

# Burns District Planning Update

## Fiscal Year 2010

### Department of the Interior

### Bureau of Land Management

Oregon/Washington

**BLM**



**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.**

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# Introduction

This Planning Update is part of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) continuing commitment to keep you informed of the management of public lands in southeastern Oregon. Planning Updates, like this one, are published periodically, usually on an annual basis for all BLM Districts in Oregon and Washington. It is our hope this update will help you understand land management decisions and current proposals occurring within the BLM's Burns District including Three Rivers and Andrews/Steens Resource Areas (RA). This document is not intended to be a comprehensive description of all activities, but rather a summary of land use plan implementation activities completed in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 and activities planned for FY11.

Burns District manages over three million acres of public lands located primarily in Harney County (southeastern Oregon) and is divided into two RAs: Andrews/Steens RA and Three Rivers RA. The two RAs are further divided into lands contained within the boundary of Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) and those outside the boundary; in Andrews/Steens RA, the latter is referred to as Andrews Management Unit (AMU). The two RAs differ in the major types of management activities that occur due to differences in types of natural resource values present.

Previous Planning Update documents are available in hardcopy or electronically on the Burns District's Plans and Projects Web page at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/plans/index.php>

## What You Can Find In This Document

While the format is flexible, major sections similar to those described below will be included in each edition.

**Summary of Work:** This section identifies the FY accomplishments and work proposed for the following year. Usually only exceptional work or issues are discussed. Additional information is available to individuals upon request.

**Rangeland Program Summary:** This section outlines progress being made in implementing rangeland management objectives identified in the RA's land use plans and identifies recent actions in allotments.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Register:** Listed in this section are those NEPA documents completed in past years as well as FY10 and documents initiated in FY11.

Appendices:

- An Acronym/Abbreviation Guide: A list of acronyms and abbreviations used throughout the document.
- Resource Management Plan (RMP) Maintenance Sheets: Minor changes, refinements, or clarifications in the RMP including incorporating new data are called plan maintenance actions. Plan maintenance actions do not expand the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change terms, conditions, or decisions of the approved RMPs. Maintenance actions are not considered plan amendments or revisions and do not require formal public involvement and interagency coordination. These types of actions are reported in Planning Updates. However, no plan maintenance actions occurred in FY10.
- Categorical Exclusion (CX) Guide: Provides a definition and use of CXs specific to the Forestry Program.

## Summary of Work Accomplishments

This document is not intended to be a comprehensive description of all activities, but rather a summary of land use plan implementation activities, both accomplished and planned. For additional information, please contact Burns District Office.

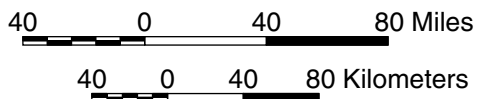
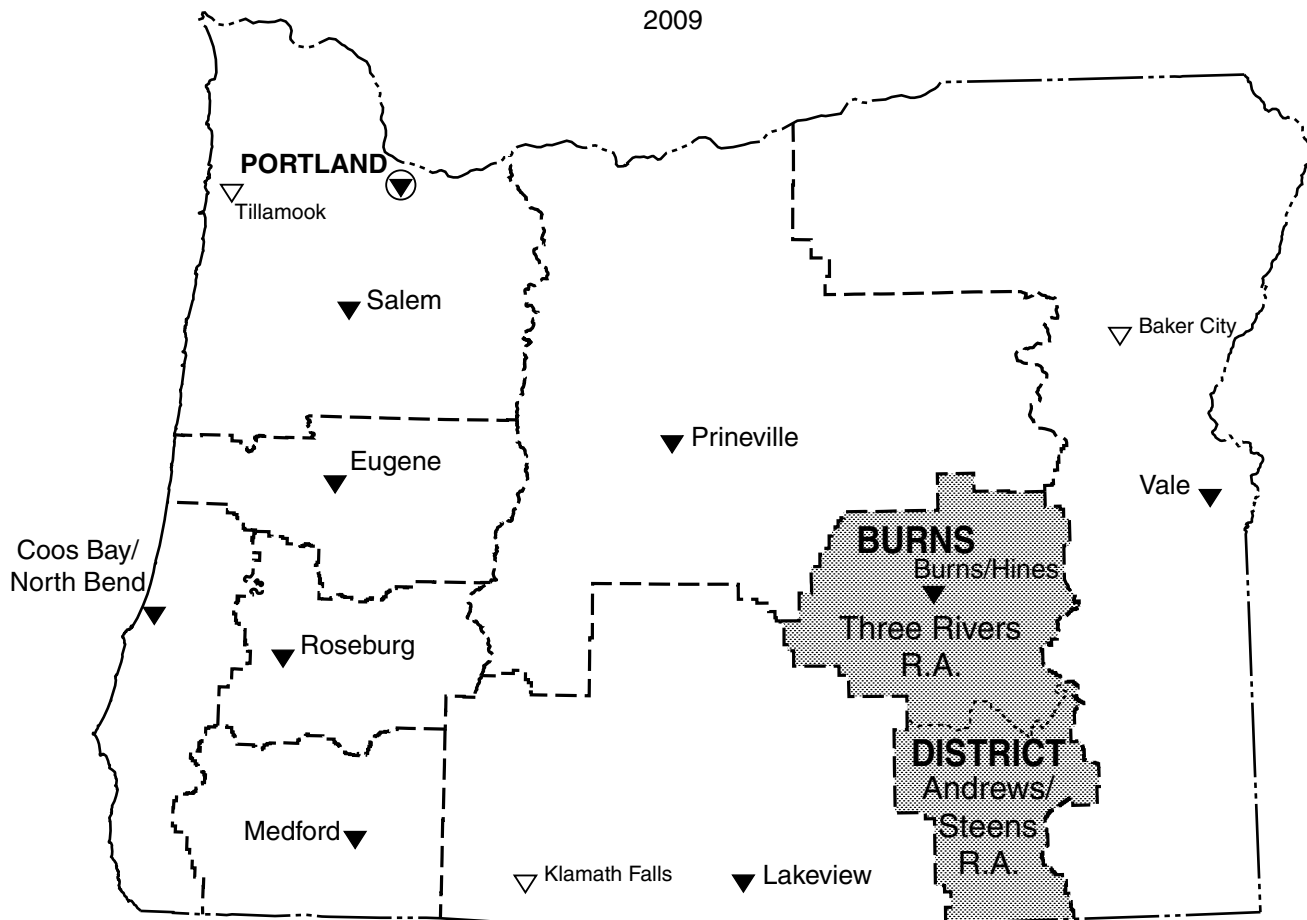
This summary includes FY10 accomplishments and planned work for FY11 for the following:

- Terrestrial Habitat and Species Management
- Noxious Weeds
- Special Areas
- Cultural Resource Program
- Recreation
- Woodlands and Forest Management
- Minerals
- Land Tenure Adjustments, Access and Rights-of-Way (ROW)
- Hazardous Materials
- Wildfire and Fuels Management
- Law Enforcement
- Wild Horse and Burro (WHB) Program
- Volunteers and Outreach

**Photo I-1:** A Beautiful Setting within Burns District



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 Bureau of Land Management  
**Burns District**  
**FIGURE 1 - GENERAL LOCATION MAP**  
 2009



**LEGEND**

-  BLM State Office
-  BLM District Office
-  BLM Resource Area Office
-  BLM District Boundary
-  BLM Resource Area Boundary



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

The following table (Table S-1) provides a summary of resource management actions, directions, and accomplishments for the AMU and CMPA RMPs. A table is not represented for the Three Rivers RMP due to its completion date (1992) and new requirements for Planning Updates since then.

Land use plans are periodically evaluated to determine if decisions remain relevant to current issues, if decisions are effective in achieving (or making progress toward achieving) desired outcomes, if any decisions need to be revised, if any decisions need to be dropped from further consideration, and if any areas require new decisions. In making these determinations, the evaluation should consider if mitigation measures are satisfactory, if there are significant changes in the related plans of other entities, and if there are new data of significance to this plan.

Plan evaluations are completed prior to any plan revisions or major plan amendments. Special or unscheduled evaluations may also be required to review unexpected management actions or significant changes in the related plans of American Indian tribes, other Federal agencies, and State and local governments, or to evaluate legislation or litigation that has potential to trigger an RMP amendment or revision. Evaluations may identify resource needs and means for correcting deficiencies and addressing issues through plan maintenance, amendments, or new starts. They should also identify where new and emerging resource issues and other values have surfaced. Evaluations may also identify new and innovative practices that improve effectiveness and efficiency so other offices may benefit.

The Three Rivers RMP was completed in 1992 and was evaluated in FY10. The Three Rivers RMP was found to be outdated and in need of updating. New science, program guidance, methodologies, species lists, climate change, and resource uses were identified as needs in multiple program areas. In most instances, the existing plan does not prevent the incorporation of this new information into environmental analyses and agency decision-making at the project scale. Projects are proceeding in accordance with the plans' objectives; however, some specific direction is constraining or inappropriate given current science or best management practices.

The AMU and CMPA RMPs were also evaluated in FY10. Overall, the results show the AMU and CMPA RMPs are providing the necessary guidance, allocations, and program-specific direction to allow for plan implementation through a wide variety of projects in conformance with the RMPs. Step-down analyses required by the plan have been completed (travel management) or are proceeding (Comprehensive Recreation Plan (CRP)), although at a slower pace than originally envisioned due to competing priorities and fiscal and staffing constraints.



**TABLE S-1: STEENS MOUNTAIN COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION AREA AND ANDREWS MANAGEMENT UNIT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS PLANNING AREAS, SUMMARY OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS, DIRECTIONS, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

<b>RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity</b>	<b>Activity Units</b>	<b>FY10 Accomplishments or Program Status</b>	<b>Cumulative Practices, since RMP Approval*</b>
<b>Realty, Rights-of-Way (ROWs), and Transportation Systems</b>			
Land sales	Actions/acres	0/0	1/240 (AMU)
Land acquisitions by purchase, donation, withdrawal revocation, etc.	Actions/acres	0 0	0 (AMU) 2/25 acres (CMPA)
Land exchanges	Actions/acres acquired/acres disposed	0 0	1/233 (CMPA)/1124 (AMU)
Recreation and Public Purpose actions	Number leases or patents/acres	1/2.5 (AMU)	1/2.5 (AMU)
Utility ROWs authorized	Actions/miles	1/.7 (AMU)	4/37.5 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)
Road ROWs acquired for public/agency use	Actions/miles	0	2 actions/1.69 miles (AMU) 1 action/14.43 miles (CMPA)
Road ROWs granted	Actions/mile	1/5.6 (AMU)	6 actions/15.36 miles (AMU) 1/1.75 (CMPA)
Roads constructed or authorized	Actions/miles/ Acres	0 by realty	1/0.94 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)
Roads decommissioned/obliterated	Actions/miles/ Acres	0 by realty	0 0
Roads closed/gated	Actions/miles	0 (AMU) 8.6 miles closed (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 8.6 miles closed (CMPA)
Wind energy feasibility studies/ROWs	Actions/acres	1/16,005 (AMU)	2 action/33519 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)
Withdrawals completed	Actions/units	0	0
Withdrawals revoked	Actions/units	0	0
<b>Minerals and Energy Resources</b>			
Oil and Gas leases/storage agreements	Actions/units	0	0
Geothermal leases	Actions/units	0	0
Other mineral leases (specify type)	Actions/units	0	0
Locatable minerals	Mining plans approved/units	0	0
Locatable minerals	Patents issued/acres	0	0
Salable mineral materials	Sites opened/closed, acres	0 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	Included in Total below
Salable material sites available, sites/acres	Sites/acres	12 sites/500 acres (AMU) 7 sites/695 acres (CMPA)	12 sites/500 acres (AMU) 7 sites/695 acres (CMPA)
Designated recreational rock-hounded or panning, sites/acres	Sites/acres	0	0

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<b>RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity</b>	<b>Activity Units</b>	<b>FY10 Accomplishments or Program Status</b>	<b>Cumulative Practices, since RMP Approval*</b>
Abandoned Mine Lands	Sites remediated	0 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 5 (CMPA)
<b>Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Use Areas</b>			
Developed camping	Sites/spaces available, sites/units	0 (AMU) 4 sites/92 spaces (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 4 sites/92 spaces (CMPA)
Developed day use	Sites available	0 (AMU) 3 sites (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 3 sites (CMPA)
Maintained OHV staging areas	Sites available	0	0
Maintained OHV trails or routes	Units/miles	0	0
Maintained hiking trails/equestrian trails or routes	Units/miles	0 (AMU) 13 Trails, 78 miles (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 13 Trails/78 miles (CMPA)
Maintained back-country discovery or scenic routes	Units/miles	0 (AMU) 10 trails, 56 miles CMPA	0 (AMU) 10 Trails/56 miles (CMPA)
Interpretive sites or trails	Units/miles	0 (AMU) 5 miles (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 5 miles (CMPA)
<b>Cultural and Paleontological Resources</b>			
Cultural resource inventories completed	Sites/acres	6 sites/497 acres (AMU) 3 sites/239 acres (CMPA)	32 sites/2107 acres (AMU) 6 sites/403 acres (CMPA)
Paleontological resource inventories completed	Sites/acres	1 site/20 acres (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	2 sites/40 acres (AMU) 0 (CMPA)
Cultural/historic sites on Historic Register, sites managed	Sites managed	0 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)	4 (AMU) 5 (CMPA)
Cultural/historic sites nominated to Historic Register	Sites or Districts nominated	0	0
Cultural/historic sites restored, recovered or stabilized	Sites	0 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)	10 (AMU) 10 (CMPA)
<b>Hazardous Materials and Sites</b>			
Hazardous material sites identified, under treatment or remediation completed	Units	1 (CMPA)	0
<b>Rangeland and Woodland Resources</b>			
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Total/renewed units/Animal Unit Months (AUM)	0 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	18/42,567 AUMs (AMU) 6/9,132 AUMs (CMPA)
Livestock AUMs banked or relinquished	Units/acres	0 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)
Livestock fences constructed	Units/miles	0 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)	5.5 miles (AMU) 20.5 miles (CMPA)
Livestock fences removed	Units/miles	0 (AMU) .5 (CMPA)	3 (AMU) .5 (CMPA)**

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<b>RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity</b>	<b>Activity Units</b>	<b>FY10 Accomplishments or Program Status</b>	<b>Cumulative Practices, since RMP Approval*</b>
Water developments maintained (wells, springs, pipelines, etc.)	Units	6 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)	24 (AMU) 18 (CMPA)
Wild horses and burros removed and adopted***	Number of head	Kiger HMA - 0 Riddle HMA - 0 South Steens HMA - 0 Coyote Lake/Alvord-Tule HMA - 0 Heath Creek/ Sheepshead HMA - 0	573 removed/95 adopted
WHB herd composite populations(s)** AML = Appropriate Management Level HMA = Herd Management Area L = Low H = High EP = Estimated Population	Authorized management level/ estimated current population	Kiger AML - 51 (L)/82 (H)/106(EP) Riddle AML - 33 (L)/56 (H)/57(EP) South Steens AML 159 (L)/304 (H)/159 (EP) Coyote Lake/Alvord-Tule AML – 196 (L)/390 (H)/235 (EP) Heath Creek/Sheepshead AML – 161 (L)/302 (H)/233(EP)	Not applicable
Prescribed burning - forage management****	Actions/acres	0	0
Noxious weeds chemical control	Sites/acres	201 acres (AMU) 23 acres (CMPA)	316.75517.75 acres (AMU) 2,917.14 acres (CMPA)
Noxious weeds, estimated biological control	Sites/acres	0 (AMU) 2 acres (CMPA)	25 acres (AMU) 52 acres (CMPA)
Noxious weeds, by other control methods	Sites/acres	0	0
Invasive species control by mechanical (option to specify species in text section)	Sites/acres	0 (AMU) 1 site/157 acres (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 1 site/157 acres (CMPA)
Invasive species control by prescribed fire (option to specify species in text section)	Sites/acres	0 acres (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	0 (AMU) ~1,500 acres (CMPA)
Brush field/hardwood conversion	Sites/acres	0	0
Woodland species restoration (option to specify species in text section)	Sites/acres	0	0
<b>Forest Management and Forest Health</b>			
Regeneration harvest or fire salvage	Acres	0	0
Commercial thinning/density management/uneven age harvest	Acres	0	0
Timber sale volume offered for sale	MM board feet/MM cubic feet	0	0

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<b>RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity</b>	<b>Activity Units</b>	<b>FY10 Accomplishments or Program Status</b>	<b>Cumulative Practices, since RMP Approval*</b>
Timber sale quantity harvested	MM board feet/MM cubic feet	0	0
Special forest products sales, sales and quantities (e.g., boughs, fenceposts, corral poles, fuel wood)	Actions/units by type	0 (AMU) 5 (CMPA)/40 chords	38 (AMU) 6 (CMPA)
Site preparation - prescribed fire (includes ecosystem enhancement projects)	Sites/acres	0 (AMU) 5 sites/7,878 acres (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 25 sites/~31,513 acres (CMPA)
Site preparation - other (specify)	Sites/acres	9 (AMU) 2 sites/1,300 acres (CMPA)	9 (AMU) 16 sites/6,149 acres (CMPA)
Prescribed burning - hazard reduction	Sites/acres	0 (AMU) 3 sites/1,107 acres (CMPA)	1 site/22 acres (AMU) 1 sites/6,151 acres (CMPA)
Natural fire for ecosystem enhancement	Sites/acres	0 (AMU) 0 (CMPA)	0(AMU) 1/~300 acres (CMPA)
Vegetation control - mechanical/hand	Sites/acres	0	0
Planting - regular stock, acres	Acres	0	0
Fertilization, acres	Acres	0	0
<b>Special Management Areas</b>			
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)/Research Natural Areas (RNA)	Areas monitored	6 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)	7 (AMU) 6 (CMPA)
Significant Caves	Sites inventoried/ evaluated/ monitored	Not Present	Not Present
Designated Wilderness Areas	Areas monitored	0 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)	0 (AMU) 1 (CMPA)
Wilderness Study Areas (WSA), areas monitored	Areas monitored	18 AMU 5 CMPA	18 (AMU) 5 (CMPA)
Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR), areas monitored	Areas monitored	0 AMU 3 CMPA	0 (AMU) 3 (CMPA)
Administratively suitable WSRs, areas monitored	Areas monitored	0	0
National Monuments (if any), areas monitored	Areas monitored	Not Present	Not Present

\*Implementation began in FY06

\*\*Total does not include 23 miles of fence removed within the No Livestock Grazing Area within Steens Mountain Wilderness.

\*\*\*Portions of HMAs fall outside the CMPA boundary and within Three Rivers RA. Numbers shown include horses gathered and adopted within the entire HMA.

\*\*\*\* Prescribed burning for forage management is conducted in combination with other resource values. Please refer to Forest Management and Forest Health.

# Summary of Work

## Terrestrial Habitat And Species Management

See Special Areas Section for information regarding ACECs and RNAs.

### Botanical

**Native Plant Materials Development:** Burns District had four Native Plant Material projects funded for 2010. Collections of target species for each project were accomplished as planned. Seasonal workers were utilized as seed collection teams with excellent results. The same teams will be returning as seasonal employees for FY11 to continue the collections started in 2009. In general, 2010 seed collection efforts were very successful.

Ongoing and one-time projects that were completed in 2010:

1. The Salt Desert Shrub Restoration Project.
2. Native Grass Seed Project.
3. Native Forb Seed Project.
4. Steens [National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS)] Seed Collection Project [funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)].

The first three projects will continue in 2011. The ARRA project was a one-time effort.

Thirty-six units of JZ (species collected) were assigned to the Burns District Native Plant Program. Logistics involved in managing four seed collection projects spread over 2.5 million acres were handled successfully through early planning and highly coordinated site visitation.

Early in the collection season the District experienced sustained rainfall events in the salt desert shrub community which induced mold growth in several collections. Later in the collection season we experienced early snowfall on Steens Mountain impairing our ability to continue collections on a handful of higher elevation species. Of the 36 completed collections, 30 were very high quality while 6 had either mold or seed maturity issues. Another 5 species were attempted, but weather and other factors reduced our opportunities significantly.

