## **Quarries Supply Gravel to Repair Popular Roads**



The BLM has contracted with local quarries to supply rock for use in road repairs.

Roads throughout the BLM's Roseburg, Oregon, District are used by resource professionals and many others who depend on an intact road system; those who want access to public lands for recreation, fire fighters who must manage and control wildland fire, and commercial public land users such as timber operators all depend on these roads. Maintaining thousands of miles of dirt and gravel roads is a constant challenge for the BLM's Roseburg Office, especially during the wet winter months when some roads become so damaged by harsh weather conditions they have to be closed.

Road repairs often require a supply of crushed rock for resurfacing. Having a ready supply of this gravel on hand increases the cost effectiveness and efficiency in making timely repairs. That is why the BLM has contracted with two local quarries to supply more than 150,000 tons of rock for use in repairing and improving roads on public lands in Douglas County, Oregon.

Road improvements are not just aesthetic. Resurfacing high-use roads provides for all-weather use of the road system while protecting against erosion of sediment into area streams and rivers from degraded roads.

The \$2.4 million contracts will keep 20 to 30 people working at the two quarries, even over the winter months, usually a slow time of year for quarry operations. Work will be completed in cooperation with adjoining landowners, existing right-of-way holders, the Douglas Forest Protective Association, and Douglas County staff.

