

**Eugene District  
Bureau of Land Management  
“Eye to the Future”  
Planning Update  
October 2008**



*Eugene District Office*

*October 2008*

**BLM**

**Public Lands: Use, Share, Appreciate**



As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation.

The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. Administration.

## **A Note from the District Manager**

This document is designed to serve as an information link between you and the BLM's Eugene District Office. Its intent is to increase your awareness of BLM activities and improve your opportunities to discuss these activities with us. By keeping you informed of the Eugene District's management activities and inviting your participation, we hope to continue our ongoing relationships. If you need to know the status of a project or want additional information, you can contact the project lead listed in the following Planning Update or how it could be improved to make it more useful to you.

The revision of our Resource Management Plan through the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR) process has entered its final stage. The Proposed Resource Management Plan (PRMP) and Final EIS (FEIS) have been prepared and can be found at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/wopr/index.php> CD copies have been mailed. Paper copies will be available at the end of the month. A copy of the FEIS was delivered to Governor Kulongoski on October 9. This officially begins the Governor's Consistency Review, in which the State of Oregon determines if the FEIS/PRMP is consistent with State policies, plans, and programs. The Governor has 60 days to complete that review.

We had a busy and productive fiscal year on the district. We offered over 49 MMBF of timber for sale, which exceeded our target of 46 MMBF. We completed numerous road improvement projects and upgraded facilities at several of our recreation sites. We worked with adjacent landowners and resolved issues related to illegal and damaging land use on public and private lands. The new joint office facility that the BLM, Forest Service and National Guard will share in Springfield is nearing completion. We anticipate relocation to the new facility in early 2009. This document provides you with a view of the projects we would like to implement and the facilities we need to maintain for our publics in the coming months. We have the dedicated staff that is prepared to work closely with you to address your concerns and achieve reasonable solutions. I look forward to continuing our dialog in the coming year and would welcome you to contact us if you are interested in a future meeting.

This document exists in two forms – the electronic version on our web page, and this companion document printed on paper. If you have Internet access you can view this document at any time and also get additional information on issues related to the Eugene District. The address is: [www.blm.gov/or/districts/eugene/plans/index.php](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/eugene/plans/index.php)

We will continue to send you printed copies of this document unless you request to be removed from our mailing list. If you do not need a hard copy, you can help us reduce our overhead expenses and printing and postage costs by having your name removed from the District's extensive mailing list. Contact Debra Wilson on my staff, at 541-683-6798 or at [debra\\_wilson@blm.gov](mailto:debra_wilson@blm.gov)

Ginnie Grilley, District Manager

## **Abbreviations and Definitions**

**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).

**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.

**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.

**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

**DNA**-Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy - Used to document that a BLM action has been adequately analyzed in an existing NEPA document (EA or EIS) and that no further NEPA analysis is needed.

<b>Upper Willamette Resource Area Proposed Projects</b>			
<b>Name/Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Planning Status</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>McKenzie Tribs Project</b> – This project proposes to initiate forest management activities on approximately 1000 acres. These activities may include timber harvest, aquatic habitat restoration, and road management activities (improvement, construction, and decommissioning). The land use allocations for these sections are Matrix, Riparian Reserve and BEHA.	T16S, R1E, Secs. 33, 25 and 35	Work on an environmental has ended. The EA was made available for public comment in October 2007. Decision documents are expected December, 2008.	Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)
<b>Seeley Creek Thinning</b> – This project proposes to thin approximately 800 acres on Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations within the Mohawk watershed. This project is located adjacent to designated trails within the Shotgun Off-Highway Vehicle Area. Activities may include aquatic restoration and road management actions.	T15S, R1W, Secs. 7 and 19; T15S, R2W, Secs. 13 and 24	Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. This document was made available for public review in Summer 2008. A decision is expected in 2009.	Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)
<b>Calapooya II/ Big Fir Spur</b> – This project proposes to treat stands in Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations to provide a sustainable supply of timber while maintaining ecologically valuable structural components, such as down logs, snags and large trees. This project also proposes aquatic restoration and road improvements.	T14S, R2W, Secs. 34 and 35 T14S, R1E, Sec. 35	Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA will be made available for public review in the Fall 2008.	Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)
<b>Blackberry Hole Salvage</b> – The Blackberry Hole Timber Sale (EA-02-24) was logged in 2005. Subsequently, a wind event caused some blowdown with in the logged units. This project proposes to salvage that blowdown.	T18S, R1W, Sec. 23	A review is scheduled to determine if this action is categorically excluded from NEPA analysis or if it will require an environmental assessment.	Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)
<b>2010 Thinning Project</b> - This project proposes to thin approximately 1500 acres on Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations. Proposed project acres would also include designated northern spotted owl Critical Habitat. Treatments on these acres would be designed to accelerate or enhance the Primary Constituent Elements of Critical Habitat. Other activities may include aquatic restoration and road management actions.	T23S, R3W, Secs. 13 and 15; T22S. R4W, Sec. 13; T22S. R3W, Sec. 9; T21S, R2W, Sec. 27	Work on an environmental assessment is scheduled to begin in Winter 2008. The EA is scheduled to be made available for public review in Summer 2009.	Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)
<b>Fall Creek Project</b> – This project proposes to regeneration harvest approximately 400 acres of Matrix land use allocation within the Fall and Little Fall Creek Watersheds. Other project activities may include riparian reserve thinning, aquatic restoration and road management actions.	T18S, R1E, Secs. 24 and 25; T19S, 1E, Sec. 13; T19S, 1E, Secs. 2 and 11.	Work on environmental assessment is scheduled to begin in Summer 2009.	Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)
<b>Siuslaw Resource Area Proposed Projects – Lake Creek Watershed</b>			
<b>Tower Canyon Thin</b> – Pursuant to the North Lake Creek Thinning Project environmental assessment, this project would commercially thin approximately 290 acres in the North Lake Creek planning area. The project is in the Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.	T15S, R7W, Secs. 12, 13, and 14, northwest of Hult Pond	A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale is scheduled for auction in November 2008, pending findings in the DNA.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>East Chinkapin Thin</b> – Pursuant to the North Lake Creek Thinning Project environmental assessment, this project would commercially thin approximately 140 acres in the North Lake Creek planning area. The project is in the Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.	T15S, R6W, Sec. 19; T15S, R7W, Sec. 24, west of Hult Pond	A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale is scheduled for auction in November 2008, pending findings in the DNA.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)