**Number of species collected:** 41 species were collected in 2010.

*Tetradymia spinosa*

*Lupinus biddlei*

*Achnatherum hymenoides*

*Heterostipa comata*

*Ephedra viridis*

*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*

*Grayia spinosa*

*Balsamorhiza ssp.*

*Trifolium macrocephalum*

*Astragalus curvicaarpus*

*Arnica sororia*

*Elymus elymoides*

*Achnatherum thurberianum*

*Astragalus filipes*

*Wyethia helianthoides*

*Geum triflorum*

*Clarkia pulchella*

*Allium ssp.*

*Purshia tridentata*

*Arenaria congesta*

*Lomatium triternatum*

*Stanleya confertiflora*

*Pseudoroegneria spicata*

*Festuca idahoensis*

*Trifolium longipes*

*Lupinus lepidus var. lobbii*

*Calyptridium umbellatum*

*Polygonum bistortoides*

*Carex ssp.*

*Antennaria rosea*

*Astragalus whitneyi var confusus*

*Achillea millefolium*

*Mimulus lewisii*

*Phoenicaulis cheiranthoides*

*Cercocarpus ledifolius*

*Leymus cinereus*

*Cirsium peckii*

*Monardella odoratissima*

*Agastache urticifolia*

*Phleum alpinum*

*Lupinus ssp.*

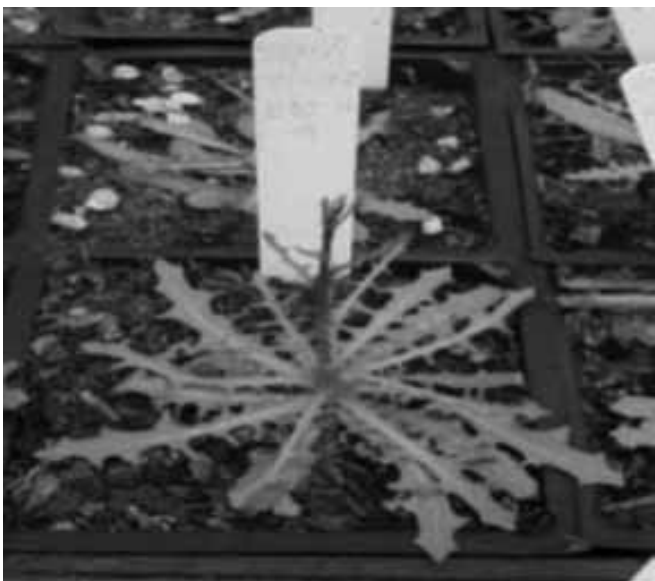
**Federal Threatened and Endangered and BLM Sensitive Species:** Eight populations from five BLM sensitive plant species in Three Rivers RA and sixteen populations of BLM sensitive plant species in Andrews/Steens RA were monitored, mostly in Alvord Basin, Pueblo Mountains and forest fringe/front range.

Nine populations of *Stephanomeria malheurensis* (Malheur wirelettuce) (Federally Listed Threatened) were monitored in 2010. All monitoring activities took place in Three Rivers RA as all associated critical habitat occurs within the RA. BLM continued a cooperative effort with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Native Plant Society, and other interested parties to attempt to reestablish self-sustaining populations of Malheur wirelettuce (Photos B-1 and B-2). Monitoring of associated Federally Designated Critical Habitat also occurred. Rebecca Currin and Bob Meinkie of the ODA have worked with this species for many years and generously allowed portions of the Malheur wirelettuce reintroduction and seed bulking report to be utilized in this update. Rebecca Currin and Bob Meinkie have photo credits for images B-1, B-2 and B-3.

World-wide, this plant species is found only in South Narrows ACEC and a sand dune site 15 miles to the west within Three Rivers RA. Malheur wirelettuce has disappeared from its original critical habitat in the ACEC, probably due to drought and competition from exotic annual plant species. Seed had been collected in the past when plants numbered about 2,000 individuals and stored at Berry Botanic Garden in Portland, Oregon. Seed had also been propagated at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Seed from both sites were obtained and germinated in a greenhouse (Photo B-3) and planted at the ACEC. A report of reintroduction activities was prepared by ODA (the lead agency), and will be presented at a FY11 collaborative meeting. Out-planting results from 2010 exceeded those in 2009. Increased seed bulking and out-planting efforts are planned with ODA and USFWS for FY11 through a BLM funded project.



**Photo B-1: *Stephanomeria malheurensis*.**



**Photo B-2: *Stephanomeria malheurensis* rosette just starting to bolt in the greenhouse (left) and *Stephanomeria malheurensis* reproductive plant at Narrows site (right).**



**Photo B-3. *Stephanomeria malheurensis* flowers (left and center) and achenes (right).**

Assistance provided by BLM in FY10 included mobile water sources, population monitoring, out-planting assistance, and watering plants through early June.

**Botanical Clearance for Ground-disturbing Projects:** Burns District has two permanent botanical positions. The Plant Conservationist - RNA/ACEC Manager (Andrews/Steens RA) is responsible primarily for Botanical Program Management (NEPA input, Special Status Species (SSS) Management, Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species of Flora, RNA and ACEC monitoring and T&E species reintroduction efforts). The Forestry and Fuels Botanist [Three Rivers RA/Burns Interagency Fire Zone (BIFZ)] is responsible for most of the Botanical Clearance Program and providing NEPA input for forestry and fuels proposals as the vast majority of the acres (up to 40,000 acres/year) requiring botanical surveys stem from proposed forestry or fuels projects.

Botanical clearances are the earliest form of implementation of a given project and are critical for project design and success. Botanical clearances were conducted at 25 project sites in Andrews/Steens RA and Three Rivers RA for a total of 30,000 acres. Clearances were conducted for projects such as juniper cutting, prescribed fire, trough replacement, fence construction, and various range improvement projects.

### ***Wildlife/Special Status Species***

Approximately 40 greater sage-grouse lek surveys were completed in coordination with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Most of these leks are visited yearly by BLM or ODFW staff as part of a long-term population monitoring effort.

To improve sage-grouse habitat, 900 acres of western juniper cutting in Camp Harney and Chalk Hills areas occurred along with 377 acres of machine piling. Sage-grouse lek attendance was and will continue be monitored in these areas.

Census of wintering bald eagle populations were conducted during FY10 in conjunction with ODFW, Malheur National Forest, and Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Biologists conducted monthly (December to March) raptor surveys on two previously established routes.

In 2010, approximately 2,000 acres were inventoried for the presence of goshawks. This was clearance work associated with forestry and fuels work. One goshawk was observed but no new nests were identified.

Waterfowl brood counts were conducted at eight reservoirs in FY10.

A test plot was established in FY07 for a new method of reestablishing sagebrush in wildfire areas with reduced sagebrush cover in the Wyoming sagebrush vegetation type. Seed heads are cut from sagebrush plants in mid-November and laid in small piles in a grid design. In FY08 the seed head piling method was used on approximately 260 acres of the Granddad Fire (2006) in Steens Mountain and another 230 acres were completed during FY09. Several new areas for this project were also laid out in FY09. No funding was available in FY10 for this project. Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center (EOARC) established comparison plots in this area in FY08 for a study to determine if this method might work better than more traditional methods of planting sagebrush. They continued to monitor these sites in FY10.

Several known sites occupied by Columbia spotted frogs were visited incidentally to other work to determine if frogs were present. No new surveys were conducted in Burns District. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) visited known sites on the Burns District during FY10 to look at the persistence of spotted frogs at different sites. A couple of sites with spotted frog populations in 2000-2003 were absent of frogs in FY10. Spotted frogs were found in a couple of other locations previously not surveyed.

About 200 mountain quail were released in Trout Creek Mountains in the southeastern part of the District. This was the last of 3 years for mountain quail releases in this area as part of ODFW's plan to restore mountain quail to historic habitat. About one-quarter of the quail were fitted with radio collars and ODFW personnel monitored these birds throughout the spring and summer of 2010 to determine nesting success and survival. The ODFW reported 37 percent of the radio-collared mountain quail survived to the end of the summer which was similar to other study results from Steens Mountain. Of the nests located during the study, 77 percent were successful in hatching chicks which is also similar to other studies.

Burns District attended Bat Monitoring Protocol training and subsequently worked with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in conducting acoustic and mist-net surveys in three Bat Grid cells. Several abandoned mines were also surveyed for bat activity, as well as acoustic surveys in a wind testing and proposed geothermal drilling area.

In 2010, five wildlife guzzlers in the Three Rivers RA were repaired/reconstructed and/or maintained.

Several livestock allotments were monitored for compliance with authorized use and input was provided on special statues species, migratory birds and other wildlife for allotment evaluations, Allotment Management Plans (AMP) and other NEPA documents. Ten wildlife ramps were installed in troughs at several allotments.

### ***Riparian, Fish and Water Quality***

Staff completed inventory and monitoring on streams and associated riparian habitat in Burns District. Assessment methodologies consisted of photo monitoring, Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) Assessments, Greenline Monitoring and water temperature monitoring. In total, approximately 60 stream miles were monitored/inventoried in Three Rivers RA and 78 miles in the Andrews/Steens RA. In addition, 10 acres of wetland were inventoried within the CMPA. Most perennial and intermittent stream habitat visited in Andrews/Steens RA was within the Donner und Blitzen and Alvord Subbasins. The remainder of monitoring and inventory occurred in the Guano Subbasin. Intermittent streams were assessed for presence of riparian characteristics, contribution to perennial flows, and potential for fish presence. The collected data were added to and compared with existing databases. In addition, 25 photo points were repeated and catalogued. Twenty-six water temperature probes were put out for monitoring on 12 different streams covering the District. The collected data were compiled in the form of 7-day averages and temperature graphs and added to the past years' data for each stream. Data were compared in the existing database and shared with outside agencies that also collect data in these same stream systems.

The BLM participated with various organizations in riparian restoration work intended to improve stream stability and function, water quality and fish and wildlife habitat including:

- Participation as a member of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Northern Genetic Management Unit Workgroup in support of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery Plan, the Bull Trout Working Group in support of the Bull Trout Recovery Plan, and the Great Basin Redband Trout viability metrics technical committee.



- Participation on the Harney County Watershed Council. The BLM participated as a member of the steering committee assisting in the writing, and final completion of the watershed assessment for the Guano/Thousand Virgin Subbasin. Other activities included participation in the Donner und Blitzen Watershed Action Plan steering committee and attendance at monthly council meetings.
- Participation in several strategy groups to improve the overall health of natural resources within Harney County including WNS Strategy Working and Aquatic Health Restoration working groups with Malheur NWR.
- Assisted in the creation of four information panels presenting the impacts carp have on riparian habitat within Harney County.
- Preparation of the Donner und Blitzen Subbasin Water Quality Restoration Plan continued in accordance with the USFS and BLM Protocol for Addressing Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listed Waters and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Management Plan.
- In 2010, 50 redband trout monitoring sites were visited in coordination and cooperation with the ODFW in Andrews/Steens and Three Rivers RAs to assess population abundance for redband trout. This effort included electrofishing for a life history study being conducted by ODFW and Oregon State University (OSU).

Population assessment for the Federally endangered Borax Lake chub (*Gila boraxobius*) involved continuation of cooperative population monitoring. During September 2010 BLM, ODFW, and USFWS positioned 114 baited minnow traps overnight. The following day, traps were collected and fish processed [counted, measured (subsample), marked (caudal fin clip) and released]. Approximately 5,263 fish were marked. Traps were then reset the following evening. Personnel retrieved 5,122 the next day of which 1,057 previously marked fish were captured. The ODFW estimated the Borax Lake chub population to be approximately 25,849 fish. This information contributes to evaluating potential for down-listing or delisting the species pursuant to Endangered Species Act.

Projects in support of ongoing USFWS efforts to delist the chub include the construction of a fence to eliminate traffic near the shoreline of Borax Lake, photo monitoring, and trend analysis of stability and riparian health along the shoreline and associated springs. These processes involved meetings with The Nature Conservancy (landowner), USFWS, and ODFW.

On January, 23, 2010, while en-route to collect water quality data from an abandoned well one-half mile northeast of Borax Lake, fish were observed swimming in schools in a small pool approximately one-fourth mile from the northeast outflow of the lake. A previous check of records showed that there had not been any record of fish in outlying ponds to the northeast, and during the site visit, there was no assumption that fish would be seen.

Where fish had not yet been noted in this pond, and given the close proximity to Borax Lake, a permit was obtained from the ODFW to sample Alvord chub (*Gila alvordensis*) and the Federal permit held by ODFW was amended by the USFWS to reflect authorization for BLM employees noted on the permit to gather samples of Borax as well as Alvord chub.

Traps were placed in two of the deeper spots in the pond at approximately noon January 26, 2010, and recovered at approximately 9:00 a.m. January 27, 2010. About 200 fish were found in two traps and all appeared healthy, vigorous and based on observed sized comparable to Borax chub, of multiple age classes. The confined fish did not display any extraordinary distress and no mortalities were observed. A few fish were photographed (informally) and three samples were taken and placed in a bottle of ordinary commercially available drinking water (pond water was not used). The fish were frozen overnight for preservation.

The frozen samples were taken to a working group of desert fish specialists including representatives of ODFW, USFWS, OSU and others. While in transit from Burns, Oregon to Bend, Oregon the water in the bottle thawed and the largest of the three samples began to cycle its gills (breathe). The samples were presented to ODFW and then to OSU for analysis and identification. The analysis revealed that the sampled fish were morphologically similar to both the Alvord and Borax Lake chub.

During the 2010 field season, sites that had a record of chub presence were visited to evaluate the quality of habitat and potential for remnant populations of fish.

## **Planned Work for FY11**

Reestablishment efforts for Malheur wirelettuce will continue in 2011 as funding was secured by BLM, USFWS and ODA. For 2011 efforts, BLM will continue to provide mobile water sources and assist with population and defensibility monitoring, out-planting and watering through early June. Out-planting will occur at the Narrows ACEC and selected sites on Malheur NWR.

Nine separate populations of Malheur wirelettuce will be out-planted in 2011. Planning for a new Recovery Plan will begin in 2011 at a multi-agency collaborative meeting in Corvallis. A minimum of nine populations of Malheur wirelettuce will be monitored during the FY.

Native Plant Materials seed collection efforts will focus on similar species as in 2010, with emphasis on species for which prior seed production or availability was not adequate for collection. Planning and reconnaissance will occur for new seed collections and eventual grow-out efforts focused on salt-desert associated shrub species. A demonstration native plant seeding will occur in the fall of 2011 at Riddle Brothers Ranch within the CMPA.

Botanical clearances will be conducted for forest health, ecosystem restoration, prescribed fire, juniper cutting, sage-grouse corridor enhancement, ROWs, road maintenance, and range improvement projects planned or proposed for 2011 and out years.

Monitoring will be conducted on 16 populations of BLM SSS of flora in Andrews/Steens and 8 populations in Three Rivers RA, including front-range endemics and species found in the CMPA.

Efforts to monitor greater sage-grouse, bald eagles, northern goshawks, waterfowl, and other migratory and resident bird species will continue. Some new sites will be visited and other sites surveyed before will be visited again. Continue with the census of wintering bald eagle and conduct monthly (December to March) raptor surveys on designated routes.

A decision on the Greater Sage-grouse Habitat Improvement Project is expected summer 2011 with cutting of 1,360 acres of juniper to begin shortly thereafter.

Approximately 400 acres of fuel breaks mowing to protect sagebrush/sage-grouse habitat will occur in West Warm Springs and Tired Horse Butte areas.

Participate in the inventory of eagle nest sites, and enter them into the GeoBOB database.

In 2011, there will be approximately 2,000 acres surveyed for presence of goshawks. This will be clearance work associated with forestry and fuels work.

In 2011, approximately five more guzzlers in Three Rivers RA and five in Andrews/Steens RA will be repaired/reconstructed and/or maintained. All other guzzlers on District will be monitored.

Staff will survey 1,500 acres for presence or absence of goshawks.

Monitoring of test plots for growth of sagebrush seedlings from sagebrush seed head piles placed in 2006-2007 and monitoring EOARC established comparison plots for establishment of new sagebrush seedlings will continue.

Data on Columbia spotted frogs will be entered into the GeoBOB database. These entries indicate where surveys were conducted on Burns District but no spotted frogs were found. Depending on funding, more spotted frog locations may be surveyed and some known sites would be monitored for continued occupation.

Juniper removal will occur near the boundary with Lakeview and Prineville Districts to improve sage-grouse habitat. Several thousand acres of juniper cutting are scheduled for cutting and piling in this area in FY10-12.

An undeveloped spring near Iron Mountain will be excluded from livestock, wild horse, and burro grazing to protect the spring source and enhance vegetation for wildlife in the area.

Approximately 35 miles of roads will be brushbeat in the southwest portion of Three Rivers RA to maintain fuel breaks and help protect large, contiguous blocks of sagebrush steppe from wildfires.

Continue to revisit and update photopoint, temperature, Greenline, and shade data locations in riparian areas throughout District.

Determine and visit areas where PFC data needs to be collected in support of other actions.

Continue work on the Donner und Blitzen Water Quality Restoration Plan.

In 2011 Three Rivers will update the Upper Malheur Water Quality Restoration Plan per the Total Maximum Daily Load requirement.

In 2011, Three Rivers will treat juniper along approximately 3 miles of riparian zones as part of the Five Creeks Rangeland Restoration Project.

Continue to assist other agencies working toward riparian health, water quality, and fish population studies within District.

## Noxious Weed Program

During 2010, Burns District BLM participated in some activities of the Harney County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA), as well as the Grant County CWMA.

### HARNEY COUNTY CWMA PROJECTS IN FY10 INCLUDE:

#### Education/Awareness Events

- Pesticide Recertification Training
- Weeds in the Classroom
- Agency Weed Training
- Free Spray Day
- Weedy Evening – Kathy Voth of *Livestock for Landscapes*
- 4-H Camp and 4-H Science Camp
- Harney County Fair
- Weed Awareness Kiosks



**Photo NW -1: Weedy Evening dinner and presentation by Kathy Voth of *Livestock for Landscapes* on Training Cows to Eat Weeds; June 12, 2011 at Burns Elks Lodge.**

**Cooperative Projects**

- Training Harney County cows to eat weeds – Educated Grazing Project with Participating Ranchers
- Medusahead Control Projects
- Harney Basin African Rue Management Project
- Material Sites Treatments
- Alien Invasion Curriculum Implementation: Year 2
- Eastside (of Oregon) week-long workshop at Lake Creek Camp –
- Attended by eight teachers representing Deschutes, Harney, Malheur, Klamath, and Ada (Idaho) counties



**Photo NW-2:** Carol Dunten’s Trainee cows enthusiastically eating whitetop

**Biocontrol Projects**

- Developed and implemented an Agreement with ARS-European Biocontrol Lab to develop biocontrols for medusahead
- Canada thistle – Introduce the stem mining weevil *Ceutorhynchus litura*
- Two nursery sites established in the Five Creeks Project area
- Purple Loosestrife – monitor prior releases



**Photo NW-3:** Lisa Grant, Natural Resource Specialist, on Burns District BLM, assisting with *Ceutorhynchus litura* release on Canada thistle in Riddle Creek

**Research Projects**

- Medusahead Projects – various, ongoing
- Russian Knapweed Projects – ongoing
- Biocontrol dispersal monitoring – ongoing
- African Rue management research – ongoing



**Photo NW-4:** Russian knapweed management project in Harney Basin, incorporating targeted goat grazing and competitive, desirable vegetation.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GRANT COUNTY CWMA IN FY10 INCLUDE:**

- “Purge Your Spurge” at Home and Garden Exposition
- Pesticide Recertification Training
- Sprayer Calibration Workshop
- Biocontrol Collection and Releases
- Countywide Perennial Pepperweed Control Project
- Produced a new Grant County Weed Booklet

**In addition, the following weed program activities occurred on Burns District in FY10:**

- 4,639 new acres were inventoried for noxious weeds
- Applied chemical treatment to 1,058 acres, non-classical biological controls to 260 acres and 2 new biological releases on BLM-managed land. In addition to upland habitat improvements, these treatments also benefited 18 miles of riparian habitat and 240 acres of wetland habitat.
- 189,518 acres of weed sites/treatments were monitored, including wildfire areas from previous years, forest health projects and many landscape-scale projects involving prescribed burning.

Burns District continued our agreement with Harney County for services of the Strategic Weed Attack Team (SWAT). The crew started in May and continued with an intensive field season through early November. This year’s four-person crew again was able to cover a lot of country, surveying for and treating noxious weeds all across the District. In addition to previous years’ wildfires, the type of areas surveyed post-treatment included prescribed burns, forest and rangeland health, and habitat improvement in both uplands and riparian areas. Additional units were pre-surveyed prior to treatment implementation. The crew also looked at miscellaneous areas such as roads, reservoirs and pastures in the course of surveying scattered units. Of the total acreages listed above, the SWAT crew accomplished 4,639 acres of inventory, 112 acres of treatment, and 120,110 acres of monitoring.

The SWAT efforts account for a majority of BLM acres monitored. Their work accomplishes early detection in areas that might otherwise not get looked at for years. By incorporating their rapid response to new invasions, small infestations are controlled quickly and economically, averting potential spread and increase to unmanageable levels of obscure noxious weed populations.



**Photo NW-5:** A SWAT crew member In Action

## Planned Work for FY11

**Weed management plans for FY11 include as many partnership activities as possible including:**

- The OR Eastside Weed Curriculum Workshop
- Medusahead Management Projects
- Training more cows to eat weeds
- Free Spray Day
- Not-So-Happy Valley Pepperweed Management Project and
- Continuation of programs for inventory, treatment, and monitoring on BLM lands.

