissioning of roads; and instream and aquatic enhancement are a few of the types of projects analyzed in this EA.

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

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in Progress.

Public Review: Expected by April 2003.

Decision Dates: Multiple Decisions; To be announced.

#### FY 2002 Commercial Thinning Timber Sales

Description: Analyze and design four separate commercial thinnings. The four thinnings would be analyzed in two separate environmental assessment (EA) documents; West Side (Hayhurst and Cat Tracks), Sec. 3, T. 22 S., R. 6 W., W.M.; Sec. 31, T. 21 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; Sec. 7, T. 22 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; and East Side (Relativity and East Fork) Secs. 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25 & 27, T. 25 S., R. 2 W., W.M.; Secs. 29 & 30, T. 25 S., R.1W., W.M.

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

**Issue Identification:** Completed.

Analysis: Westside EA completed. East Side EA completed.

Public Review: Westside: Completed.

Eastside: Completed.

Decision Dates: Westside: Completed.

Eastside: Relativity expected for 2nd quarter, East Fork is to be announced.

# **Deferred Analyses**

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.

### South River Field Office

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

### Swiftwater Field Office

Shingle Lane Regen & Commercial Thinning Watson Mountain Powell Creek Pipeline What-a-Gas Green Thunder Bear Hill

## **Other Assessments**

### South River Aquatic Restoration Assessment

This is an ongoing planning effort to consolidate all information from data sources, inventories, watershed analysis, etc. This consolidated information would then allow the South River Field Office to identify problem areas to focus future restoration activities.

## Forest Hazard Risk Assessment

**Description**: An assessment to identify risks such as fire, insects and disease on a landscape scale, and propose locations and potential treatments to address these risks.

Location: All lands within the South River Resource Area.

**Analysis**: Completion is now expected in the Spring of 2003. The assessment is not a project analysis from which any decisions will be generated. Any proposed forest health or hazard-reduction treatments will require an assessment of environmental consequences and preparation of the appropriate level of documentation by a separate interdisciplinary team.

# Watershed Analysis Status

### South River Field Office

Work on second iterations of watershed analysis for the Lower Cow Creek and Myrtle Creek watersheds has been completed.

## Upcoming Events

### Weed Control Workshops brought to you by the Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District

Weed Specialists from Oregon Department of Agriculture, BLM and Douglas County/OSU Extension Service will present information on weed identification, economic and environmental impacts of weeds and weed control techniques for pastures, forestry, wildlands and riparian areas. Participants are urged to bring weed samples and questions about weeds.

All Workshops start at 6:30 pm.

Date A	rea of County Serving	Location
February 19, 2003	Glide/Dixonville	Glide Community Center
February 20, 2003	Winston/Dillard	Winston Community Center
February 25, 2003	Riddle/Canyonville	Riddle Community Center
February 27, 2003	Days Creek/Tiller	Days Creek High School
March 4, 2003	Camas Valley/Tenmile	Tenmile Elementary
March 6, 2003	Oakland/Sutherlin Center (Oakland)	Washington School Community
March 11, 2003	Azalea/Glendale	Azalea Grange
March 13, 2003	Drain/Yoncalla	Yoncalla Community Center

Call Jodie Porter for more information. (541) 580-2974

## **GLIDE WILDFLOWER SHOW 2003**

April 26 & 27, 2003 - Glide Community Building 20062 N. Umpqua Hwy., Glide, OR 97443

> 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Saturday and Sunday (8 A.M. to 9 A.M. photographers only) Open April 28 for school groups



The 37th annual Glide Wildflower Show opens the last weekend in April at the Glide Community Building in Glide, Oregon. The show features

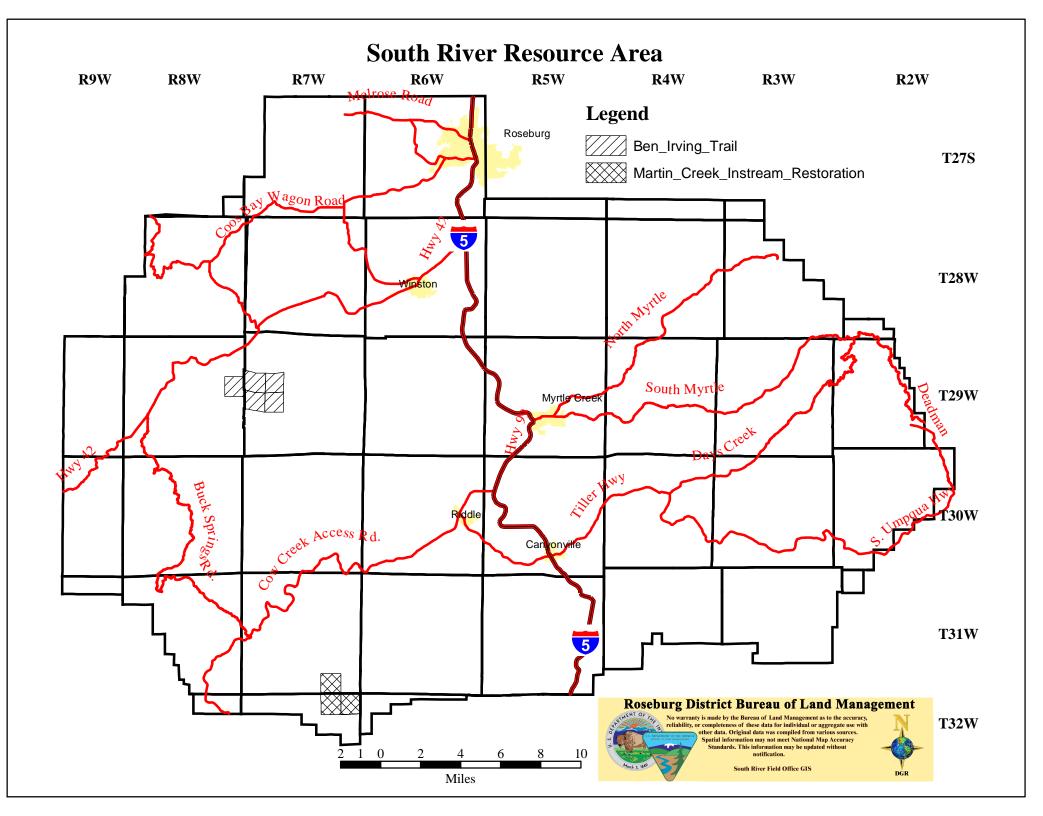
hundreds of plants from Southwestern Oregon, arranged and identified by botanical and common names. Included are exhibits and specimens of wildflowers, trees, shrubs, lichens, liverworts, mosses, ferns, and grasses. Photographs of rare and endangered species are on display.