Name/Description	Location	Planning Status	Contact
<p><b>Prairie Road</b> - Pursuant to the North Lake Creek Thinning Project environmental assessment, this project would commercially thin approximately 140 acres in the North Lake Creek planning area. The project is in the Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.</p>	<p>T15S, R7W Sec15&amp;16, NW of Hult Pond</p>	<p>A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale is scheduled for auction in March 2009, pending findings in the DNA.</p>	<p>Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)</p>
<p><b>Ten High Density Management Study</b> __ BLM is planning to re-thin this 325 acre research site as part of a continuing effort to evaluate silvicultural methods intended to promote development of late-successional forest structure.</p>	<p>T15S, R7W, Sec 10 &amp; 15</p>	<p>An environmental assessment was available for public review in December, 2007. One comment was received. A decision is expected in June 2008.</p>	<p>Peter O'Toole (683-6786)</p>
<p><b>Siuslaw Resource Area Proposed Projects-Siuslaw Watershed</b></p>			
<p><b>Upper Siuslaw Landscape Plan</b> – BLM is planning a program to treat forested stands in the Upper Siuslaw 5<sup>th</sup> Field Watershed. The planning area contains both Matrix and Late-Successional Reserve Land Use Allocations. Young stands in LSR (&lt;80 years old) would be considered for thinning to accelerate development of late-successional forest characteristics. Matrix stands would be considered for timber harvest to produce a sustainable supply of forest products to the economy.</p>	<p>Upper Siuslaw 5<sup>th</sup> Field Watershed, excluding the area covered under the "Upper Siuslaw Late-Successional Reserve Restoration Plan" and EIS.</p>	<p>An EA is being prepared. If you are interested in learning more about this process, or if you have information about important resources in this watershed, you are encouraged to contact BLM.</p>	<p>Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)</p>
<p><b>Stone Pony Restoration Project</b> – Pursuant to the Upper Siuslaw Late Successional Reserve (LSR 267) Restoration Plan and EIS, this project would treat forest stands to accelerate the development of late-successional forest structure. Density management thinning is being considered for this 410 acre project area.</p>	<p>T20S, R5W, Sec. 7; T20S, R6W, Secs. 9, 15, 19, 21, and 29; T20S, R7W, Sec. 3;</p>	<p>A DNA is being prepared; the timber sale is scheduled for auction in November 2008 pending findings in the DNA.</p>	<p>Mark Stephen (683-6439)</p>
<p><b>Bear West Restoration Project</b> – Pursuant to the Upper Siuslaw Late Successional Reserve (LSR 267) Restoration Plan and EIS, this project would treat forest stands to accelerate the development of late-successional forest structure. Density management thinning is being considered on approximately 750 acres.</p>	<p>T20S, R7W, Secs.1, 5, 11, 15; T20S, R6.5W, Sec.1; T19S, R7W, Sec. 35; T20S, R6W, SEC. 7</p>	<p>A DNA is being prepared; the timber sale is scheduled for auction in February 2009 pending findings in the DNA.</p>	<p>Mark Stephen (683-6439)</p>
<p><b>Templeton Road Salvage</b> – A wind event during the Fall of 2007 created a 10-acre blowdown in a GFMA stand in the Coast Range. BLM is considering whether or not to salvage some of the fallen logs.</p>	<p>T16S, R6W, Sec. 1, approximately 4 miles NW of Cheshire.</p>	<p>An environmental assessment is being prepared. The timber sale is planned for auction in March 2009.</p>	<p>Janet Zentner (683-6795)</p>
<p><b>Travis M. Tyrrell Seed Orchard</b> – The proposed action is to implement integrated pest management (IPM) activities within the 832 acre seed orchard boundary in fiscal year 2009. The proposed action includes planting, tilling, pruning, dead and dying tree removal, pile burning, stump grinding, mowing, cone collection, insecticide and herbicide applications and other crop cultural activities.</p>	<p>T20S, R5W, Sections 9, 15 and 21</p>	<p>A DNA is being prepared which should be available for public review in December 2008.</p>	<p>Larry Johnston 541-683-6445</p>