**Projected acreages include:**

- 10,000 acres of inventory
- 1,500 acres of treatment
- 200,000 acres of monitoring
- 8 miles of Stream and/or Riparian treatment and monitoring
- It looks like it will be another busy year!

## Special Areas

### *Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area*

In February 2006, Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) filed a lawsuit against the BLM regarding four broad categories of the RMPs/Record of Decisions (ROD). The ONDA alleged BLM did not adequately consider effects of the RMPs on wilderness resources; the BLM violated the NEPA by failing to consider an adequate range of alternatives for grazing and lands closed to OHV use; the BLM failed to adequately consider grazing allocations; and the Transportation Plan (TP) and route designations in the CMPA RMP failed to meet the explicit requirements of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Steens Act).

On June 8, 2007, District Court Judge Ann Aiken issued an Opinion and Order ruling in favor of the BLM on three of four broad allegations. Judge Aiken favored ONDA's claim regarding the TP.

Following the District Court ruling, ONDA filed an appeal to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court claiming the BLM violated the NEPA when it issued RMPs for the AMU and Steens Mountain CMPA, specifically consideration of wilderness values and range of alternatives for off-road vehicle use. On December 8, 2010, the Circuit Court stated, "The district court did not err in granting BLM's motion for summary judgment on ONDA's claim that BLM violated NEPA when it rejected ONDA's recommendation that twenty-three areas within the ASCMPA [AMU/CMPA] receive wilderness area protections in the RMP." "Therefore, BLM satisfied NEPA by taking a 'hard look' at the RMP's effect on wilderness resources." The Circuit Court also stated, "The district court did not err in granting BLM's motion for summary judgment on ONDA's claim that BLM failed to consider a reasonable range of alternatives to off-road vehicle (ORV) use." In summary, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Affirmed the District Court's June 2007 ruling in favor of BLM.

**Steens Mountain Advisory Council:** The Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) established by the Steens Act met three times in FY10. Major topics of interest ranged from AMPs to the CRP. All totaled the SMAC made five official recommendations to the BLM.

Future topics identified for SMAC involvement for FY10 and beyond include continuation of the Steens CRP, wind energy/testing, and wild horses. The SMAC has become a valuable asset to the BLM in its recommendation-making processes to care for and manage the land for future generations.

**Travel Management:** The Steens Act directed the BLM to develop a TP for the CMPA which was made part of the CMPA RMP and identified maintenance levels for roads, defined route management categories, and prescribed other

specific transportation management actions. The TP also called for an intensive inventory of the motorized route system within the CMPA so a Travel Management Plan (TMP) designating level of use was developed. The Harney County Court participated in the inventory as a cooperating agency with BLM. Both entities ensured all stakeholders had the opportunity to identify roads and routes not currently in BLM or County inventories. Input was used to complete a final map of the planning area from which options for management of roads were considered. A Final Decision was issued November 28, 2007, which was timely appealed by five parties. Final decision by the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) was issued on February 19, 2009. The BLM was affirmed in part and reversed in part. The IBLA found in favor of the appellants and reversed the Field Manager's decision to open obscure routes to motorized use stating such use would be contrary to the Steens Act, Section 112. The BLM was affirmed on all other points. The TMP was subsequently appealed to U.S. District Court in April 2009 and a court hearing was held in November 2010. A ruling is expected in spring 2011.

**Comprehensive Recreation Plan:** On September 16 and 17, 2010, SMAC met to develop a mission statement for the CRP. The SMAC members met with USFS "NICHE" Planning experts to draft the mission statement in order to guide the development of the plan. (The mission statement is pending an official recommendation of the SMAC.) Plan alternatives have been developed and reviewed by the State Office and Solicitor's Office.

### *Steens Mountain Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers*

**General Management and Monitoring:** Visitor use (campsites and trails) monitoring in wilderness and WSR corridors continued in FY10 to ensure use does not impair these designated areas. Monitoring data continues to be collected for campsites and trails, most of which fall within Steens Mountain Wilderness and WSRs. The monitoring data indicate visitor use is not impairing designated areas.

Monitoring associated with administering the winter recreation program is ongoing and everything is operating smoothly.

Trailhead registration boxes and visitor information boards provide visitor information and gather general information on wilderness use. Law enforcement efforts to detect wilderness violations continued in cooperation with the Oregon State Police Wildlife Enforcement Officer.

Additional monitoring related to fish, wildlife, and vegetation resources within Steens Mountain Wilderness and WSRs also continued. Key areas of noxious weed infestations were identified and treated each year. Please refer to the Terrestrial Habitat and Species Management and Noxious Weed Sections of this update for additional information.

**Restoration:** During the summer of 2009, 540 feet of Burnt Car Road (closed in the Steens Act) within Steens Mountain Wilderness was inadvertently maintained. Subsequently a lawsuit was filed in U.S. District court regarding this intrusion along with other road work activities occurring on Burnt Car, Lauserica, Tombstone, and Tombstone-Burnt Car Connector Roads within the South Steens Area. Burns District BLM agreed through a stipulation of court case 09-CV-862-PK to develop a plan for rehabilitation, if any, on these four roads, including the intrusion into Steens Mountain Wilderness. In July 2010, BLM completed the Burnt Car Rehabilitation EA. In summary, the decision was to rehabilitate the 2009 road maintenance, close Tombstone Canyon Road to public motorized vehicles and apply a seasonal closure to Burnt Car Road in conjunction with South Loop Road Closure.

An illegal agriculture grow (one-quarter acre) was cleaned up with the assistance from Northwest Youth Corps in Steens Mountain Wilderness found in 2009.

Approximately 35 miles of boundary fence are monitored and maintained to ensure livestock remain outside the No Livestock Grazing Area every year.

**Trail Maintenance:** Approximately 6 miles of trail maintenance were completed using the Northwest Youth Corps. Maintenance was completed on portions of Blitzen Trail and Big Indian Trail. Another one-half mile of trail maintenance was completed by the volunteer group Backcountry Horsemen (50 staff hours) on the Nye Trail.

**Fence Removal:** At a National Public Lands Day event, volunteers from ONDA donated 220 hours to dismantle 1.5 miles of unneeded fence in the No Grazing portion of Steens Mountain Wilderness. BLM staff completed a field review of approximately 7 miles of existing fence in preparation of future removal trips. The BLM staff also removed and dismantled fence cache sites that included approximately 4.5 miles of fence materials.

In addition, the National Sierra Club (1.5 miles) donated 400 hours and the Sierra Club's Oregon Chapter (1.5 miles) donated 444 hours to remove fence in the No Grazing portion of Steens Mountain Wilderness.

### ***Wild and Scenic Rivers***

There are 12 designated WSR segments that fall within the CMPA. All designated river segments in the CMPA were classified as Wild by Congress. River segments with a Wild classification are generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds and shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. There are a few facilities that continue to be maintained and will be replaced as necessary to provide public health and safety and resource protection. There were no violations in any of the WSRs.

Riddle Brothers Ranch is located within the Little Blitzen WSR (but not within wilderness). Approximately 37 acres of western juniper were cut and hand piled in October 2010. This activity implements a part of the North Steens Ecosystem Restoration Project decision of 2007. The goal of the project was to preserve the historic structures at Riddle Brothers Ranch by reducing the hazardous fuels created by the increase in western juniper. The Riddle Brothers Ranch Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### ***Wilderness Study Areas***

In 2009, a road constructed by a grazing permittee within the Basque Hills WSA to access a range improvement was discovered. This unauthorized road construction occurred in T. 37 S., R. 32 E., Sections 4 and 5 and T. 37 S., R. 31 E., Section 13. The BLM Burns District conducted the appropriate cultural and botanical surveys in FY10, and determined the length of the trespass to be approximately 1.8 miles long.

Monitoring and sign maintenance of WSA boundaries and routes are ongoing. Maintenance of range, wildlife and wild horse improvements in WSAs is ongoing in accordance with the 2005 EA.

The BLM Burns District continues to manage the 23 WSAs for their wilderness values.

Please refer to Wildfire and Fuels Management and Special Areas (Steens Mountain CMPA) sections for additional project information regarding North Steens Ecosystem Restoration Project and TMP, respectively.

### ***Wilderness Characteristics Inventory***

In the Burns District, BLM's wilderness inventory has been updated on 829,324 acres within Three Rivers RA. Of the areas updated, BLM found six units totaling almost 58,306 acres of BLM-administered lands as having wilderness character. The Andrews/Steens RA was inventoried in 2003 during the RMP process.

### ***Areas of Critical Environmental Concern/Resource Natural Areas***

Defensibility monitoring was conducted at 11 ACECs/RNAs in FY10. This type of monitoring consists of assessing such resource risks as condition of fences (if present), recording unauthorized use of OHVs, and presence or spread of noxious weeds and invasive plants.

Please see the Terrestrial Habitat and Species Management, Federal T&E and BLM Sensitive Species Section for a discussion regarding Malheur wirelettuce within South Narrows ACEC.



## Planned Work for FY11

**Cooperative Management and Protection Area:** Staff will continue to work on development of the alternatives, describing the affected environment, and analyzing effects for the CRP EA with a public comment period to occur in FY11.

**Wilderness:** Monitoring programs will continue. Ongoing work such as signing, trail maintenance, and fence removal will continue. Fence removal and trail maintenance will continue with the help of volunteer groups. Closed routes and cherry-stemmed roads will continue to be monitored to help identify areas where vehicle intrusions may be occurring. Trail and road counters will continue to be utilized to help estimate visitor use.

BLM is continuing the ongoing efforts of rehabilitating the Burnt Car Road as described in the Burnt Car Rehabilitation decision, July 2010.

BLM with the assistance from Northwest Youth Corp are planning to work on Little Blitzen Trail during the summer of 2011.

**Wilderness Study Areas:** Continue managing the 23 WSAs for their wilderness values. New bulletin boards, signing and other visitor information are being considered in areas where management of motorized vehicle use related to WSA boundaries is complex.

BLM will complete NEPA on a WSA violation in which an unauthorized road was constructed in Basque Hills WSA. Rehabilitation of the road will occur in summer 2011.

Reissuance of a Proposed Decision for South Steens AMP/EA is expected.

**Wild and Scenic Rivers:** The bridge at Riddle Ranch will be repaired or replaced and monitoring of the WSRs will continue.

**Restoration Projects:** As a National Public Lands Day event, volunteers from ONDA are planning to dismantle two more miles of unneeded fence in Steens Mountain Wilderness. Two other fence pulling trips are planned with National and Oregon Sierra Club volunteer groups.

**Areas of Critical Environmental Concern:** Defensibility monitoring will be conducted at 13 ACECs. Ecological status monitoring will be conducted at nine ACECs. Both types of monitoring will occur at seven ACECs. Planning will be conducted for collection of baseline vegetation data to support climate change assessment at four ACECs within NLCS units and two forested ACECs in Three Rivers RA.

Biscuit Root ACEC will have traditional root crop trend monitoring established along with defensibility monitoring of newly excluded (fenced from grazing) root gathering traditional use areas.

Development of new ecological monitoring protocols for RNAs and ACECs will continue in FY11 with implementation in FY11, FY12 and beyond.

Project planning for climate change/baseline data monitoring proposals within RNAs and ACECs will continue in 2011. Universities, independent researchers as well as State and Federal agencies are potential participants in these efforts.

## Cultural Resources Programs

### *National Register Sites Managed*

#### **Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District, Roaring Butte, Sage Hen Gap, and Sheep Mountain Sites:**

Six National Register eligible sites were managed in 2010. The Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District in the Steens CMPA was open to the public for self-guided tours between June and October. Volunteer caretakers were available onsite to help tourists, to provide light maintenance on structures, and to keep a watchful eye on invaluable historic structures and period artifacts.

The Photovoltaic (PV) power system at the Riddle Brothers Ranch (Gray House) was ungraded to meet current PV system standards, electrical codes, and system reliability. A new integrated power system and a second solar panel array consisting of six more solar panels was installed. The existing battery located underneath the house was moved to an outside location providing safer access for maintenance.

Sage Hen Gap Clovis Site in Three Rivers RA was the scene of a one-day re-inventory by BLM staff and the Oregon Archaeological Society (OAS). One additional 12,000+ year-old Clovis spear point was found. Another 12,000+ year-old Clovis spear point was found at the site in the early fall when University of Oregon (U of O) students were conducting stratigraphic testing in the arroyo just north of the site. The site was used at the end of the Pleistocene as a hunting camp where stone tools were repaired and made and game animals were butchered and consumed.

Sheep Mountain Clovis Site was the final site managed in 2010. It too is a 12,000+ year-old site located in Three Rivers RA. A 6-week field school was put on by U of O and Burns BLM. The District provided logistical support, some facilities and volunteers through the OAS. The excavations continued to reveal a well-developed series of soils below Mazama ash (7,600 years ago) produced by the explosive eruption of former Mount Mazama. Late Pleistocene – early Holocene artifacts were found below the ash, dating to at least 10,000 years ago. Radiocarbon dates and paleo-botanical work are in progress.

Trout Creek Paleo Camp near Alvord Desert in Andrews/Steens RA was collected once in 2010. A growing number of very old (12,000+ years old) artifacts are being collected from this site known for illegal collection activities.

Roaring Butte Site in the CMPA was the scene of 4 weeks of excavation by a crew of graduate students from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee in summer 2010. The excavation showed the site was inhabited for at least the last 6,000 years and has a series of wickiup rock rings nestled one against the other at the crest of the butte. Wickiups are similar in shape and organization to teepees but are lower and narrower in diameter and usually covered with brush and/or grass or tule mats. Additional rock art (petroglyphs) was also found on boulders at the site adding evidence the site was a habitation as well as possibly a spiritual center.

All excavation work at Sage Hen Gap and Sheep Mountain was covered by a 2008 EA. Work at Roaring Butte site is covered under a CX.

### *Site Restoration, Stabilization, and Protection*

The Fire Prone Sites project focused on fuels reduction treatments at historic buildings and other fire-sensitive cultural resources in both RAs. Work on the project was completed at three historic structures or structural remains in Three Rivers RA in 2010.

### *Archaeological Inventories*

**Clovis Quest Inventory:** In 2010 the BLM archaeological staff continued systematic inventory of the north half of the District in search of Clovis spear points and associated artifacts. The BLM is very interested in discovering distribution of Clovis artifacts in southeastern Oregon and determining particular geographic locations preferred by people living off the land 13,000+ years ago. Archaeological staff are also determined to find a Clovis aged site(s) to recover datable

material, such as charcoal or bone, to firmly date this technology and the people who used it in the northern Great Basin. The OAS and local volunteers spent 2 weeks in 2010 inventorying pre-selected locations and found one Clovis spear point at one site, completing 1,133 acres of survey, recording 23 new sites and revisiting 24 sites. Because of this volunteer survey and other BLM staff work, the number of recent Clovis finds has increased. One additional Clovis spear point was found at Sage Hen Gap Site.

### ***Archaeological Site Research***

See the National Register Sites Managed Section for discussion of Archaeological Site Research in 2010.

### ***Paleontological Inventories***

Two paleontological inventories and monitoring took place in 2010. One was located in Weed Lake Ditch near Harney Lake. The other occurred on the east side of Donner und Blitzen River south of Malheur NWR.

### ***Interpretation Activities***

An active interpretive program, consisting of presentations to local and regional vocational groups and at professional meetings, was completed in 2010. Two articles about Clovis (12,000+ year old) sites were published in a professional journal. The District Archaeologist and Patrick O'Grady, research partner from the U of O, were invited to present a paper on Clovis culture at the 2011 Society for American Archaeology (SAA) conference. This conference is the most prestigious in North America and will result in increased exposure to the cultural program at Burns BLM. The paper given at the SAA conference will be incorporated into a peer reviewed publication for dissemination to readers throughout North (and maybe South) America.

Oregon State Office personnel visited the District to record a "medicine wheel" prehistoric site in July 2010. They used low-elevation balloon photography to help map the various rock features at the site. After photography at the Medicine Wheel site, the balloon crew went to Sheep Mountain Clovis Site to photograph the U of O field school from above. Oregon Field Guide (Oregon Public Broadcasting) filmed a segment for their weekly program at the same time. It will be shown in spring 2011.



**Photo CR-1:** University of Oregon Field School students map the Medicine Wheel in Stinkingwater Mountains.

### ***Cultural Resources Clearances for District Projects***

Thirty-eight projects were cleared for District projects in 2010. Over 21,000 acres were inventoried and 161 sites were recorded.

## **Planned Work for FY11**

### ***National Register Sites Managed***

Volunteer caretakers will continue to keep a watchful eye on Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District and regularly complete fire prevention, cleaning, and light maintenance tasks in and around Frederick Riddle Ranch headquarters building complex. They will also offer interpretive information and tours to visitors.

More work at Sheep Mountain Clovis and Roaring Butte Sites will be completed in summer 2011.

### ***Site Restoration, Stabilization, and Protection***

Maintenance activity in the form of painting walls and ceilings and preserving exterior siding at Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District will be completed in 2011.

The Fire Prone Sites project focuses fuels reduction treatments on historic buildings and other fire-sensitive cultural resources in both RAs. No work on this project is anticipated for 2011.

### ***Archaeological Inventories***

**Clovis Quest 2010:** Three weeks of archaeological inventory is planned for summer 2011. This inventory will be completed by BLM staff, OAS, and local volunteers. Areas of focus are Harney Lake and the Rimrock Lake area in Three Rivers RA and Alvord Desert in AMU.

### ***Archaeological Site Research***

**Roaring Butte Site:** University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee graduate students plan a final season at Roaring Butte Site in Steens CMPA. Additional test excavations at two high-elevation sites near the top of Steens Mountain will be test excavated. This project will involve the excavation of up to five 50x50cm test units, dug by hand. This testing will be covered in a CX to be written in 2011.

**Sheep Mountain:** The U of O field school, OAS, local volunteers, and BLM staff will spend 6 weeks continuing excavations at Sheep Mountain Clovis Site in the north end of the District.

**Rimrock Draw Rockshelter:** If Climate Change funding is received, this rockshelter near Rimrock Lake will be excavated for 4 weeks during the 2011 field season.

**Sage Hen Gap:** Two undergraduate students at the U of O will begin test excavations in an arroyo near the Sage Hen Gap Clovis Site. Using a grant they received in 2011, they will spend 2 weeks excavating 50x50cm and 1x1m units to determine the possibility that the arroyo contains evidence of a big game ambush and kill site.

### ***Paleontological Inventory***

Monitoring and collection at Weed Lake Ditch, Flagstaff Butte and Bartlett Mountain – Warm Springs Reservoir localities will be completed in 2011.

**Interpretive Activities**

An active interpretive program, consisting of presentations to local and regional groups and professional meetings, is intended for 2011.

At least two articles will be submitted for publication in professional archaeological journals in 2011.

Design of an interpretive sign in Catlow Valley about the 1910-20 land boom will be completed in 2011.

**Cultural Resources Clearances for District Projects**

FY11 District project clearance activities are likely to mirror the levels seen in 2010. Large-scale, fuels reduction projects are the dominant project type expected.

**Recreation**

Please see Special Areas Section for a discussion regarding the Steens Mountain CRP.

During FY10, normal recreation maintenance was conducted at all recreation sites; campground hosts were stationed at Chickahominy, Page Springs, Fish Lake, and South Steens Campgrounds and at Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District; and recreation use monitoring continued, including the continued use of road counters to better understand recreation use throughout the area.

The following table depicts the number of Special Recreation Permits (SRP) and the number of paid visits by FY for the past 5 years:

<b>FY*</b>	<b>Number of SRPs Issued</b>	<b>Paid Visits</b>
05	46	4,109
06	35	3,045
07	26	3,323
08	24	3,606
09	15	3,963
10	14	3,582

\*Past years shown for comparison.

Traffic counters to track visitation are set throughout the District. One new counter was purchased and set on North Loop Road. For FY10, 160,406 visits were recorded in the CMPA and 201,431 visits were recorded for the entire Andrews/Steens RA. Data is collected at 32 sites. Visitation is listed in the chart below for some of the Steens sites:

<b>Mann Lake</b>	<b>3,208</b>
Loop Road Total	72,824
North Loop Road	55,134
South Loop Road	17,690
South Steens	9,362
Page Springs Campground	10,220
Fish Lake	4,650
Jackman Park	1,520

Counters in Three Rivers RA collectively accounted for approximately 15,200 vehicles.

Warm Springs Road (north end)	3,000
Warm Spring Road (south end)	3,000
Diamond Craters	2,000
Moon Reservoir	1,200
Poison Creek Recreation Site	1,000
Chickahominy Recreation Site	5,000

General analysis shows use this year was consistent with past years regardless of higher fuel prices. Visitor calculations reflect a different calculation method that avoided duplication.