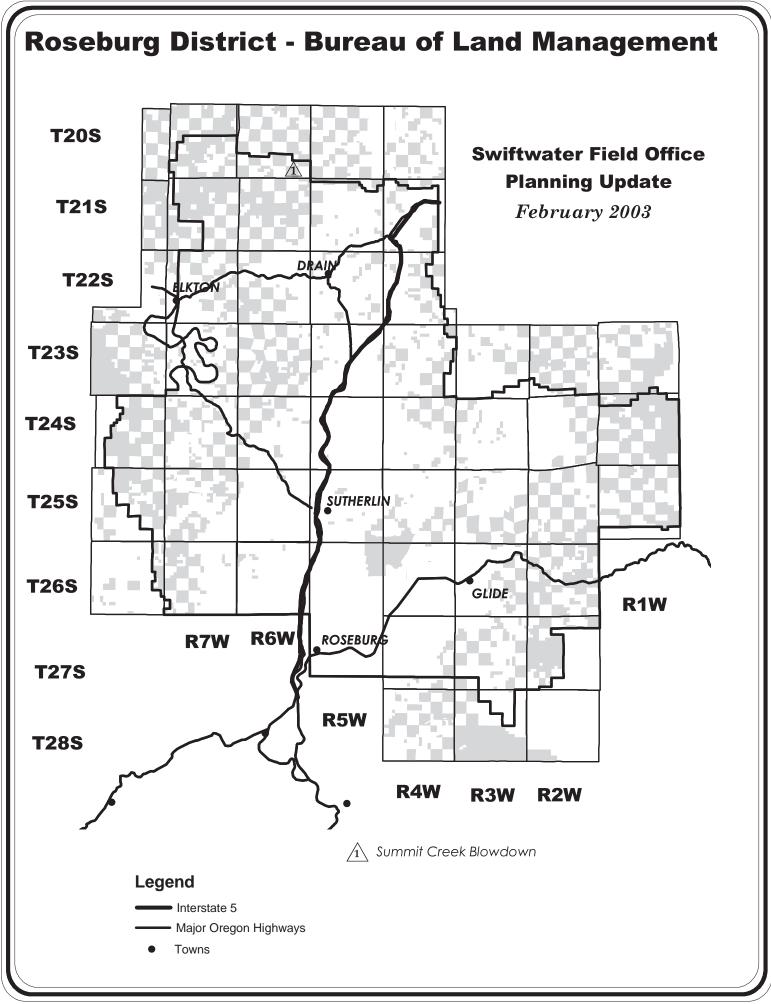
The show is held in the Glide Community Building, 17 miles east of Roseburg on Highway 138. Suggested donation is \$2 per person. The show opens for photographers only Saturday and Sunday morning (8-9 a.m.) prior to the public hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, April 28, is for school groups, by prearrangement. A floral book and an identification guide will be available for a nominal charge. The show is sponsored by community volunteers and the Glide Community Club.

## **Background Information**

# THE GLIDE WILDFLOWER SHOW.....

- started in 1965 as a benefit to raise money for building repairs for the Glide Community Club. For the first show, plant authority Reggie Miller collected and arranged 91 specimens that were enjoyed by two dozen visitors. Now thousands of visitors from all over the world come to see hundreds of cataloged and labeled plants.
- emphasizes education, appreciation, and conservation
- ✤ a suggested donation of \$2 per person is optional
- ✤ is wheelchair accessible.
- organizes and trains plant collectors for the show, who follow conservation guidelines and obtain collecting permits. (FOR CONSERVATION REASONS, PLEASE DO NOT BRING UNSOLICITED SPECIMENS TO THE SHOW.)
- displays specimens representing a variety of habitats in Southwest Oregon, differing each year according to weather.
- uses professional botanists from throughout the Pacific Northwest, who volunteer to identify and classify exhibit specimens.
- is made possible by coordinated volunteer efforts of local residents, charter members of the Glide Wildflower Show Council and other friends of the flora.





# Abbreviations and Definitions

**B** - 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** – 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).

**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.