The Zone Interagency Program between Emigrant Creek Ranger District (USFS) and BLM Burns District continued through FY10. This program falls under the umbrella of the “Service First” Initiative where the BLM and USFS are working together to deliver seamless service to customers and “boundary-less” care for the land. This program continues to be a win/win situation for the public, agencies involved, and the communities of Burns and Hines. Within guidelines of this agreement, the following were accomplished: quality recreation maintenance provided consistently throughout the USFS facilities; health and safety needs of the visiting public are meeting Federal and State standards; some infrastructure repairs were completed; and better signing and organization of information boards within recreation sites and campgrounds have been established. For FY11, the Service First Agreement is being reevaluated to see how Forest Service budget constraints will impact the agreement.

Through a grant obtained by Oregon State Parks All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Program, Radar Hill maintenance work occurred again in FY10 which was extended to June 30, 2011, with help from Harney County High Desert Wheelers. Cleanup of Radar Hill OHV Area occurred again in FY10 with removal of several truckloads of debris. In addition a huge dump site about one-half mile west of the Horse Corrals was removed. Another grant application has been submitted to the Oregon State Parks ATV Program, if approved, the grant would be for the time period from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

An EA for improvements to the Moon Reservoir Boat Launching Facility was completed early summer of 2010. A construction contract was awarded in late September of 2010 with work continuing into 2011 as weather conditions allow. Project completion date is expected to be June 30, 2011. The project includes a new boat ramp, parking areas, toilet, and road improvements. The project was developed and funded by a joint agreement between BLM, Harney County, Oregon State Marine Board, and “Sport Fish Restoration Funds” through ODFW.

Work continues on Steens Mountain Loop Road with funding from the ARRA of 2009. The focus of this project is to improve travel and access by addressing the road crowning (the center of the road should be



**PHOTO R-1:** Camping at Page Springs Campground



**PHOTO R-1a:** Clean-up at Radar Hill OHV area by Harney County High Desert Wheelers

slightly higher than the shoulders), drainage and surfacing. To date 30 culverts have been cleaned, 6 culverts have been installed, 9.6 miles of subgrade has been prepared, and 31,520 tons of aggregate have been hauled. Brush clearing and subgrade preparation is nearly complete. Cost for the overall project is estimated at \$5 million. Approximately 75 jobs are projected over the next 12 to 18 months.

**Wildland Juniper Management Area Interpretive**

**Panels:** Congress designated an area of over 3,000 acres for juniper experiment and education in the Steens Act. Treatment plots have been established and signing was completed. Signing included development of seven interpretive panels. Three are at the first pullout and three at the study plots. Panels were installed in July 2009. Immediately after installation, several of the panels were vandalized. All but one was repairable. One replacement panel was ordered and installed in 2010. A brochure is also under development and should be complete by summer 2012. Signs and brochure are the result of an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) grant.

**2010 Winter Recreation:** The BLM issued 22 winter recreation permits to 71 individuals. Primary uses were cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and winter camping.



**Photo R-2:** Spreading New Surface Gravel on Roadway – Segment 11; June 28, 2010

**Planned Work for FY11**

Proposed projects for FY11 include continuing maintenance of all recreation sites, continuing road and trail counter monitoring throughout Burns District, and conducting required NEPA analyses to accommodate new special recreation permittees such as outfitters, guides, and organized groups. The Zone Interagency Recreation Program will continue throughout FY11.

Another grant application has been submitted to the Oregon State Parks ATV Program, if approved the grant would be for the time period from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. An EA will be prepared to install a toilet and a loading/unloading ramp at Radar Hill OHV Area.

Trail maintenance will take place during FY11 with help from the Northwest Youth Corps and Oregon Youth Corps.

Reconstruction of Steens Mountain Loop Road under ARRA will continue until completion or as additional funding becomes available.

An interpretive trail system in the Wildland Juniper Management Area (WJMA) consisting of a loop trail and a connecting trail to an existing interpretive area is planned for initial construction in 2011 and project completion in 2012.



**PHOTO R-3:** The Next Generation of Recreationists

## **Woodland and Forest Management**

The forestry program is primarily limited to Three Rivers RA, except for a small number of special forest product sales in the Andrews/Steens RA.

Forest health treatments and associated hazardous fuels reduction projects continue to be the District's priority for forest management. There are two forest health and fire reduction projects on Burns District at this time, Pinecraft and Otis Mountain/Moffet Table. The projects include improving aspen and mountain mahogany stands, noncommercial thinning, slash piling and burning, timber harvest, road relocation/closures and under burning. The commercial removal of small diameter trees from Pinecraft timber sale was completed in October 2010. In the Otis Mountain/Moffet Table project area the Rudy timber sale will treat 747 acres of overstocked second growth ponderosa pine stands. It was awarded in April 2010 and two units have been completed to date.

Noncommercial thinning continues to be a tool to reduce hazardous fuels in forest and woodland stands. Otis Mountain/Moffet Table project started with a 507-acre noncommercial thin and machine piling of woodlands under the ARRA. The Otis ARRA contract was awarded in October 2009 and completed in July 2010. The Pinecraft project has one noncommercial thinning and piling contract of 100 acres that was awarded in October 2010 and is expected to be completed in summer 2011. Approximately 200 acres of noncommercial thinning and slash piling are planned for 2011 within the Pinecraft project area. In Andrews/Steens RA, the Riddle Brothers Ranch juniper management project, noncommercial thinning and hand piling 40 acres of juniper woodlands occurred. Younger junipers were cut to improve health of old-growth juniper and health of grasses and other species native to a mountain sagebrush plant community. The Riddle Brothers juniper management project was awarded in September 2010 and completed October 2010.

Reforestation efforts continue within the 2007 Egley fire complex and 2008 Silvies River fires. In 2010, the Pine Spring Basin 2010 reforestation project planted 350 acres of ponderosa pine within Pine Spring Basin, Spring Creek and Emigrant Creek locations. Silvies River reforestation project will complete the remaining Egley complex and all of the Silvies River fire areas. About 400 acres of ponderosa pine/Douglas-fir seedlings are planned for planting in 2011. Reforestation projects in the Burn's District are expected to be completed in 2011.

The District continues to utilize stewardship contracting for implementing forest and woodland restoration projects. Mill Creek is Burns District's current active stewardship contract. The Mill Creek Stewardship contract was awarded in 2010 and will treat 350 acres of ponderosa pine/juniper woodlands with hazardous fuels. Improving wildlife habitat is the primary goal. During 2010, the contractor started a road side cleanup to reduce tree density and provide a basis for continued work in the project area. Claw Creek is the next planned stewardship contract for FY12.

Aspen stands are an important habitat that continues to be a District priority for restoration. Aspen management continues in both hazardous fuels reduction and forest health projects. This involves the removal of encroaching junipers, ponderosa pines and firs from these sites. If necessary and if project funding is available, fencing of small aspen stands allowing for regeneration without heavy wildlife browse will be constructed.

Special forest products including juniper boughs, posts, and firewood continue to be provided as a service to the public.

Other juniper control projects have also been identified in the Terrestrial Habitat and Species Management, WJMA (Special Areas Section), and Wildfire and Fuels Management Sections of this update.

### **Planned Work for FY11**

An additional 200 acres of noncommercial thinning and slash piling will occur in 2011 under the Pinecraft Hazardous Fuels Reduction project.

A 50-acre western juniper woodland thinning and hand piling project will occur in 2011 located near the Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District.



The District expects to award another stewardship contract in 2011 consisting of 350 acres of transitional ponderosa pine/juniper woodland thinning and reduction of hazardous fuels as the primary objectives.

Sale of special forest products including juniper boughs, posts, and firewood as a service to the public will continue.

## Minerals

A third-party contractor continues to work on an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for expansion of EP Minerals' Celatom Mine, which is a diatomite mine approximately 50 miles northeast of Burns, Oregon. During 2009 EP Minerals installed additional groundwater monitoring wells and worked on a hydrology characterization report to determine potential for acid rock drainage. During preparation of the EIS, EP Minerals will continue to operate according to and within the boundaries of the 1984 Mine Plan of Operation which was approved by BLM in 1985 and on private and State land permitted separately through the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. The EIS is expected to be completed in 2011.

In the fall of 2010, Ormat, Inc., filed an application with BLM to begin exploratory drilling for geothermal resources in the Glass Butte area. They are proposing two geothermal exploration projects, one in Burns District and one in Prineville, which are scheduled to begin in 2011. If their exploration activities prove fruitful, Ormat could build two separate geothermal-powered 50-MW producing facilities on their leases in the Glass Buttes area.

Under their exploration applications they are proposing up to 11 wells in the Burns District and 3 wells in the Prineville District. Of the 14 wells proposed, 6 would be "slim wells," smaller diameter holes (6 1/8-inch at the bottom) drilled to 3,500 feet strictly used for exploration and monitoring of the geothermal resource. The remainder would be production-sized wells (12 1/4-inch at the bottom) drilled to 5,000 feet but, at this stage, would be used only for exploration purposes. Four of the slim wells and one production well are eligible for grant money incentives through the U.S. Department of Energy if drilling commences this calendar year.

Removal of small volumes of sand and gravel and flat rock for personal use is permitted by sales from 36 designated community pits in Burns District. The BLM averages 20 small sales (10 to 500 cubic yards each) per year to the general public. Sales of large volumes for personal use are rare. Removal of large volumes of gravel to public entities such as Harney County Road Department and Oregon Department of Transportation is permitted by free-use permits from community pits. The BLM averages two large, free-use permits (approximately 50,000 cubic yards each) per year.

In November 2010, BLM began work, in cooperation with Harney County, on location and development of a new mineral material site in the Palomino Buttes area to provide gravel for the repair of Double OO Road and to improve the road into the redeveloped Moon Reservoir boat ramp and parking area.

In November 2010 Burns was finally able to replace its geologist who retired in December 2009.

## Planned Work for FY11

The Celatom Mine Expansion EIS will continue to be a major workload in the mineral program through FY11.

In 2011 BLM will prepare an EA and ultimately issue a decision on Ormat's proposed geothermal exploratory drilling operations in the Glass Buttes area.

Removal of small volumes of sand and gravel and flat rock for personal use will continue to be permitted.

Development of a new mineral material site in the Palomino Buttes area to provide gravel for the repair of Double OO Road and to improve the road into the redeveloped Moon Reservoir boat ramp and parking area will continue.

## **Lands Tenure Adjustments, Access, and Rights-of-Way**

Burns District lands program continues to respond to energy-related activities, primarily wind monitoring and testing, development and related power transmission. The District granted two new wind testing and monitoring project area ROWs. In addition two existing wind testing and monitoring grants were amended to allow additional monitoring towers, adjust project area boundaries and to modify tower anchoring systems. Three other wind testing applications were rejected because they were filed on lands already approved for another wind testing project. Horizon Wind continued to monitor sage-grouse and conduct other resource inventories for their potential wind farm development in Pueblo Mountains.

BLM continues processing of an ROW application filed by Echanis LLC, a subsidiary of Columbia Energy Partners, for a 230kV transmission line across BLM-administered lands. If approved, the North Steens Transmission Line Project would convey power generated from the Echanis Wind Farm proposed to be constructed on private lands on Steens Mountain. During the late summer of 2010 BLM released a Draft EIS and solicited comments for the project. Over 250 commentors responded resulting in nearly 900 individual comments. BLM began developing responses to these comments and revising the EIS where necessary to respond to the comments.

Road use agreements, ROWs, and permits were issued in the District for improvement and use of existing roads, new road development, small-scale electric power distribution lines, telephone lines, and a variety of other public land uses. Most of this activity was generated from rural residential development in the outlying areas of Harney County.

Burns District's efforts on land sales, exchanges and other land adjustments have been curtailed so that staff can more effectively respond to renewable energy workload. Still, BLM continued discussions with landowners on exchanges and purchases that would result in acquisition of additional lands within the Steens CMPA, particularly Steens Mountain Wilderness, where BLM's land adjustment efforts would be focused.

### **Planned Work for FY11**

The District will continue to respond to energy-related land use applications as its highest realty program priority. Applications for wind testing and development, geothermal, hydropower and related energy transmission will be processed as they are received. Should Horizon Wind indicate their willingness to move forward on the project, the BLM will initiate preparation of an EIS for the Pueblo Mountain Wind Energy Development Project. In the interim additional data will continue to be gathered and resource inventories completed.

A Final EIS is proposed to be released in summer 2011 for the North Steens Transmission Line Project. Processing of the application will continue and a decision on the project scheduled later in the summer.

Warm Springs Irrigation District is expected to file an application in 2011 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to develop hydropower capability at their existing irrigation dam at Warm Springs Reservoir. The Burns and Vale Districts will provide input and cooperate with the FERC on the NEPA documentation necessary for a FERC license and other authorizations that may be required for hydropower development.

Negotiations will continue with willing landowners in the CMPA to secure key parcels in public ownership and to protect and conserve other properties in the CMPA. The District will immediately undertake processing of any opportunities that arise to purchase additional wilderness inholdings. Land exchange proposals for wilderness inholdings will be considered a higher priority for processing than proposals in other areas.

The BLM will continue processing a Cooperative Management Agreement which will enable public access easements to be acquired at Home Creek in Catlow Valley on the west side of Steens Mountain. BLM will also finalize a public access easement in the Mortimer Canyon Area.

The Burns District will continue to process a land sale of a small parcel to resolve an inadvertent cabin site trespass

north of Burns. The cabin has been located on public land for at least 50 years but was only discovered to be encroaching onto public land several years ago. At that time BLM issued the owner a lease to authorize the cabin. The sale, when completed, would provide a final solution to this longstanding issue.

With the downturn in the national economy, rural residential and associated ROW activity may slow somewhat. Regardless, all ROWs and land use permit applications for realty uses will continue to be processed as they are received and unauthorized use dealt with as it is discovered. Compliance inspections on authorized land uses will be conducted to ensure compliance with terms and conditions of the authorization.

## **Hazardous Materials**

### ***Hazmat***

On August 11, 2010, a 1962 Aero twin-engine commander plane crashed near Riddle Brothers Ranch, 80 miles south of Burns, Oregon, within Steens Mountain. Petroleum products were released when the plane crashed and contaminated the soil to a depth of 1-inch to 4 inches. The solid waste from the plane crash was removed by the National Transportation Safety Board for the investigation into the cause of the plane crash and is not an issue for this site cleanup. The insurance company that insured the plane contracted an environmental services company to cleanup the site. The hazmat site was approximately 2,700 square feet.

Burns District Environmental Contingency Plan for Emergency Preparedness and Response to Oil and Hazardous Materials Incidents and the District MSDS were updated. An action memorandum for Riddle Brothers plane crash site was prepared and Hazmat personnel participation in the cashe audit.

Several abandoned mine land sites throughout the District were monitored and checked.

## **Planned Work for FY11**

The BLM will update the Frenchglen Fire Guard Station Spill plan and District MSDS, address Cache finding for Hazmat, and issue a contract for asbestos paint removal for Steens Mountain communication site.

## **Wildfire and Fuels**

### ***Preparedness Program***

The BIFZ or Zone is comprised of State and Federal Agencies from across southeast Oregon including Burns District BLM, USFS Emigrant Creek Ranger District, USFS Malheur National Forest and Malheur NWR. The BIFZ annually staffs a mixture of firefighting resources consisting of 17 engines, 1 helicopter, a 10-person hand crew, a Single Engine Air Tanker, and 6 fire lookouts.

### ***Prevention Program***

The BIFZ fire prevention program consists of three basic elements: Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL), public awareness (awareness) and public outreach (outreach). These three elements are functioning at various levels.

The IFPL is a mandated function performed by Burns Interagency Communication Center and is fully functional. It

consists of developing, tracking, and communicating IFPLs that regulate operations performed on public lands. It is a progressive scale raising restrictions as general fire danger increases from no restrictions to total shutdown of almost all operations. It is communicated by signs, an information line and notifying government employees overseeing contracts, agreements or industrial activities.

Awareness consists of developing, tracking, and communicating fire danger indices and somewhat restricts activities pursued on public lands. Awareness is accomplished through six zone entry portal signs, a collection of various signs placed across the zone and public service announcements through local newspapers and radio. This element is currently functioning at a minimum level. Noteworthy, however, is the Red Flag Program. This program is a communication program where people and businesses post red flags during periods of hazardous fire weather conditions (Red Flag Warnings) as announced by the National Weather Service.

Outreach efforts consist of facilitating Smokey Bear appearances at local public events, namely the Harney County Fair, and maintaining a recorded phone message at (541) 573-4555 to provide updated IFPLs, fire danger, and public use restrictions information.

In the past the BIFZ had a dedicated prevention technician and funding to perform prevention functions. With decline in overall funding, the position has been vacant for several years and funded prevention activities are at a minimum. When staffed and funded, the prevention program had more robust approaches to accomplishing the three elements, especially awareness and outreach. The Harney County Community Wildfire Prevention Plan notes the need for increased awareness and outreach as does the BIFZ management staff. In an attempt to facilitate more fire danger awareness and outreach an approach being tried is assigning some activities to the BIFZ Business Assistant.

### ***Fire Planning Program***

Wildland fire and aviation preparedness reviews are conducted annually prior to fire season to help the field unit prepare for fire season; identify operational, procedural, personnel or equipment deficiencies; and recommend corrective actions. National-level reviews occur every 4 years and Regional/State-level reviews are conducted every 2 years. A combined State/National review of the Zone's Suppression and Fire Business functions occurred in May 2009. The next Regional/State review will tentatively occur spring 2011.

The Fire Program Analysis (FPA) for the 2012 budget year is underway and continued into 2010. The purpose of the FPA System is to provide managers with a common interagency process for fire management, analysis, planning, and budgeting to evaluate effectiveness of alternative fire management strategies through time to meet land management goals and objectives. The FPA will reflect fire objectives and performance measures for the full scope of fire management activities. It is a joint initiative between five Federal wildland fire management agencies: USFS, BLM, National Park Service, USFWS, and Bureau of Indian Affairs. The FPA replaces the initial attack preparedness systems used by these five agencies prior to 2006. Phase 1 of FPA for the Burns Fire Planning Unit (FPU) was accomplished in 2006. The FPA had no activity occur in 2007 or 2008. Phase 2 of FPA began in 2009 and included updates to the program which analyzed long-term effects of fuels treatments, as well as large fires. Final analysis for the 2012 budget year was not completed in April 2010 as planned. As an interim solution to aid in budget allocation, National Interagency Fire Center has developed the Fire Program Decision Support System (FPDSS). The FPA and FPDSS require many of the same inputs and are very similar in operation. Data were requested from FPU planners in the fall of 2009 and is being used in continued development of the program.

Programmatic reviews are conducted periodically to identify planning, implementation, and fiscal strengths and weaknesses, check application of policy direction, and recommend corrective actions. The periodic review and update of the BIFZ Fire Management Plan began in fall 2008 and was completed by spring 2010.

### ***Stabilization and Rehabilitation Planning***

One new Emergency Stabilization or Burned Area Rehabilitation Plans was initiated in 2010 for the Lamb Ranch Fire.

## Agreements

Updated fire agreements were put in place during 2005 and have since been updated annually. These agreements provide mutual assistance to Oregon Department of Forestry; Oregon Division of State Lands; Burns and Hines Volunteer Fire Departments; County 911 center; and Crane-Drewsey, Silver Creek, and Fields-Andrews Rural Fire Protection Associations. These agreements provide suppression assistance, coordinated fire prevention planning, and joint training opportunities amongst participants. In 2009 a Service First Agreement with the Malheur NWR was forged to create a joint BLM and NWR Fuels Planner Position. This position was filled the fall of 2009 and is servicing both programs.

## Fire Suppression

The following table provides information regarding suppression efforts for FY05-FY10:

FY*	Agency	Total Number of Fires	Total Acres	Lightning Caused (Number/Acres)	Human Caused (Number/Acres)
2005	BLM	47	10,392	38/8,999	9/1,393
	FS	40	22	32/17	8/5
	USFWS	4	22	3/17	1/5
2006	BLM	123	153,685	103/100,003	20/53,682
	FS	78	26	65/19	13/7
	USFWS	3	13	3/13	0
2007	BLM	58	99,574	43/89,578	15/9,996
	FS	78	101,510	53/101,446	25/64
	USFWS	7	28	6/26	1/2
2008	BLM	38	5,066	30/5060	8/6
	FS	37	13	23/6.5	14/6.5
	USFWS	4	251	0	4/251
2009	BLM	20	520	14/483	6/37
	FS	26	29	19/16	7/12
	USFWS		0	0	0
2010	BLM	13	361.95	8/327.05	5/34.9
	FS	41	18.45	32/16.9	9/1.55
	USFWS	0	0	0	0

\*Additional years shown for comparison.

## Fuels Management Program

The Burns District manages a diverse landscape in the southern Blue Mountains and northern Great Basin of southeastern Oregon. Many vegetation types are represented within this area from conifer forest to the north to sagebrush-steppe on the southern end. Present and future fuels projects within Burns District are focused on reducing hazardous fuel concentrations and restoring native plant and animal communities that rely on periodic disturbance from fire.

Since the early 1980s, there has been a shift in how wildland fire is viewed by the public and managed by the BLM. Prior to European settlement, fire played a significant role in most Pacific Northwest ecosystems. Plants and animals developed mechanisms to escape, avoid or tolerate periodic fires. European settlement changed the view of periodic wildfires. Fires were viewed as a destructive force and a competitor for resources. Resources consumed by fire were thought to be lost. Land management agencies in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century began a campaign to reduce land and resources lost to wildfires. Reducing influence of fire in these ecosystems allowed living and dead plant material to accumulate. Prior to the era of fire suppression, periodic fires in forests and rangelands kept the amount of dead and dying trees, or density and cover of shrubs, at a level where large-scale, high-intensity wildfires were a rare event. From

the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the 1950s and 1960s there were little obvious impacts of fire suppression efforts. In the early 1980s, there appeared to be an increase in number of acres burned and average size of fires. This trend became readily apparent in the 1990s, when large-scale, high-intensity wildfires began to occur every fire season. Some of these fires received widespread attention because of their damage or threats to businesses and residences in areas adjacent to forests and wildlands, now called the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). In the latter part of the 1990s, Federal agencies began to work to reduce these threats.

The Healthy Forest Initiative was launched in 2002 to aid in implementation of projects from the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA). The HFRA provides improved statutory processes for hazardous fuels reduction projects on BLM lands and also provides other authorities and direction to help reduce hazardous fuel and restore healthy forest and rangeland conditions on lands of all ownerships.

The BLM Fuels Management Program treated less than 60,000 acres nationwide prior to 1998. Since that time, the BLM has treated an average of 188,000 acres a year nationwide. The hazardous fuels reduction projects strive to mitigate threats to public safety, and enhance, restore, and/or maintain critical plant and animal communities.

Burns District has followed National direction by increasing the number of acres treated from under 2,500 acres in 1996 to a high of over 30,000 acres in 2009. A combination of prescribed fire and various mechanical treatments has been utilized to reduce threats to the public and enhance, maintain, and restore plant and animal communities. A summary of accomplishments and planned accomplishments are illustrated in the table below.

**BURNS DISTRICT HAZARDOUS FUELS PROGRAM SUMMARY**

<b>FY*</b>	<b>Thinning Acres</b>	<b>Machine Pile Acres</b>	<b>Hand Pile Acres</b>	<b>Brush Mowing Acres</b>	<b>Seeded Acres</b>	<b>Pile Burn Acres</b>	<b>Prescribed Burn Acres</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>
2005	5,834	1,857	764	1,500	1,153	1,130	5,441	17,679
2006	3,351	316	1,265	2,550	4,620	348	9,045	21,495
2007	1,863	165	12	1,400	325	1,359	5,687	10,811
2008	5,043	767	115	0	715	2,077	5,711	14,428
2009	3,351	1,145	237	0	2,833	179	23,321	31,066
2010	2,781	2,735	771	0	0	1,805	15,970	24,062
Planned 2011	5,505	4,939	20	0	1,649	3,020	24,227	39,360

A combination of mechanical fuels treatment and prescribed fire are being used to help reduce fuels accumulations in the ponderosa pine forests and adjacent sagebrush steppe on Burns District. Three Rivers RA has numerous project efforts taking place such as Strategic Fuel Breaks, Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Lake Creek/Boone Canyon Forest Restoration, Three Rivers Under Burning CX, Forks of Poison Creek/Devine Ridge Vegetation Management Restoration Projects, and Slickear/Claw Creek Restoration Project. The following provides an update for each project:

- **Strategic Fuel Breaks Project:** The planning was completed in 2004 and implementation work began in 2005. In FY10, 604 acres were mowed in Warm Springs Allotment. Work on the project is ongoing, and future implementation plans include further thinning, pile burning, and maintenance mowing.
- **Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project:** The planning was completed in 2004 and implementation began in 2005. Currently units targeted for treatment under this project are being completed in conjunction with other projects. Treatments include machine and hand piling, and pile and broadcast burning. Work on the project is ongoing.
- **Lake Creek/Boone Canyon Forest Restoration Project:** The planning was completed in 2004 and implementation began in 2005. From 2005 to 2007, 456 acres were thinned, piled, and burned. In 2008-2009, 1,088 acres were thinned and machine piled under the Lake Creek Stewardship contract. Half of the piles were burned in FY10 and the rest will be burned in FY11. Work on the project is ongoing. Further implementation plans include pile burning, thinning and machine piling, and implementing a forest under burn.

- **Three Rivers Under Burning Project:** The planning was completed in 2006 and implementation began the same year. Dry Mountain was scheduled for prescribed fire in FY10, but it did not happen. Burning is tentatively scheduled for fall 2011. Half (approximately 250 acres) of Rattlesnake prescribed fire was accomplished in 2010 with plans to complete the burn spring 2011. Work on the project is ongoing.
- **Forks of Poison Creek/Devine Ridge Vegetation Management Restoration:** The project planning was completed in 2005 and implementation began the same year. A cooperative agreement with Tyler Brothers Ranches was developed to treat an additional estimated 1,500 acres of comingled public and private lands. Juniper cutting to prepare for a prescribed fire began fall 2008. In the winter of 2009-2010 approximately 189 acres of previously cut juniper were machine piled and burned. The prescribed fire in cooperation with the Tyler Bros, Harney Soil and Water Conservation District, and Burns BLM was completed in October 2010. Total acres treated were 686 acres for Tyler Bros. and 1,223 BLM acres. Work on the project is ongoing.
- **Slick Ear/Claw Creek Forest Restoration Project:** Planning for the Slick Ear/Claw Creek Forest Restoration Project began the winter of 2008. The goals of the project are to reduce hazardous fuels, restore plant communities, and improve wildlife habitat diversity. The emphasis on treatments will be in forested areas. Further reconnaissance and physical layout of treatment units occurred through summer 2010. Treatments are tentatively scheduled to start in 2011.

Other fuels management projects being conducted are in sagebrush plant communities that have been, or are being, converted to western juniper woodlands. The primary goals of these projects are protecting life and private property located within and adjacent to these plant communities and restoring or maintaining sagebrush plant communities. Many wildlife species rely on these sagebrush plant communities for their life cycles. Western juniper has increased significantly over the last 150 years at the expense of sagebrush and associated plant species. Reduction in dominance of western juniper will help to reestablish mountain big sagebrush, quaking aspen, and riparian hardwood plant communities. The Three Rivers RA has planning efforts taking place with Miller Canyon/Mahon Creek Rangeland Restoration Project. Andrews/Steens RA has planning efforts taking place with Ruby Springs Rangeland Restoration Project. The following provides an update for each project:

- **Miller Canyon/Mahon Creek Rangeland Restoration Project:** The planning was completed in 2005 and implementation began the same year. Work on the North and Mahon Pastures began the summer of 2009. Juniper cutting was completed the summer and fall of 2009 to prepare for a prescribed fire in 2010. Burning did not occur and has been rescheduled for fall 2011. In conjunction with the above cutting, some of the area was machine piled. Work on the project is ongoing. Future plans include cutting, burning, and seeding the North Pastures.
- **Ruby Springs Rangeland Restoration Project:** The planning was completed in 2004 and implementation began the same year. Work on the project is ongoing and planned to be implemented in conjunction with the North Steens Project, discussed below.

Previously planned projects are reaching their final phases of implementation. These projects are the Rattlesnake, Squaw Creek, Coffeepot (RSC) Forest Restoration, Fir Gulch/Coleman Creek Restoration and Silvies, Hopper, Emigrant and Demaris, (SHED) Forest Restoration Projects in Three Rivers RA.

- **The RSC Forest Restoration Project:** The project is achieving its objectives of reducing threat of a large-scale, high-intensity crown fire in ponderosa pine forest and reducing juniper expansion into sagebrush steppe to promote overall forest and rangeland health. Unit planning and layout were accomplished in 2009. Another 200 acres are planned to be thinned and piled in 2011 and the last piles burned in 2013. These treatments should finish the project.
- **The Fir Gulch/Coleman Creek Restoration Project:** The project is achieving its objectives of reducing threat of a large-scale, high-intensity crown fire in a unique Douglas Fir Grove located in Stinkingwater Mountains and removing juniper expansion into the grove to promote overall forest health and wildlife habitat. The remaining 16 acres of hand piles at Fir Gulch will be burned in 2011. These treatments should finish the project.

- **The SHED Forest Restoration Project:** Thinning and hand piling near Seneca was completed in 2009 and early 2010. Future implementation plans include further thinning, piling, pile burning and implementing a forest under burn. This project should be completed by 2013.

Eight fuels reduction/ecosystem restoration projects were developed for Three Rivers RA and four for Andrews/Steens RA. These projects will reduce fuels and influence of western juniper on plant communities and reduce stocking of forested stands on public and private lands in cooperation with participating private landowners. They include Five Creeks Rangeland Restoration Project (see specifically titled section below) located in the vicinity of Riddle Mountain; Dry Lake Ecological Restoration Project located west of Silver Creek in the northwestern quarter of the RA; Camp Harney/Cow Creek Ecological Restoration Project located north of Harney; Otis Mountain/Moffet Table Vegetation Management Project situated due north of the community of Drewsey; Wyoming Big Sagebrush Fuel Break Project located generally south of Highway 20 and west of Highway 205; and North Steens Ecosystem Restoration, WJMA (projects located within the Steens Mountain Area), and the Frenchglen Community Wildland Protection/Lavoy Table Project (located near Frenchglen, Oregon) (see specifically titled sections below). The Fire Prone Sites project focuses fuels reduction treatments on historic buildings and other fire-sensitive cultural resources in both RAs. The following provides an update for each project:

- **Dry Lake Ecological Restoration Project:** Planning was completed in 2006. In fall 2008 work began with thinning and machine piling in conjunction with the SHED project (as discussed above) and was completed in 2009. Pile burning was weathered out in 2010 and has been rescheduled for 2011. Further thinning and piling are planned for 2011 and beyond.
- **Camp Harney/Cow Creek Ecological Restoration Project:** Planning was completed in 2007. Unit planning and layout were accomplished in 2008. Implementation began in 2009 with juniper cutting, thinning and hand piling. In FY10, 377 acres were machine piled and burned at Camp Harney. Currently contracted are 196 more acres for machine piling at Camp Harney and 277 acres to be put in a planned contract at Mortimer and 700 acres at Chalk Hills.
- **Otis Mountain/Moffet Table Vegetation Management Project:** Planning was completed in 2008. Implementation began in 2009 with thinning and piling in the Squaw Creek Area and reconnaissance and layout of other treatment areas for future years. In FY10 cutting and piling were completed and piles will be burned in FY12. Under-burning is planned for future years.
- **Wyoming Big Sagebrush Fuel Break Project:** Phases 1 through 4 were completed between 2003 and 2007. Approximately 2,950 acres were mowed. No work occurred in 2009. Maintenance mowing on 604 acres in Phase 1 began September 2010 and was completed. Subsequent phases will receive maintenance beginning in 2011.
- **Fire Prone Sites Project:** Planning was completed in 2006 and implementation began in 2007. Work completed to date includes juniper limbing and brush mowing at Gap Ranch in 2007. In 2008 thinning, hand piling, and grass mowing to improve emergency vehicle access and create defensible space at the Riddle Brothers Ranch was completed. Pile burning occurred at the Riddle Brothers Ranch in October 2009. In 2009 thinning, hand piling and brush mowing around two historic sites in the Silvies Valley were completed. Pile burning at the Silvies Valley sites was weathered out in 2010 and will be rescheduled for 2011. Cutting, machine piling and piling previously cut juniper around two historic homesteads on Moon Hill was planned for 2010, but was not completed. Planning for treatments at other sites beyond 2010 is ongoing.
- **Five Creeks Rangeland Restoration Project:** The Five Creeks Rangeland Restoration Project is a landscape-scale vegetation treatment encompassing approximately 73,500 acres (approximately 26,000 acres in the CMPA). The primary purposes of this project are to return vegetation communities to historic compositions and reduce hazardous fuel loads. This will be accomplished by using various forms of prescribed fire and mechanical treatments to reduce influence of encroaching western juniper. Project timeline is projected to be 10 to 12 years.

Implementation began in 2007 with juniper cutting. During the fourth year of project implementation, ARRA, range, soil water and air, wildlife, fisheries, and riparian funds supported work throughout the Five Creeks Rangeland



Restoration Project. OWEB, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and private funds supported project work on the adjacent private lands. In 2010, work occurred in Units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Approximately 4,213 public acres were selectively cut to help prescribed fires for Unit 3 (2010) and Unit 4 (2011) move across the landscape in a mosaic pattern. Weed surveys (inventory and monitoring) occurred across 30,279 acres (Units 1, 2, and 3) with weed treatments occurring on 40 acres and along 6 stream miles. Bio-control agents for Canada thistle were also purchased and released on two streams (Riddle and Coyote Creeks). Juniper removal on 519 acres surrounding an active sage-grouse lek (funds obligated in 2009) was also completed. This treatment cut and machine piled juniper or, where fuels were sparse, cut and left juniper in order to remove encroached juniper from the site, and retain all existing sagebrush.



**Photo 5C-1:** Prescribed fire in Unit 3, October 2010.

**Photo 5C-2:** Vigorous seedling establishment in Unit 2 from 2009 aerial seeding activities. Photo taken September 2010.



**Photo 5C-3:** Unit 2, July 2010. One year post RX fire.

The Five Creeks Project is also providing opportunities for research. Through coordination with the project leads, several research projects are currently taking place within the project area and being conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS), Sagebrush Steppe Treatment Evaluation Project (SageSTEP), and USGS. These projects include;

- “Timing of juniper burning: a factor controlling restoration success?” – Comparing the recovery of mountain big sagebrush grassland after burning older juniper clear cuts (5+ years) with burning applied to recent partial cut and burn treatments.
- “Timing of post-fire reseeding: a factor controlling revegetation success?” – The study covers seeding within the first week after fire, prior to the first precipitation event, and after fall precipitation and monitoring the success of the various timing of seeding.
- “Post-fire application of wetting agent seed coating technologies in western juniper woodlands.” – Limited and erratic soil moisture and post-fire hydrophobicity may hinder rangeland reseeding efforts. Newly developed wetting agents (or soil surfactants) have been shown to significantly improve ecohydrologic properties required for plant growth by overcoming soil water repellency, and increasing the amount and duration of available water to seedlings. The project will evaluate the effectiveness of wetting agent seed coating treatments for increasing establishment of reseeded species.
- Five Creeks is also a project being monitored in the SageSTEP. The project is being conducted to study the effects of land management options on sagebrush communities. Using a regional network of sites across the Great Basin will allow us to understand the thresholds between healthy and unhealthy sagebrush communities over a broad range of conditions. Management treatment effects on plants, potential for wildfire, soils, water runoff and erosion, and birds and insects will be documented. Additionally, an economic analysis will be conducted to assist managers in selecting optimal management strategies, and citizens’ and managers’ views about the treatments will be explored.



**Photo 5C-4:** Aerial View of Unit 3 Prescribed Fire - October 2010

Two contracts to hand pile juniper along riparian zones were terminated in 2010. Project work was not occurring in a satisfactory manner. These projects will continue into 2011 after a new award is made.

Overall, project objectives were met for 2010 due to close coordination and cooperation with Burns BLM RA staff, BIFZ, Harney Soil and Water Conservation District, Harney County Watershed Council, USGS, ARS and four grazing permittees/private landowners.

**North Steens Ecosystem Restoration Project:** North Steens Ecosystem Restoration Project (North Steens Project) is a landscape-level project to improve ecological health of the area, reduce juniper-related fuel loading and encourage a healthy functioning ecosystem through appropriate land uses. This is a multiyear project and each year the extent of implementation will vary depending on variables such as staff limitations, resource considerations, and climatic and operational conditions.

The proposed Project Area is located within the Andrews/Steens RA primarily within the CMPA and encompasses approximately 336,000 acres of private land and public land administered by the BLM.

EOARC is working cooperatively with the BLM by placing intensive research sites on selected areas within the Project Area. The EOARC is jointly operated by OSU and USDA-ARS. The BLM will work closely with EOARC to monitor project results.

The ROD was signed on September 26, 2007, and subsequently appealed to IBLA. The IBLA did not issue a stay. A final decision on all appealed elements was issued on June 9, 2008. The ROD was affirmed on all points. Subsequent to IBLA's decision, the decision has been appealed to U.S. District Court.

In 2008 work began on the North Steens Project with the cutting of juniper in the Moon Hill Area to prepare for the first phase of prescribed burning. Adjacent units will be cut in 2011. Landscape scale burning is scheduled to begin in 2012. In 2010 juniper cutting was also started in the Tombstone Canyon Area to prepare for Phase 2 of prescribed burning. Adjacent units will be cut in 2011 and 2012. Landscape scale burning is scheduled to begin in 2013. Units 1, 2, and 5 in Tombstone will be broadcast burned fall 2011.

**Wildland Juniper Management Area:** Various mechanical and prescribed fire treatments will be applied to demonstration plots in the WJMA on Steens Mountain Loop Road. The WJMA was established for the purpose of demonstrating and experimenting with management techniques intended for restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems and reduction of hazardous fuels on Steens Mountain.

Implementation on the demonstration plots in the WJMA began in 2006. In 2006 the juniper cut-and-leave and the cut-and-machine pile plots were completed. In 2007, juniper blasting and demonstration pile burning were completed on their respective plots. In 2008 further burning of the machine-pile plot occurred. In the hand-cut plot, 158 acres of clear cut and machine piling were accomplished fall of 2009. Late fall of 2010 piles were planned for burning, however, it did not occur. Plans are to complete additional cutting and machine piling, complete additional pile burning, and tentatively initiate the broadcast burning plot in 2011. Work on the project is ongoing.

**Frenchglen Wildland Urban Interface/Lavoy Table Projects:** The Frenchglen WUI Project is a joint project between the Malheur NWR and Burns BLM. Located largely on Malheur NWR, the project includes portions of Andrews/Steens RA along the project's western boundary and immediately west of Frenchglen, Oregon. The primary purposes of this project are to implement a fuel break around Frenchglen as discussed in the *Harney County Communities Wildfire Protection Plan*; return vegetation communities to historic compositions; and reduce influence of encroaching western juniper in other areas. Mechanical and hand treatments and various forms of prescribed fire will be employed to reduce hazardous fuel loads around Frenchglen. Project planning was completed in 2008. Implementation started at the end of the year and continued into 2009-2010. To date approximately 22 acres of BLM land and 10 acres of Malheur NWR land have been cut and hand piled above and to the north of Frenchglen and the piles burned late fall of 2009 to create the fuel break. Work on the project is ongoing.

In conjunction with the Frenchglen project, the Lavoy Table Project was started to the northwest of Frenchglen. These

projects were planned together due to location. The Lavoy Table Project consists of cutting and select burning juniper in the Lavoy Table, Peanut, and Savoy Lake Area. The objective of this project is to reduce juniper encroachment into and expanding across low-elevation, mountain big sagebrush steppe. Doing this will enhance and restore year-round sage-grouse habitat and mule deer summer range. Reducing the juniper density will also improve several small springs in the area by increasing their flow in both quantity and duration. In fall 2010, units were jackpot burned completing the project except for future monitoring.

## **Planned Work for FY11**

An EA for the S.E.S. Forest Restoration Project is expected in 2011. The goals of the project are to reduce hazardous fuels, restore plant communities, and improve wildlife habitat diversity. The emphasis on treatments will be in forested areas. Further reconnaissance and physical layout of treatment units will tentatively start in 2011. Treatments are tentatively scheduled to start in 2012.

Other planned work for FY11 is implementation of the above mentioned projects.

Approximately 500 acres of ponderosa pine seedlings will be planted in the Silvies Fire (2008) in the spring of 2011. Seedlings were purchased in 2009 in preparation for planting. Per policy all treatments have permanent monitoring plots and plots are measured annually. Annual treatment monitoring will continue through 2012.

## **Law Enforcement**

Burns District has one, full-time BLM Law Enforcement Ranger, and through a law enforcement agreement with the Harney County Sheriff's Office, the service of one half-time Sheriff's Deputy. Law enforcement efforts for FY10 included the following:

- Responding to and investigating natural resource crimes throughout the District
- Responding to emergencies, OHV accidents, aviation incidents, injuries, and deaths
- Investigating occupancy trespass cases and fire trespass cases
- Investigating drug/narcotic offenses
- Investigating crimes against Federal employees and Federal property

Coordinating law enforcement actions with other Federal, State and local departments including the Harney County Sheriff's Office, Burns Police Department, Hines Police Department, Oregon State Police, USFS, USFWS, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Oregon Army National Guard.

Cases and incidents have resulted in written warnings, citations, physical arrests, and the referral of cases to other agencies.

The Burns District Law Enforcement Office entered 86 incidents/cases into the BLM LАWNET system in 2010.

Marijuana cultivation investigations continued in 2010. Five Federal felony convictions were handed down in U.S. District Court for cultivation of marijuana. One conviction resulted for felony reentry into the United States for Immigration violations.



**Photo LE-1:** Convicted marijuana cultivation felons.

## Planned Work for FY11

Through an agreement, Burns District Law Enforcement will continue to use the Harney County Sheriff's Office for specific BLM patrols. Also, specific enforcement activities will continue to be targeted in the CMPA, Alvord Desert WSA, and Pueblo WSA. The focus is enforcement of OHV regulations. Marijuana cultivation reconnaissance will continue throughout the District. After a signing campaign has been implemented for the Steens Mountain Wilderness portals, wilderness incursion patrols will be a focus for FY11.

## Wild Horse and Burro Program

Burns District is responsible for the Oregon and Washington (OR/WA) wild horse adoption and population management program. The District solely administers 6 HMAs and provides support for the management of 13 other HMAs in the Lakeview, Vale, and Prineville Districts. In addition, the Murderer's Creek Wild Horse Territory (Territory) near Prineville is jointly managed by the Burns District BLM and the Ochoco National Forest. A second Territory near Dayville is co-managed by the Prineville District BLM and the Malheur National Forest.

Each HMA is generally gathered every 3-5 years depending on range conditions and population numbers determined by range studies and periodical census flights. In FY10, 1,119 horses were removed from rangelands in Oregon. These horses were transferred to Oregon's Wild Horse Corral Facility (Corral Facility) in Hines for public adoption.

In FY10, 260 horses were placed in private care from OR/WA adoption events. Approximately 40 horses were adopted via the internet ([www.blm.gov/adoptahorse](http://www.blm.gov/adoptahorse)); 36 were sold under the Wild Horse and Burro Sale Authority; and 550 were transferred to adoption events within other states and/or to long-term holding facilities. Adoption events in Oregon were held in Burns, Albany, Estacada, Rice Valley, Powell Butte, and Yamhill while Washington State hosted adoptions in Colville, Longview, and Kent.

The Burns District enjoyed a continued partnership with the Mustang Heritage Foundation through the Extreme Mustang Makeover, Trainer Incentive Program (TIP) and Youth and Yearling (YAY) Challenge events ([www.mustangheritagefoundation.org](http://www.mustangheritagefoundation.org)). Approximately 25 horses were placed through the Mustang Makeover, 50 horses through the TIP, and another 30 through YAY events in Oregon and Washington.

Over the last year, three existing wells within the Warm Springs HMA were each equipped with a solar system that provides a constant supply of water to a trough, storage tank, and overflow pond during sunlight hours. Each solar unit is designed to deliver at least 8 gallons per minute during a typical sunny day and will self-drain when not pumping to avoid damage during freezing temperatures.

We continue to make every effort to photograph all mustangs available for adoption at the Corral Facility and place pictures online for viewing across the nation ([www.blm.gov/adoptahorse/onsitegallery](http://www.blm.gov/adoptahorse/onsitegallery)). This effort started in FY09 and has consistently generated interest for Oregon mustangs from adopters as far away as Maine and Florida!



**Photo WH-1:** Wild Horses Removed from Public Lands



**Photo WH-2:** Successful Adopter



**Photo WH-3:** Buckaroo Well

## Planned Work for FY11

The HMAs scheduled for gather in Oregon in FY11 include Warm Springs, Three Fingers, Jackie's Butte, Kiger, and Riddle. A large, highly-competitive adoption event for the mustangs from the Kiger and Riddle herds will be held in early November 2011. Adoption events are set for Burns, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, Powell Butte, Seal Rock, Yamhill, and Salem (Oregon) and Ridgefield, Ellensburg, and Kent (Washington).

The Burns District also plans to continue work on the WHB Program display/kiosk at Central Oregon's High Desert Museum and further develop a Wild Horse Adopters Assistance Web site in conjunction with our partners.

Information about the WHB Program is available through the internet at the following sites:

Burns (Oregon) District Wild Horse Program:  
[www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/wildhorse/index.php](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/wildhorse/index.php)

Oregon/Washington Wild Horse and Burro Program:  
[www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index.php](http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index.php)

National Wild Horse and Burro Program:  
[www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/wild\\_horse\\_and\\_burro.1.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/wild_horse_and_burro.1.html)

Adoption applications and information may also be obtained by calling the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400.

## Volunteers and Outreach

The Burns District enjoyed approximately 150 volunteers and hosted workers in FY10. Nearly 16,000 hours of service were donated by individuals, groups, and partners across the northwest. The estimated value of such work is a whopping \$330,000! Programs supporting most volunteer activities include:

**Recreation** – Campground hosts at Page Springs and Chickahominy Reservoir and historical site caretakers at Riddle Brothers Ranch amassed several thousand hours of service in the Burns District during FY10. These volunteers are vital assets to our recreation program, bringing care and attention to our most frequented sites and providing invaluable visitor education. The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps, the Harney County High Desert Wheelers and several individual volunteers completed exception trail and fence maintenance, clean-up and restoration activities.

**Support Services** - Thanks to Eastern Oregon University's work-study program, the Burns District was fortunate to have a hosted worker on staff for the first time in several years. Volunteer Nancy Calloway gave 500 hours to Support Services, providing front-desk help and assisting with clerical tasks across the District.

**Cultural Program** - With over 3,600 hours contributed in FY10 – a number consistent over the last several year – the Burns District's Cultural program continues to be a leader in volunteer utilization and retention across the Northwest. Fifty volunteers spent endless hours working on Clovis Quest surveys in Alvord Desert and in Three Rivers RA; excavating at the Roaring Butte site on Steens Mountain; and participating in the U of O Archaeology Field School, OAS excavation and survey.



**Photo VO-1: Steve and Florence Balog, Riddle Brothers Ranch Caretakers**

**Wild Horse and Burro Program** – Volunteers for Oregon/Washington’s WHB Program proved to be even more devoted to the American Mustang than in years past! With over 5,000 hours of service, volunteers from across the northwest trained and gentled horses for adoption, provided adoption support, mentored new adopters, organized and hosted mini-adoptions and training events at their own facilities, fostered orphaned foals or mature horses looking for new homes, and spread the word of our mission! In addition, Sisters of the Steens, a group of ladies following the mustangs of South Steens HMA in southeast Oregon, started a thorough and documented search of all mustangs in the herd, naming and cataloging each one in an effort to track family history and relationships, breeding production, and survival rates.



Photo VO-2: Alvord Clovis Quest survey crew, summer 2010.

Number Of Individuals	Volunteers	Hosted or Donated Workers	Total
	143	7	150
Number Of Hours	Volunteer Hours	Hosted or Donated Worker Hours	Total
Recreation	3,745	1,920	5,665
Biological Resources	191	0	191
Wild Horse And Burro	5,584	0	5,584
Cadastral Survey	0	0	0
Wilderness/Wsa	210	0	210
Riparian/Watershed	0	0	0
Cultural/Historical	3,680	0	3,680
Minerals	0	0	0
Support Services	0	500	500
Environmental Ed./Interpretation	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,410</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>15,830</b>
Funds Expended	\$4,618.80	\$0.00	\$4,618.80
Value Of Work (Based On 2009 Value (2010 Data Not Available) Of \$20.85/Hour As Calculated By Independent Sector)	\$279,598.50	\$50,457.00	\$330,055.50
Youth Volunteers (Age 25 And Under)			
	Volunteers	Hosted Workers	Total
Number Of Youth Volunteers	19	5	24
	Volunteers	Hosted Workers	Total
Hours Contributed By Youth Volunteers	168	1,600	1,768

## Planned Work for FY11

In FY11, volunteers are likely to continue work on fence removal in Steens Mountain Wilderness, serve as campground hosts, provide office support, and support projects in the District’s Cultural, Weed and Wildlife programs. Come join us!

## Burns District Rangeland Program Summary

The purpose for the Rangeland Program Summary is to outline the progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives of each resource as identified in current land use plans.

Since 1998, the District has been on a 10-year schedule to complete NEPA analyses on all 10-year grazing permits and leases, and to do an assessment of each allotment to see if they are in conformance with the “*Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands in Oregon/Washington* (dated August 12, 1997)” (Standards and Guidelines). In accordance with regulations (43 CFR 4180), if these assessments identify one or more of the five Standards not being achieved, appropriate action is taken that will result in progress toward achieving these Standards and Guidelines.

Due to workload, it is not possible to complete an assessment of Standards and Guidelines for each allotment as the term permit expires. Therefore, the District process has been to do assessments on a priority schedule. If necessary, the permit may be reissued prior to the assessment under the Appropriations Act and/or the Administrative Procedure Act [USC 558 (c)] with the condition it may be modified later to add conditions or management changes to ensure progress toward meeting the Standard(s) not achieved.

During FY10 the District completed Standards and Guidelines assessments on seven allotments (55,205 acres). All seven allotments were achieving all applicable Standards and Guidelines. Since 1998, the District has completed a total of 277 Standards and Guidelines assessments (95 percent) on 3,379,869 acres (99 percent of the acres).

### *Three Rivers Resource Area*

#### **THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
0010	Malheur Lake	M	Nothing to report.
0046	East Wagonfire Fenced Federal Range (FFR)	C	Nothing to report.
2246	Camp Curry FFR	C	Nothing to report.
2252	Dietrich Field FFR	C	Nothing to report.
4097	Trout Creek	I	Issued a Final Decision on Trout Creek AMP/EA which adjusted grazing management and renewed two Grazing Leases. Replaced troughs at Camp Creek Spring and MP Spring #2.
4098	East Creek-Pine Hill	M	Nothing to report.
4126	Abraham’s Draw	C	Nothing to report.
4143	Silvies	I	Nothing to report.
5003	Malheur Slough	C	Nothing to report.
5101	Devine Ridge	M	Nothing to report.



**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA**

Allotment Number	Name	Category	Implementation Progress
5102	Prather Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5103	Lime Kiln	M	A new EA is in progress to analyze Lime Kiln Division Fence.
5104	Soldier Creek	M	A grazing permit was transferred to new a permittee under Appropriations Act for a period of 10 years.
5105	Camp Harney	M	Fort Harney Spring was maintained in FY10 and 377 acres of machine piling occurred.
5202	Hunter	M	Nothing to report.
5203	Catterson	C	Nothing to report.
5206	Stockade FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5217	Thompson FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5218	Bennett FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5221	West Davies	I	Nothing to report.
5223	East Davies	I	Nothing to report.
5300	Alkali	M	An allotment evaluation was completed and the allotment is achieving all applicable Standards and conforming to Guidelines.
5301	Princeton	M	Reseeding by rangeland drill was completed to restore forage grass on approximately 1,000 acres within two pastures of the allotment. This has been an ongoing project for the last 2 years. The treated pastures will be rested in 2011 until after seedripe to ensure the seeding is established before use commences.
5302	Big Bird	M	An allotment evaluation was completed for the allotment in the fall of 2010. Standards were achieved, grazing conformed to guidelines, and allotment-specific objectives were met. Management of the allotment will continue as is.
5303	Dry Lake	M	A temporary fence installed after a wildfire was removed. Issued the proposed decision for the Crow's Nest Brush Spray Seeding Maintenance CX.
5305	Crow's Nest	M	Issued the proposed decision for the Crow's Nest Brush Spray Seeding Maintenance CX.
5306	Rocky Ford	M	Annual utilization recorded.
5309	Happy Valley	I	The EA/AMP is currently under development. Juniper was cut and piled in Government Field. Upland trend was completed.
5310	Riddle Mountain	I	Upland trend was completed. Five Creeks, Unit 3, prescribed burn was completed.
5314	Baker FFR	C	Annual utilization was recorded.
5316	Virginia Valley	M	Basic pipeline maintenance within the allotment occurred. Annual utilization was recorded.
5317	Hatt Butte FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5318	Black Butte	C	Nothing to report.
5320	Kegler FFR	C	Annual utilization was recorded.
5327	Jenkins B Flat FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5329	Riddle/Coyote	I	Upland trend as completed.
5331	Smyth/Kiger	I	The AMP/EA is being revised. Upland trend was read.
5502	Rock Creek	M	Annual utilization was recorded.
5503	Pine Creek	I	The AMP/EA is still in progress. Upland trend was completed.
5504	State Field	M	Nothing to report.
5506	Muddy Creek	I	Nothing to report.

**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA**

Allotment Number	Name	Category	Implementation Progress
5507	Wolf Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5508	Baker-Knowles	M	Nothing to report.
5509	Williams Dripp	M	Nothing to report.
5510	Jones Dripp	M	Nothing to report.
5511	Moffet Table	I	Nothing to report.
5512	Clarks River FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5513	Shelley	I	A riparian study enclosure was completed along Griffin Creek within the allotment. This study area will be used to measure riparian recovery after the removal of livestock. An adjacent area on the creek in an adjoining allotment which continues to be used by livestock will be used as a comparison area.
5514	Coal Mine Creek	I	Nothing to report.
5515	Mule Creek	I	Nothing to report.
5516	Birch Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5517	Otis Mountain	I	Nothing to report.
5518	Newell Field	C	Nothing to report.
5519	Big Upson Field	C	Nothing to report.
5520	Little Upson	C	Nothing to report.
5521	Rocky Basin	M	An allotment evaluation was completed. Annual utilization was recorded. This allotment is also in the EP Minerals Mine Expansion EIS area.
5522	Cottonwood Creek	M	The AMP/EA has been initiated to analyze changes in grazing management and some range improvements. A CX was created and decision issued to remove less than 1-mile of fence within the allotment. Utilization was completed.
5523	Tub Springs/Hart	I	Annual utilization was recorded and fence maintenance around Box Springs was completed. This allotment is also in the analysis area for the EP Mine EIS.
5524	Dawson Butte	I	Nothing to report.
5525	Mill Gulch	M	Nothing to report.
5526	Chalk Hills	M	The AMP/EA was completed and a Proposed Decision issued. Utilization was completed.
5528	Cooler	I	Annual utilization was recorded.
5529	House Butte	M	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010.
5530	River	I	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010. The OWC spring development was maintained. A CX Review was completed prior to the maintenance occurring.
5531	Stinkingwater	I	A Final Decision on Stinkingwater AMP/EA was issued in 2010. Three grazing permits (#3600067, 3602289, and 3602278) were renewed in early 2011 as part of the EA. The 300-acre Lamb Ranch Fire occurred in Clear Creek Seeding Pasture with rehabilitation activities planned for 2011. Wild horses from Stinkingwater HMA were gathered.
5532	Mountain	I	Completed upland trend monitoring. One grazing permit was transferred to a new permittee. Gathered wild horses from Stinkingwater HMA.
5533	Buchanan	M	Nothing to report.
5534	Mahon Creek	I	Completed upland trend monitoring.

**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
5535	Miller Canyon	I	Completed upland trend monitoring.
5536	Alder Creek	I	Nothing to report.
5537	Buck Mountain	M	Reclaiming medusahead infested rangelands. CX decision was issued.
5538	Riverside	I	Upland trend was completed.
5539	Blaylock FFR	C	Grazing permit was transferred to a new permittee under Appropriations Act for a period of 10 years.
5540	Luce Field FFR	C	Grazing permit was transferred to a new permittee under Appropriations Act for a period of 10 years.
5542	Marshall FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5545	Sunshine Field FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5546	Druit Field FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5548	Griffin FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5560	West Vickers FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5564	Wheeler Basin	M	Nothing to report.
5565	Upton Mountain	I	Upton Mountain well project was ongoing. A contract to redrill the well was issued for fall/winter 2010. The allotment was grazed this year for the first season since the wildfire/rehabilitation seeding in 2007. The permit was transferred (using "rider language") to a new permit holder. Annual utilization was recorded.
5566	Texaco Basin	M	Annual utilization and compliance monitoring were completed. Trough replacement at Alkali Spring was funded, purchased, and installed.
5570	River FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5571	Lamb Ranch	I	Nothing to report.
5573	Beaver FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5576	Lower Pine	M	Nothing to report.
5578	C&D FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5584	Poison Creek	C	Nothing to report.
5587	Manning FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5588	Reed FFR	C	Grazing permit was transferred to a new permittee.
5590	Smith FFR	C	Nothing to report.
5592	Coleman Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5593	Slocum	I	Trend was completed. Annual utilization was completed.
5594	Venator	I	Nothing to report.
5595	Coyote Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5596	Emmerson	M	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010.
5597	Crane	M	Nothing to report.
5598	Beckley Home	C	Nothing to report.
5599	Mahon Ranch	M	Nothing to report.
5600	Beaver Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5601	Hamilton	I	Upland trend was completed.
5602	Quier FFR	C	Nothing to report.

**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
5604	Burnt Flat	I	Prescribed burn associated with Five Creeks Unit 3 project occurred on portions of the allotment.
7001	East Warm Springs	I	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment. A wild horse gather was conducted on Warm Springs HMA to remove excess animals in the fall of 2010.
7002	West Warm Springs	I	Completed upland trend monitoring. Gathered wild horses on Warm Springs HMA.
7003	East Wagontire	I	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010.
7004	West Wagontire	I	Nothing to report.
7005	Second Flat FFR	C	Nothing to report.
7006	Rimrock Lake	I	Annual utilization recorded.
7007	Hat Butte	I	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010.
7008	Sheep Lake-Shields	I	Nothing to report.
7009	Ryegrass	I	AMP/EA was initiated.
7010	Claw Creek	I	Nothing to report.
7012	Packsaddle	I	An allotment evaluation was completed March 2010. The allotment was not used by livestock this season.
7013	Zoglman FFR	C	Nothing to report.
7014	Badger Springs	M	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010.
7015	Second Flat	I	Nothing to report.
7016	Juniper Ridge	M	An EA was completed for Juniper Ridge Well Pipeline and Trough. One mile of pipeline and a new dirt tank were installed within the allotment.
7017	Cluster	M	Completed a CX and Final Decision to install a cattleguard on Hole in the Ground Road at the allotment boundary. Utilization was completed.
7018	Silver Lake	M	Nothing to report.
7019	Palomino Butte	I	Completed upland trend monitoring.
7020	Sand Hollow	M	Annual utilization was recorded.
7021	Weaver Lakes	I	Nothing to report.
7022	Dog Mountain	I	Trend was completed.
7023	West Sagehen	I	Allotment evaluation was completed January 2010. Annual utilization was recorded.
7024	East Sage Hen	I	Nothing to report.
7025	Gouldin	I	Nothing to report.
7026	Horton Mill	I	Permit transfer was completed. Upland trend was read. Annual utilization recorded.
7027	Emigrant Creek FFR	C	Nothing to report.
7028	Stinger Creek	C	Rangeland Health Assessment completed and photos were taken.
7030	Skull Creek	I	A Proposed Decision for the Change in Livestock Kind (from cattle to sheep) EA was issued. The grazing permit was transferred to a new permittee under Appropriations Act for a period of 10 years.
7031	Hay Creek	I	Upland trend was completed.

**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
7032	Hotchkiss Individual	C	Nothing to report.
7033	Silvies River	M	Allotment evaluation is in progress. Utilization and use supervisions were completed.
7035	Silvies Meadow	M	Nothing to report.
7036	Hayes	I	Nothing to report.
7037	Coal Pit Springs	C	Nothing to report.
7038	Curry Gordon	C	Nothing to report.
7039	Cave Gulch	M	Some upland trend was completed. Photo points to monitor emergency stabilization were established. Emergency stabilization seeding was completed and monitored. Road closure was extended, to be revisited prior to the 2011 hunting season. Allotment Evaluation is in progress.
7040	Landing Creek	I	Nothing to report.
7041	East Silvies	I	Nothing to report.
7042	Dole Smith	C	Nothing to report.
7043	Lone Pine	I	Upland trend was read throughout the allotment in 2010.
7045	Whiting FFR	C	Nothing to report.
7046	Baker Hill Field	C	Annual utilization was completed.
7047	Peabody	C	Nothing to report.
7048	Varian Canyon FFR	C	Nothing to report.
7049	Forks of Poison Creek	I	In the spring of 2010, one spring development was reconstructed in Theimer Pasture (Theimer Spring).
7051	Sawtooth - MNF	M	Nothing to report.
7053	Silvies Canyon	M	Nothing to report.
7054	Cricket Creek	C	Rangeland Health Assessment completed and photos were taken.
7056	Double OO	M	Nothing to report.
7058	Narrows	M	Nothing to report.
7061	Bulger	C	Nothing to report.
7062	Capehart Lake	I	An AMP/EA (with permit renewal analysis included) is in progress. Trend was completed in the allotment as well as annual utilization.
7063	Roundtop Butte	I	An Allotment Evaluation was completed which determined allotment is meeting all applicable Standards and conforming to Guidelines.
7088	Sunset Valley	C	Nothing to report.

## Three Rivers Resource Area - Planned Work for FY11

## THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA - PLANNED WORK FOR FY11

Allotment Number	Name	Category	Implementation Progress
0010	Malheur Lake	C	Nothing planned.
2252	Dietrich Field FFR	C	Nothing planned.
4097	Trout Creek	I	Nothing planned.
5003	Malheur Slough	C	Nothing planned.
5101	Devine Ridge	M	In FY11 approximately 1,200 acres within Ridge Pasture will be burned in the final phase of a larger prescribed broadcast fire. Of the burned acreage about 600 will be aerial seeded with a native mix in the spring of 2011. Also in 2011, two small big game exclosures (less than 5 acres) will be put in Ridge Pasture to protect aspen.
5102	Prather Creek	M	Nothing to report.
5103	Lime Kiln	M	Complete an EA to analyze 1.0-mile of new fence to divide the Lime Kiln Pasture.
5104	Soldier Creek	M	Complete Allotment Evaluation.
5105	Camp Harney	M	A prescribed under burn of 472 acres is planned for 2011.
5202	Hunter	M	Complete Standards and Guidelines Assessment.
5217	Thompson FFR	C	Nothing planned.
5300	Alkali	M	Nothing planned.
5301	Princeton	M	Nothing planned.
5302	Big Bird	M	Nothing planned.
5303	Dry Lake	M	Implement Crow's Nest Brush Spray Maintenance CX in the fall and winter of 2010 and 2011. Crested wheatgrass and forage kochia will be seeded on 219 acres. Trend monitoring will occur the next 3 years to observe project results.
5305	Crow's Nest	M	Implement Crow's Nest Brush Spray Maintenance CX (DOI-BLM-B050-2010-0014-CX) the fall and winter of 2010 and 2011. Crested wheatgrass, native grasses, and forage kochia will be seeded on 2,000 acres. Trend monitoring will occur the next 3 years to observe project results.
5306	Rocky Ford		Annual utilization monitoring to be completed.
5309	Happy Valley	I	The AMP/EA to be completed in FY11 and implementation of range improvements are expected FY12. Kiger HMA to be gathered in the fall of 2011.
5310	Riddle Mountain	I	Allotment Evaluation to be completed FY11. Seeding of areas in Phase 3 juniper stands will be completed for Unit 3 on both public and private lands.
5314	Baker FFR	C	Nothing planned.
5316	Virginia Valley	M	Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
5320	Kegler FFR	C	Nothing planned.
5329	Riddle/Coyote	I	Trend monitoring and allotment evaluation planned.
5331	Smyth/Kiger	I	Issue a Final Decision on the AMP/EA including a term permit renewal. Build Smyth Creek Exclosure. Trend monitoring to occur. Yank Springs exclosure needs repair following Five Creeks prescribed burn. Kiger HMA to be gathered in the fall of 2011.
5502	Rock Creek	M	Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
5503	Pine Creek	I	An AMP/EA will be completed to analyze grazing management which would achieve Standards, meet resource objectives, and conform to Guidelines. This document will also analyze a term permit renewal.

**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA - PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
5506	Muddy Creek	M	Pole Spring, an existing spring development project, is planned to be reconstructed to make the project functional once again. An EA was prepared to analyze the effects of enlarging the project to exclude the associated meadow area and an adjacent cultural site from impacts associated with livestock.
5511	Moffet Table	I	Fork Spring, an existing spring development project, is planned to be maintained.
5513	Shelley	I	Nothing planned.
5514	Coal Mine Creek	I	Nothing planned.
5515	Mule Creek	I	Nothing planned.
5517	Otis Mountain	I	Nothing planned.
5518	Newell Field	C	Nothing planned.
5519	Big Upson Field	C	Nothing planned.
5520	Little Upson	C	Nothing planned.
5521	Rocky Basin	I	Nothing planned; however, this allotment is within the EP Minerals Mine Expansion area.
5522	Cottonwood Creek	M	An AMP/EA will be completed to analyze grazing management which would achieve Standards, meet resource objectives, and conform to Guidelines. This document would also analyze a term permit renewal and proposed rangeland improvements. Less than 1-mile of fence will be removed within the allotment as documented in DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0031-CX. Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
5523	Tub Springs/Hart	I	An allotment evaluation is planned. Annual utilization monitoring will be completed.
5526	Chalk Hills	M	The AMP/EA protest will be formally addressed and the Final Decision issued. If decision is not appealed, rangeland improvements analyzed in the AMP/EA will begin to be implemented. Junipers cut previously will be piled and burned. Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
5528	Cooler	M	Nothing planned.
5529	House Butte	M	Nothing planned.
5530	River	I	An AMP is planned in FY11. An EA will be completed to analyze the impacts of placing 200 feet of pipeline and a trough in Upland Pasture to improve livestock distribution and to replace water removed from the pasture when the river was fenced out following the Bartlett Mountain Fire in 2007.
5531	Stinkingwater	I	Issue a contract to construct approximately 1-mile of fence to create riparian exclosures along Stinkingwater and Little Stinkingwater Creeks. Complete upland trend monitoring.
5532	Mountain	I	Replace trough at Sorrel Spring.
5533	Buchanan	M	Nothing planned.
5534	Mahon Creek	I	Nothing planned.
5536	Alder Creek	I	Nothing planned.
5537	Buck Mountain	M	Reclaiming Medusahead Infested Rangelands CX (DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0029) study site will be constructed.
5538	Riverside	I	Nothing planned.
5542	Marshall FFR	C	Nothing planned.
5548	Griffin FFR	C	Nothing planned.

**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA - PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
5559	Swords FFR	C	Nothing planned.
5560	West Vicker's FFR	C	Rangeland Health Assessment and photos to be completed.
5565	Upton Mountain	I	Upton Mountain Well is scheduled to be redrilled. Annual utilization monitoring will be completed.
5566	Texaco Basin	I	Annual utilization will be completed. Compliance will be done.
5589	Temple's FFR	C	Nothing planned.
5592	Coleman Creek	M	Nothing planned.
5593	Slocum	M	Nothing planned.
5594	Venator	I	Nothing planned.
5595	Coyote Creek	M	Nothing planned.
5598	Beckley Home	C	Nothing planned.
5599	Mahon Ranch	M	Nothing planned.
7001	East Warm Springs	I	Nothing planned.
7002	West Warm Springs	I	Nothing planned.
7003	East Wagontire	I	Nothing planned.
7004	West Wagontire	I	Complete addressing public comments and issue a Proposed Decision for West Wagontire AMP/EA. Maintain approximately 15 miles of Hay Lake-Deep Valley Road.
7005	Second Flat FFR	C	Nothing planned.
7006	Rimrock Lake	I	An allotment evaluation is scheduled. Annual utilization monitoring will be completed.
7007	Hat Butte	I	Nothing planned.
7008	Sheep Lake-Shields	I	An allotment evaluation is scheduled. Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7009	Ryegrass	I	EA/AMP is to be completed.
7010	Claw Creek	I	One of the associated term permits will be renewed (with Appropriations Act). Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7012	Packsaddle	I	Annual utilization monitoring will be completed.
7013	Zoglman FFR	C	Nothing planned.
7014	Badger Springs	M	Nothing planned.
7015	Second Flat	I	Nothing planned.
7016	Juniper Ridge	M	Complete an allotment evaluation.
7017	Cluster	M	An AMP/EA will be written to analyze grazing management which would make significant progress toward achieving Standards, meet resource objectives, and conform to Guidelines. This document will also analyze a term permit renewal. Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7020	Sand Hollow	M	Nothing planned.
7021	Weaver Lakes	I	Trend monitoring is scheduled for 2011.
7022	Dog Mountain	I	Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7023	West Sagehen	I	Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7024	East Sage Hen	I	Complete an Allotment Evaluation and Standards and Guidelines Assessment.
7025	Gouldin	I	Nothing planned.



**THREE RIVERS RESOURCE AREA - PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
7026	Horton Mill	I	Nothing planned.
7028	Stinger Creek	C	Nothing planned.
7030	Skull Creek	I	Nothing planned.
7031	Hay Creek	I	Nothing planned.
7033	Silvies River	I	Annual utilization and use supervision monitoring will be done. Development of an evaluation will be completed. Fencelines will be GPS'd and the pasture and allotment boundaries will be adjusted accordingly.
7035	Silvies Meadow	M	Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7036	Hayes	I	Nothing planned.
7037	Coal Pit Spring	C	Use supervision monitoring will be done. Fencelines will be GPS'd and the pasture and allotment boundaries will be adjusted accordingly. Upland monitoring will be established.
7038	Curry Gordon	C	Use supervision monitoring will be done. Fencelines will be GPS'd and the pasture and allotment boundaries will be adjusted accordingly.
7039	Cave Gulch	M	Photo points will be monitored within Emergency Stabilization areas. Road closure will be revisited to determine if it needs to be extended for an additional year; determination to be made prior to hunting season. Indicators of Rangeland Health will be analyzed by an Interdisciplinary Team. Emergency stabilization practices will be monitored for success and addressed if needed. If grazing is allowed, annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7040	Landing Creek	I	Nothing planned.
7041	East Silvies	I	Trend will be read. Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7042	Dole Smith	C	Nothing planned.
7043	Lone Pine	I	Nothing planned.
7046	Baker Hill Field	C	Nothing planned.
7049	Forks of Poison Creek	I	Trend will be read.
7051	Sawtooth-MNF	M	Nothing planned.
7053	Silvies Canyon	M	Nothing planned.
7054	Cricket Creek	C	Nothing planned.
7058	Narrows	I	An Allotment Evaluation is planned in 2011.
7061	Bulger FFR	C	Nothing planned..
7062	Capehart Lake	I	An AMP/EA will be completed to analyze grazing management which would make significant progress toward achieving Standards, meet resource objectives, and conform to Guidelines. This document will also analyze a term permit renewal. If/when AMP/EA is completed corresponding range improvement projects may be started. Annual utilization monitoring will be done.
7064	Roundtop Butte	I	Nothing planned.
7088	Sunset Valley	C	Nothing planned.

## Andrews/Steens Resource Area – FY10

## ANDREWS/STEENS RESOURCE AREA – FY10

Allotment Number	Name	Category	Implementation Progress
0032	South Catlow	I	Nothing to report.
6001	North Catlow	I	Initiated allotment evaluation.
6002	South Steens	I	Nothing to report.
6005	Mud Creek	I	Nothing to report.
6006	Frazier Field	I	Nothing to report.
6007	Ruby Springs	I	Nothing to report.
6008	Krumbo	M	Nothing to report.
6010	East Ridge	I	Nothing to report.
6011	Pollock	I	Monitoring and utilization done FY10. Issued winter authorization FY10/11
6012	Alvord	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed. Issued winter authorization for FY10/11, and one authorization is left to issue for seeding. Nearing completion of one water development project. Water project at White Sage was completed as of 11/02/10.
6014	Tum Tum	M	Nothing to report.
6015	Trout Creek Mountain	I	Completed Amos Spring Maintenance (replaced trough) and Antelope Well Reservoir Maintenance (fixed breach in dam).
6016	Sandhills	M	Nothing to report.
6017	Grassy Basin	M	Cooperative pipeline extension project was completed.
6018	Tule Springs	I	Two well improvements were planned and are awaiting implementation.
6019	Serrano Point	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed.
6020	Pueblo-Lone Mountain	I	Nothing to report.
6023	Hammond	I	Utilization standards are being met. Production was good this year in response to spring rains. Installed new water trough.
6024	South Fork	M	Nothing to report.
6025	Hardie Summer	M	Monitoring completed.
6026	Mann Lake	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed in FY10. Issued winter authorization for FY10/11 and completed a CX for a well redrill.
6027	Carlson Creek	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed in FY10.
6028	Fields	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed in FY10
6029	Keg Springs	I	Nothing to report.
6030	Reicken's Corner	M	Nothing to report.
6031	LaVoy Tables	I	Prescribed fire project completed.
6032	Krumbo Mountain	I	Nothing to report.
6033	Chimney	I	Nothing to report.
6035	Fields Basin	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed in FY10.
6038	Alvord Peak	I	Established a trend plot.
0032	South Catlow	I	Nothing to report.
6040	Stonehouse	I	Monitoring and utilization were completed in FY10.
6042	Basque Hills	I	Work continues on the AMP which includes analysis of a Term Permit Renewal.
6043	Pueblo Slough	I	Potential fish and wildlife project being evaluated.

**ANDREWS/STEENS RESOURCE AREA – FY10**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
6044	Lower Antelope	I	Nothing to report.
6100	Hammond FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6101	Waldrirch FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6102	Oregon End FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6104	Defenbaugh FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6105	Wrench Ranch FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6106	Orlando FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6107	Crump/ Calderwood FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6108	Henricks FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6109	Casey FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6110	Still FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6111	Dunbar FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6112	Long Hollow FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6114	Rock Creek FFR	C	Culp FFR was incorporated into this allotment.
6115	Dixon FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6116	Northrup FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6117	Kaser FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6118	Lupher FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6119	Pollock FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6120	Mann Lake FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6121	Neuschwander FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6122	Starr FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6123	Culp FFR	C	This allotment was incorporated into Rock Creek FFR.
6124	Windmill FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6125	Roaring Springs FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6126	CM Otley FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6127	Kuney FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6128	Konek FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6129	Alvord FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6130	Scharff FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6131	South Pocket FFR	C	Nothing to report.
6133	Otley Brother FFR	C	Nothing to report.

**Andrews/Steens Resource Area - Planned Work for FY11****ANDREWS/STEENS RESOURCE AREA - PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

<b>Allotment Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Implementation Progress</b>
0032	South Catlow	I	Long-term trend and Standards and Guidelines will be assessed.
6001	North Catlow	I	Allotment evaluation to be completed this year.
6002	South Steens	I	Cutting of 2,000 acres of juniper will be initiated. Issue Proposed Decision for AMP.
6005	Mud Creek	I	Nothing planned.
6006	Frazier Field	I	Replace 1-mile of boundary fence and burn piles in Frazier Field Pasture.
6007	Ruby Springs	I	Nothing planned.
6008	Krumbo	M	Nothing planned.
6010	East Ridge	I	Nothing planned.
6011	Pollock	I	Completed monitoring and utilization for FY10. Stonehouse EA Proposed Decision will be issued.
6012	Alvord	I	Nothing planned.
6015	Tum Tum	M	Nothing planned.
6015	Trout Creek Mountain	I	Trout Creek Mountain Seeding maintenance (planned to start winter 2012, CX pending) and road maintenance (pending assessment and requisition) work to be done spring 2011.
6016	Sand Hills	M	Wynn Spring maintenance will occur (put in new trough).
6017	Grassy Basin	M	Crow Springs maintenance (put in new headbox, trough, pipe overflow down existing road to existing small reservoir) located in Nevada to occur.
6018	Tule Springs	I	Equip two wells with solar-powered pumps and panels.
6019	Serrano Point	I	Working on base lease transfer.
6020	Pueblo-Lone Mountain	I	Roux Spring maintenance (install new trough, CX complete) to occur in FY11 as well as road maintenance (work order pending, work to start spring 2011).
6023	Hammond	I	Replace one trough.
6025	Hardie Summer	M	Nothing planned.
6026	Mann Lake	I	Nothing planned.
6028	Fields	I	Construct Burke Springs pipeline extension and install trough.
6031	LaVoy Tables	I	Nothing planned.
6033	Chimney	I	Nothing planned.
6035	Fields Basin	I	Nothing planned.
6038	Alvord Peak	I	Nothing planned.
6040	Stonehouse	I	Nothing planned.
6042	Basque Hills	I	Complete AMP and issue Proposed Decision.
6130	Scharff FFR	C	Nothing planned.

# NEPA Register

The following is a list of EAs, Determinations of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) and CXs completed or initiated in FY10 and planned NEPA work for FY11. A notice is published in *Burns Times-Herald* when EAs are available for review by the public and the ending date of the comment period. The EAs are also posted on the Burns Plans and Project Web site (<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/plans/index.php>).

If you would like to be involved in the planning process for any particular project or would simply like to receive a copy of a NEPA document for review, note the NEPA register number and contact the District or the project's primary contact listed below. This should be done as early as possible to allow for full consideration of your input.

## Bureau of Land Management Burns District Office NEPA Register FY10

020 and B020 = Burns District; 025 and B050 = Three Rivers RA; 026 and B060 = Andrews/Steens RA; 027 and B060 = Steens Mountain CMPA  
 EA = Environmental Assessment, DNA = Determination of NEPA Adequacy, CX = Categorically Excluded from NEPA analysis, FONSI = Finding of No Significant Impact

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE NEPA REGISTER FY10

EA Register Number/Primary Contact	Project Name	Proposed Action	Geographic Location	Affected Special Area	Iniation Date/ Completion Date
<b>FY 2008</b>					
EA OR-08-025-028 Primary Contact: John Bethea	Moon Reservoir Facility Improvements	To improve loading ramp and parking lot, install new toilet and pullouts, widen road, add 5 miles of gravel	Moon Reservoir		EA Initiated: 02/14/08 FONSI Signed: 06/16/10
EA OR-08-026-096 Primary Contact: Daryl Bingham	Borax Lake Chub Critical Habitat Fenceline Realignment	Realign fence at Borax Lake	Northeast of Fields, Oregon	ACEC	EA Initiated: 28/27/08 FONSI Signed: 05/03/10
CX OR-08-025-104 Primary Contact: Holly Orr (OR-65550)	Wind Site Testing and Monitoring Project Area	Authorize wind met towers in the project area	Wagontire Mountain		CX Initiated: 09/22/08 CX Signed: 12/15/09
CX OR-08-026-105 Primary Contact: Holly Orr (OR-65494)	Wind Site Testing and Monitoring Project Area	Authorize wind met towers in the project area	Buckskin Mountain		CX Initiated: 09/22/08 CX Signed: 10/26/09
<b>FY 2009</b>					
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2009-0042-EA Primary Contact: Rob Sharp	Stinkingwater AMP	AMP	Stinkingwater Allotment		EA Initiated: 02/02/09 EA Signed: 10/06/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2009-0044-EA Primary Contact: Holly Orr	South Harney County School District #33 Recreation and Public Purposes Land Sale	Transfer 2.5 acres of BLM-administered land to South Harney County School District	Fields, Oregon		EA Initiated: 02/11/09 FONSI Signed: 02/02/10

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE NEPA REGISTER FY10**

<b>EA Register Number/Primary Contact</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Proposed Action</b>	<b>Geographic Location</b>	<b>Affected Special Area</b>	<b>Iniation Date/ Completion Date</b>
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2009-0065-EA Primary Contact: Autumn Richardson	Trout Creek AMP	Develop a new AMP including issuance of a term permit renewal	Trout Creek Valley Allotment		EA Initiated: 03/31/09 FONSI Signed: 04/13/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2009-0076-EA Primary Contact: Travis Miller	Skull Creek Sheep Conversion	Convert portion of permit from cattle to sheep	Skull Creek Allotment		EA Initiated: 07/21/09 FONSI Signed: 01/28/10
<b>FY 2010</b>					
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0001-CX Primary Contact: Willie Street	Devil's Garden Cattleguard	Install a new cattleguard	Lone Pine Allotment		CX Initiated: 10/05/09 CX Signed: 11/09/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0002-CX Primary Contact: Willie Street	Badger Springs Cattleguards #1 and #2	Install two new cattleguards	Badger Springs Allotment		CX Initiated: 10/05/09 CX Signed: 11/09/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0003-CX Primary Contact: Willie Street	OWC Spring Reconstruction	Reconstruct a spring with a new headbox, pipe, and trough	River Allotment		CX Initiated: 10/05/09 CX Signed: 11/09/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0004-CX Primary Contact: Lisa Grant	Cave Gulch Emergency Stabilization	Stabilize unauthorized surface disturbance	T21S, R30E, Sections 29 and 30		CX Initiated: 10/07/09 CX Signed: 11/04/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0005-EA Primary Contact: Gary McFadden	South Steens Herd Gather	Gather excess wild horses	South Steens HMA		CX Initiated: 10/07/09 CX Signed: 11/10/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0006-EA Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Burnt Car Road Rehabilitation	Rehabilitation of roads in South Steens Area including an intrusion into Steens Mountain Wilderness	South Steens Area	CMPA, Steens Mountain Wilderness	EA Initiated: 10/01/09 FONSI Signed: 07/14/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0007-EA	CANCELLED				
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0008-CX	CANCELLED				
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0009-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Born and Raised Outdoor Film Permit	To videotape (film) a cow elk hunt	Cottonwood Reservoir		CX Initiated: 11/18/09 CX Signed: 11/19/09

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE NEPA REGISTER FY10**

<b>EA Register Number/Primary Contact</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Proposed Action</b>	<b>Geographic Location</b>	<b>Affected Special Area</b>	<b>Iniation Date/ Completion Date</b>
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0010-CX Primary Contact: Douglas Linn	Annual/ reoccurring road maintenance	Maintain existing roads within specified maintenance levels	Andrews/Steens RA		CX Initiated: 11/30/09 CX Signed: 12/04/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0011-DNA Primary Contact: Robert Sharp	Palomino Butte Horse Gather	Gather excess wild horses.	Palomino Butte HMA		DNA Initiated: 12/01/09 DNA Signed: 12/04/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0012-DNA Primary Contact: Jason Brewer	Wyoming Sagebrush Beating for Wildfire Fuel Break	Brushbeat/mow sagebrush	South of Highway 20 and West of Highway 205		DNA Initiated: 12/02/09 DNA Signed: 12/10/09
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0013-EA Primary Contact: Willie Street	Pole Spring Reconstruction	Install a new headbox, fence off the meadow, realign fence, and replace troughs	Muddy Creek Allotment		EA Initiated: 12/04/09 FONSI Signed: 07/09/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0014-CX Primary Contact: Travis Miller	Crow's Nest Brush Spray Seed Maintenance	Rehabilitate an existing wheatgrass seeding with Siberian wheatgrass and forage koshia. Establish/monitor plots by EOARC	Dry Lake Allotment		CX Initiated: 12/07/09 CX Signed: 01/25/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0015-DNA Primary Contact: Nick Miller	Wagontire and Silvies Hunt Unit Guzzler Maintenance	Rehabilitate existing structures	Wagontire and Silvies Hunt Units		DNA Initiated: 12/22/09 DNA Signed: 01/01/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0016-CX Primary Contact: Bill Pieratt	Hammond Trough Replacement	Replace old, jet tank with 12-foot bottomless trough	Hammond Allotment		CX Initiated: 01/04/10 CX Signed: 01/27/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0017-EA Primary Contact: Rob Sharp	Juniper Ridge well, pipeline and trough	Install 0.7-mile of pipeline and one trough	Juniper Ridge Allotment		EA Initiated: 01/07/10 FONSI Signed: 06/20/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0018-CX Primary Contact: Steve Morefield	Fields Administrative Site Water Storage	Install a concrete pad and water tanking for fire suppression activities	Fields Administrative Site		CX Initiated: 01/08/10 CX Signed: 07/30/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0019-CX Primary Contact: Willie Street	Shelly Riparian Exclosure	Construct a small study exclosure fence	Shelly Allotment		CX initiated: 01/21/10 CX Signed: 05/11/10

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE NEPA REGISTER FY10**

<b>EA Register Number/Primary Contact</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Proposed Action</b>	<b>Geographic Location</b>	<b>Affected Special Area</b>	<b>Iniation Date/ Completion Date</b>
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0020-EA Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Chalk Hills AMP	Revise AMP and issue a new 10-year term grazing permit	Chalk Hills AMP		EA Initiated: 01/29/10 FONSI Signed: 09/13/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0021-DNA Primary Contact: Rachel McNeley	Upton Well – Drilling to deeper depth	Redrill well to a deeper depth	Upton Mountain Allotment		DNA Initiated: 02/03/10 DNA Signed: 10/07/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0022-EA Primary Contact: Nick Miller	SES Forest and Woodland Restoration	Restore forests and woodlands with prescribed fire and mechanical thinning	Northwest Three Rivers RA		EA Initiated: 02/09/10 FONSI Signed: Ongoing
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0023-CX Primary Contact: Joan Suther	Funnel Canyon Road Maintenance	Road maintenance	Funnel Canyon, T37S, R32E and T38S, R32E		CX Initiated: 03/02/10 CX Signed: 03/03/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0024-EA Primary Contact: Bill Andersen	Stinkingwater Wild Horse Herd Gather	Gather excess wild horses from Stinkingwater HMA	Stinkingwater HMA		EA Initiated: 03/01/10 FONSI Signed: 07/02/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B020-2010-0025-DNA Primary Contact: Caryn Meinicke	Noxious Weed Treatments	Continue to treat noxious weeds with four Oregon approved chemicals	Burns District		DNA Initiated: 03/12/10 DNA Signed: 07/13/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B020-2010-0026-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	Steens Access Easements	Obtain and relinquish easements with landowner	CMPA	CMPA	CX Initiated: 03/16/10 CX Signed: 04/20/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0027-EA Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Sodhouse Lane ROW Realignment	Realign Sodhouse Lane approximately 0.72-mile	Three Rivers RA		EA Initiated: 03/17/10 FONSI Signed: 11/03/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0028-EA Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Skull Creek Land Sale	Sell BLM-administered lands currently occupied by a private citizen.	Three Rivers RA		EA Initiated: 03/17/10 FONSI Signed: Ongoing
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0029-CX Primary Contact: Travis Miller	Reclaiming Medusahead Infested Rangelands	Conduct research for reclaiming medusahead infested rangelands using native v. introduced species	Buck Mountain Allotment – Warm Springs Pasture; Coleman Creek Allotment – Rim Pasture		CX Initiated: 03/31/10 CX Signed: 05/03/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0030-CX Primary Contact: Louis Clayburn	Alvord Pipeline and Trough	Replace a dirt reservoir with a 30-foot bottomless trough	Alvord Desert		CX Initiated: 04/12/10 CX Signed: 05/07/10



**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE NEPA REGISTER FY10**

<b>EA Register Number/Primary Contact</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Proposed Action</b>	<b>Geographic Location</b>	<b>Affected Special Area</b>	<b>Iniation Date/ Completion Date</b>
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0031-CX Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Cluster Allotment Cattleguard Installation	Install a new cattleguard at junction of County Road 3064 and Hole-in-the-Ground Road	Cluster Allotment		CX Initiated: 04/15/10 CX Signed: 05/11/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0032-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Silver Creek Water Gauging Station	Install a water gauging station on Silver Creek	T.22S., R.25E., Section 13, NE1/4SE1/4SW1/4		CX Initiated: 04/28/10 CX Signed: 06/02/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0033-DNA Primary Contact: Bill Dragt	Agency Mountain High Wall Stabilization and Testing	To drill up to 12 cores, 2.5 inches in diameter	Celatom Mining Complex		DNA Initiated: 05/10/10 DNA Signed: 05/17/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0034-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Saunders Distribution Line	Renew ROW	T.22S., R.32E., Sections 14 and 15		CX Initiated: 05/10/10 CX Signed: 06/02/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0035-EIS Primary Contact: Skip Renschler	North Steens Transmission Line	Issue an ROW for a 230 kV transmission line	Andrews/Steens and Three Rivers RAs		EIS Initiated: ROD Signed: Ongoing (expected 07/11)
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0036-CX Primary Contact: Willie Street	Fork Spring Maintenance	Maintain an existing spring	Moffet Table Allotment		CX Initiated: 05/20/10 CX Signed: 06/01/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0037-CX Primary Contact: Skip Renschler	Mortimer Canyon Road Easement	Acquire public road easement and install two cattleguards	Mortimer Canyon Road		CX Initiated: 05/21/10 CX Signed: 09/08/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B020-2010-0038-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	Amendment to buried Communication Cable	Amend ROW for OR ID Utilities to bury a digital telephone communications cable.	Vale District		CX Initiated: 05/25/10 CX Signed: Signed by Vale District
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0039-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Borax Lake Powerline	Issue an ROW for an existing power line	Andrews/Steens RA, Borax Lake Area		CX Initiated: 05/25/10 CX Signed: 06/25/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0040-EA Primary Contact: Bill Andersen	Warm Springs Wild Horse Herd Gather	Remove 250 excess wild horses	Warm Springs HMA		EA Initiated: 05/25/10 FONSI Signed: 09/29/10

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE NEPA REGISTER FY10**

<b>EA Register Number/Primary Contact</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Proposed Action</b>	<b>Geographic Location</b>	<b>Affected Special Area</b>	<b>Iniation Date/ Completion Date</b>
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0041-EA Primary Contact: Rob Sharp	Lime Kiln Division Fence	Construct a fence to divide Lime Kiln Pasture	Lime Kiln Allotment		EA Initiated: FONSI Signed: 03/01/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0042-EA	CANCELLED				
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0043-CX Primary Contact: Rachel McNeley	Alkali Spring Trough Replacement	Replace trough and repair pipeline and exclosure fence	Texaco Basin Allotment		CX Initiated: 07/12/10 CX Signed: 08/23/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0044-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	Livestock Ditch/ Canal ROW	ROW for ditch and canal	T35S, R33E, Section 15, Penland Road		CX Initiated: 07/16/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0045-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	Fence Easement (OR-66384)	Replace existing fence on private land	Little Fish Creek, T33S, R32.75E, Sections 10, 11, and 14		CX Initiated: 07/21/10 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2010-0046-CX Primary Contact: Mike Kelly	Pate Lake/ Recreation Equipment	Install picnic tables on private land at Pate Lake	Pate Lake		CX Initiated: 08/24/10 CX Signed: 10/27/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0047-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Road ROW	Issue a road ROW to private property	T22S, R29E, Section 20		CX Initiated: 09/10/10 CX Signed: 11/18/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0048-CX	Cancelled				
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2010-0049-EA Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Cottonwood Creek AMP/10-year permit renewal	Revise the AMP and issue a new 10-year term permit	Cottonwood Creek Allotment		EA Initiated: 09/20/10 FONSI Signed: Ongoing

**Planned Work for FY11****PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

EA Register Number/Primary Contact	Project Name	Proposed Action	Geographic Location	Affected Special Area	Initiation Date/Completion Date
<b>2011</b>					
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0001-CX Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Cottonwood Creek Exclosure Fence Removal	Remove approximately 0.17- mile of existing fence	Cottonwood Creek Allotment		CX Initiated: 10/05/10 CX Completed: 10/19/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0002-EA	CANCELLED				
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0003-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	Tom Davies Livestock Ditch and Canal ROW	Provide a 500-foot ditch extension to transport water to put a water right to beneficial use	Penland Road outside the CMPA		CX Initiated: 10/21/10 CX Signed: 11/30/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0004-CX Primary Contact: Tara McClain	Wagontire Wind Test Site	Amend the existing ROW for installation of met towers	Wagontire		CX Initiated: 10/25/10 CX Signed: 11/23/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0005-DNA Primary Contact: Tara McClain	AT&T/New Singular Wireless - Jack Mountain Cellular Site	Issue a communication site lease	Jack Mountain		DNA Initiated: 10/29/10 DNA Signed: 12/13/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0006-EA Primary Contact: Bill Andersen	Kiger/Riddle Mountain HMA Horse Gather	Gather wild horses	Kiger/Riddle Mountain HMA		EA Initiated: 10/29/10 FONSI Signed: 05/03/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0007-CX Primary Contact: Louis Clayburn	Fields Seeding Brushbeating and Seeding	Brushbeat and seed Fields Seeding Pasture	Fields Allotment		CX Initiated: 11/22/10 CX Signed: 01/06/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0008-EA Primary Contact: Bill Dragt	Lamb Ranch Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan	Stabilize and rehabilitate BLM lands due to Lamb Fire	Stinkingwater Mountains		EA Initiated: 11/30/10 FONSI Signed: Ongoing
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0009-DNA Primary Contact: Louis Clayburn	Burnt Springs Pipeline Extension	To extend existing pipeline to new trough on other side of road	Fields Allotment		DNA Initiated: 12/01/10 DNA Signed: 01/19/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0010-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Reciprocal ROW and Easement	Grant an ROW for existing road and require an easement on existing road	Lone Pine		CX Initiated: 12/06/10 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0011-CX Primary Contact: Aaron Eklund	Wildhorse Rim Communications Site Renovations	Replace building and tower	Steens Summit, State Lands	CMPA	CX Initiated: 12/07/10 CX Signed: 02/01/11

**PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

EA Register Number/Primary Contact	Project Name	Proposed Action	Geographic Location	Affected Special Area	Initiation Date/Completion Date
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0012-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Road Use Agreement	Temporary road use agreement for hauling chipped logs	County Line Road (Newell Creek/Mountain Creek)		CX Initiated: 12/21/10 CX Signed: 12/28/10
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0013-EA Primary Contact: Rick Wells	Double OO Gravel Pit	Provide 250,000 cubic yards of mineral materials to Harney County	Double OO Road		EA Initiated: 12/21/10 FONSI Signed: Ongoing
DOI-BLM-OR-B020-2011-0014-CX Primary Contact: Aaron Eklund	Vault Toilet Replacements	Replace 22 existing vault toilets throughout the District	Burns District		CX Initiated: 01/03/11 CX Signed: 02/14/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0015-CX Primary Contact: Tara McClain	Road Use Agreement	Issue a road use agreement for hauling chipped logs on existing roads and skid trails	Mountain Creek/County Line Road		CX Initiated: 01/06/11 CX Signed: 01/18/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0016-CX Primary Contact: David Ward	Wynn Spring and Crow Spring Maintenance	Maintenance of spring developments.	Grassy Basin and Sand Hills Allotments		CX Initiated: 01/31/11 CX Signed: 03/30/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0017-EA Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Cluster Allotment AMP	Develop a new AMP	Cluster Allotment		EA Initiated: 02/01/11 FONSI Signed: Ongoing
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0018-DNA Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Basque Hills WSA Rehabilitation	Rehabilitate a trespass road.	Basque Hills WSA		DNA Initiated: 02/07/10 DNA Signed: 03/02/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0019-CX Primary Contact: Dave Ward	Trout Creek Mountain Seed Maintenance	Brushbeat three seedings. No seeding would occur.	Trout Creek Mountain Allotment		CX Initiated: 02/08/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0020-DNA	CANCELLED				
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0021-CX Primary Contact: Jason Brewer	East Cow Creek Road Maintenance	Maintain East Cow Creek Road	East Cow Creek Allotment		CX Initiated: 03/14/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0022-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Road ROW	Issue a road ROW	T.26S., R.33E., Sections 30 and 31		CX Initiated: 03/29/11 CX Signed: 04/18/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0022-CX Primary Contact: Tim Newkirk	Devine Canyon 2011 Hazard Tree Removal	Remove hazardous trees	Devine Canyon		CX Initiated: 04/07/11 CX Signed:

## PLANNED WORK FOR FY11

EA Register Number/Primary Contact	Project Name	Proposed Action	Geographic Location	Affected Special Area	Iniation Date/ Completion Date
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0023-CX Primary Contact: Scott Thomas	Steens Wilderness Archaeological Testing	Digging test holes	Steens Mountain		CX Initiated: 04/08/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0024-CX Primary Contact: Chris Bates	ODFW Fish Structure Installation in Warm Springs	To install fish structures	Warm Springs Reservoir.		CX Initiated: 04/08/11 CX Signed: 04/25/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0025-CX Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Mistake Lake Emergency Repair/ Maintenance	Repair reservoir drainage ditch	T.30S., R.32E., Section 14, NE¼		CX Initiated: 04/08/11 CX Signed: 04/12/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0026-CX Primary Contact: Rob Sharp	Double OO Allotment Tumbleweed Burning	Burn tumbleweed along and within the fence	Double OO Allotment		CX Initiated: 04/14/11 CX Signed: 04/25/11
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0027-CX Primary Contact: Mike Kelly	Geologic sampling at Wildhorse and Little Wildhorse Lakes	Collect sediment cores from Wildhorse and Little Wildhorse Lakes	Steens Mountain Wilderness		CX Initiated: 04/21/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0028-EA Primary Contact: Louis Clayburn	Ankle Creek Livestock Trailing	To trail livestock through the No Livestock Grazing Area	Steens Mountain Wilderness		EA Initiated: 05/04/11 FONSI:
DOI-BLM-OR-B020-2011-0029-CX Primary Contact: Jana Mort	Continued Reservoir Maintenance	Maintain five reservoirs within Burns District			CX Initiated: 05/04/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0030-CX Primary Contact: Rick Wells	Cote Grade Quarry	Exploratory Drilling	Double OO Road		CX Initiated: 05/05/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0031-CX Primary Contact: Autumn Toelle	Chimney Road Maintenance	Maintain roads with Chimney Allotment	Chimney Allotment		CX Initiated: 05/12/11 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0032-EA Primary Contact: John Bethea	Radar Hill OHV Staging Area Improvements	Install a vault toilet and a loading/ unloading ramp	Radar Hill OHV Area		EA Initiated: 5/16/2011 FONSI Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0033-CX Primary Contact: Travis Miller	Happy Valley Road Maintenance - CMPA	Road Maintenance	Happy Valley Allotment	CMPA	CX Initiated: 5/12/2011 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0034-CX Primary Contact: Travis Miller	Happy Valley Road Maintenance – Three Rivers	Road Maintenance	Happy Valley Allotment		CX Initiated: 5/12/2011 CX Signed:

**PLANNED WORK FOR FY11**

EA Register Number/Primary Contact	Project Name	Proposed Action	Geographic Location	Affected Special Area	Iniation Date/ Completion Date
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0035-CX Primary Contact: Travis Miller	Step Spring Maintenance	Maintain Step Spring	Buck Mountain Allotment		CX Initiated: 5/12/2011 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0036-CX Primary Contact: Mike Kelly	19th Century Fire Research	Sampling for fire scars by boring or taking a wedge from juniper trees	CMPA		CX Initiated: 5/23/2011 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B070-2011-0037-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	Water Pipeline Renewal on Krumbo Creek	Renew ROW for water pipeline			CX Initiated: 5/24/2011 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0038-CX Primary Contact: Holly Orr	ROW amendment for access route	Amend off-road access to met tower			CX Initiated: 5/24/2011 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2011-0039-CX Primary Contact: Tara McLain	Powerline ROW to a stock well	Request for a ROW	Chickahominy Reservoir		CX Initiated: 5/24/2011 CX Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0040-DNA Primary Contact: Rhonda Karges	North Steens Ecosystem Restoration Project	Treatment of western juniper	North Steens Area	CMPA & WSAs	DNA Initiated: 5/24/2011 DNA Signed: 6/17/2011
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0041-EA Primary Contact: Lesley Richman	Burns District Vegetation Management EA	Implement treatments to control unwanted vegetation	Burns District		EA Initiated: 5/31/2011 FONSI Signed:
DOI-BLM-OR-B060-2011-0042-CX Primary Contact: Dave Ward	Pueblo Mountain Road Maintenance	Maintain existing roads	Pueblo Mountains		CX Initiated: 6/7/2011 CX Signed:

# Appendices

## *Acronym/Abbreviation Guide*

The following acronyms, listed in alphabetical order, are used throughout this Planning Update.

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ACEC	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
AMP	Allotment Management Plan
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
AML	Appropriate Management Level
AMU	Andrews Management Unit
Andrews/ Steens	Andrews Management Unit/ Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BIFZ	Burns Interagency Fire Zone
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CMPA	Cooperative Management and Protection Area
CWMA	Cooperative Weed Management Area
CRP	Comprehensive Recreation Plan
CX	Categorically Excluded from NEPA analysis
DNA	Determination of NEPA adequacy
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EOARC	Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FFR	Fenced Federal Range
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPA	Fire Program Analysis
FPDSS	Fire Program Decision Support System
FPU	Fire Planning Unit
FY	Fiscal Year
HFRA	Healthy Forest Restoration Act
HMA	Herd Management Area
IBLA	Interior Board of Land Appeals
IFPL	Industrial Fire Precaution Level
mbf	1,000 Board Feet
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NLCS	National Landscape Conservation System

NWR	Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
OAS	Oregon Archaeological Society
ODA	Oregon Department of Agriculture
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
ONDA	Oregon Natural Desert Association
OSU	Oregon State University
OWEB	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
PFC	Proper Functioning Condition
RA	Resource Area
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RNA	Research Natural Area
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	Right-of-Way
RSC	Rattlesnake, Squaw Creek, Coffeepot Thinning Project
SAA	Society for American Archaeology
SHED	Silvies, Hopper, Emigrant and Detrick Forest Restoration Project
SMAC	Steens Mountain Advisory Council
SRP	Special Recreation Permit
SSS	Special Status Species
Standards and Guidelines	Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management for Public Lands in Oregon/Washington
Steens Act	Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000
SWAT	Strategic Weed Attack Team
TIP	Trainer Incentive Program
TMP	Travel Management Plan
TP	Transportation Plan
U of O	University of Oregon
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WHB	Wild Horse and Burro
WJMA	Wildland Juniper Management Area
WUI	Wildland Urban Interface
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
WSR	Wild and Scenic River
YAY	Youth and Yearling

No Plan Maintenance activities occurred in FY10.



# Appendix CX

## Categorical Exclusions Language for Planning Updates

“Certain activities within the BLM’s forestry program 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 silviculture activities, such as reforestation, pre-commercial treatments, brush control, sample tree falling, 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 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 XX District/Field Office 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.”





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