

**Reply Refer To:** 2630 (FS)/ 1736 (BLM) (OR-931) P

**Date:** March 8, 2006

**FS-Memorandum**

**EMS TRANSMISSION 03/09/2006**  
**BLM-Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2006-031**  
**Expires: 09/30/2007**

**To:** Bureau of Land Management District Managers (Coos Bay, Eugene, Lakeview, Medford, Roseburg, Salem) and Field Managers (Klamath Falls, Tillamook, OR; Arcata, Redding, and Ukiah, CA), and Forest Service Supervisors (Deschutes, Fremont-Winema, Gifford Pinchot, Klamath, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie, Mt. Hood, Okanogan-Wenatchee, Olympic, Rogue River-Siskiyou, Shasta-Trinity, Siuslaw, Six Rivers, Umpqua, Willamette)

**Subject:** Survey and Manage Data Call and Data Management Strategy

DD: OR/WA/CA BLM and Forest Service Region 6 - 3/17/06

DD: Forest Service Region 5 - 3/24/06, 04/03/06

The purpose of this document is to: 1) establish a data call for the 296 Survey and Manage (S&M) species, 2) transmit a mandatory data submission deadline, and 3) describe data management direction for the future (after the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) data call and submission).

### **BACKGROUND**

On August 1, 2005, Judge Pechman issued an Order (*Northwest Ecosystem Alliance et al. v. Mark E. Rey et al.*, No. 04-844P, W.D. Wash) that found our agencies deficient in three areas. Defendants filed to:

1. Comply with the National Environmental Policy Act,...in preparing the 2004 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines.
2. Analyze potential impacts to S&M species if they are not added to or are removed from the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) respective programs for special status species.
3. Provide a thorough analysis of their assumption that the late-successional reserves would not adequately protect species that the S&M standard was introduced to protect.

In order to address the deficiencies in the 2004 SEIS, the agencies are preparing another SEIS and a new Record of Decision. As part of this effort, the current available data on the 296 S&M species is needed. The information needs to be compiled in the most efficient and timely manner possible to meet the timelines of the SEIS. Due to the agencies' corporate databases being in different phases of development, instructions for data entry and submission are different for BLM (OR/WA/CA), and Regions 5 and 6 of the Forest Service. Please follow the directions below for your specific agency.

## **DATA CALL FOR SEIS**

### **OR/WA/CA BLM Data Entry and Data Submission**

Geographic Biotic Observations (GeoBOB) users have the choice to 1) enter S&M species data into GeoBOB or 2) send paper copies of records to the Oregon State Office to be entered into GeoBOB via a contractor. The only exception is red tree vole. The existing red tree vole database is currently unavailable to field users and GeoBOB does not store the information gathered through the survey protocol; therefore, paper copies of records need to be submitted to the State Office to be entered into the red tree vole database.

If entering data directly into GeoBOB, BLM field offices in the Northwest Forest Plan area need to enter all S&M species sites and survey information that have not yet been entered into GeoBOB by March 17, 2006. This may only include S&M species sites discovered since the last data call and cleanup (November 12, 2004) or sites discovered prior to that date if S&M records were not entered at the time of the data call/cleanup. GeoBOB users will need to complete data entry for all species locations/sites and general survey information (including negative survey data). Please call or e-mail Carrie Sakai when data entry is complete ([Carrie\\_Sakai@blm.gov](mailto:Carrie_Sakai@blm.gov), 503-808-6600).

If sending in paper copies to be entered by the State Office, include legible field forms, paper maps, and/or BLM Resource Area-wide Geographic Information System (GIS) coverage. Please be sure field forms clearly identify species location/site information and general survey information (including negative survey data). Paper copies of records need to be submitted to the Oregon State Office by March 17, 2006. Mail paper copies to Carrie Sakai, BLM OR-931, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

If you have no data to submit for this request, please e-mail or call Carrie notifying her that this is the case ([Carrie\\_Sakai@blm.gov](mailto:Carrie_Sakai@blm.gov), 503-808-6600).

### **Region 6 Forest Service Data Entry and Data Submission**

Because the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) Fauna database is not being widely used in the Region and because the NRIS Threatened and Endangered Species (TES) Plant database only recently became available on a limited number of Forests, paper copies of S&M records must be submitted to the Oregon State Office by March 17, 2006. Survey and Manage data will be entered directly into GeoBOB (BLM's geospatial database) by a contractor. Include all data on S&M species sites and survey information (including negative survey data) that was not entered into the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS) or has been discovered since the last data call and cleanup (November 12, 2004). Include legible field forms, paper maps, and/or Region-wide GIS coverage. Mail paper copies to Carrie Sakai, BLM OR-931, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

If you have no data to submit for this request, please e-mail or call Carrie notifying her that this is the case ([Carrie\\_Sakai@blm.gov](mailto:Carrie_Sakai@blm.gov), 503-808-6600).

### **Region 5 Forest Service Data Entry and Data Submission**

Wildlife data:

- Survey and Manage wildlife data was pulled from the ISMS database and re-formatted to load into the NRIS Fauna database in FY2005. If the Forest has not loaded this data into NRIS Fauna, this work must be completed by March 24, 2006. In addition, if Forests have collected any S&M species observations or done any S&M species surveys (including negative survey data) in FY2004 and FY2005 and this data has not been entered into NRIS Fauna, that data entry must take place by March 24, 2006. The only exception to this is for the red tree vole. Do not add red tree vole data to NRIS Fauna data at this time. Paper copies of red tree vole

sites and survey information (including negative survey data) need to be sent to the Oregon State Office by March 24, 2006. Include legible field forms, paper maps, and/or Forest Service Region-wide GIS coverage. Mail paper copies to Carrie Sakai, BLM OR-931, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

- On March 27, 2006, each Forest is required to export the S&M species data to a shapefile from NRIS Fauna. Please include your three-digit Incident Command System code in the filename. The Regional Office will take each Forest's file and combine them into one regional file.
- Place a copy of this shapefile on the following website:  
[ftp://fsweb.r5.fs.fed.us/pub/puf/Fauna\\_Migration/survey\\_manage](ftp://fsweb.r5.fs.fed.us/pub/puf/Fauna_Migration/survey_manage)

#### Botany data:

- FY2004 and FY2005 S&M TES plant observations and species survey data (including negative survey data) must be entered into the NRIS TES Plants module. Training on the NRIS module is being offered the week of March 13, 2006, in Redding, CA. Each Forest should have a representative at this training. Data entry for this data must be completed by April 3, 2006.
- On April 4, 2006, the Regional Office will pull this data from each Forest to create a combined dataset.
- Survey and Manage TES plant data prior to FY2004 will be converted from the ISMS database format into the NRIS TES plant format by the Regional Office.

For assistance in any of the above instructions or tasks, contact Chris Fischer, Region 5 Regional NRIS Coordinator, at 707-562-8943 or Bob Mobley, Northern Province Resource Information Officer, at 530-226-422.

### **FUTURE SURVEY AND MANAGE DATA MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The S&M Program previously utilized ISMS as the mechanism for tracking data, for use in Annual Species Reviews, and for the development and updating of Survey Protocols and Management Recommendations. The ISMS was in the process of being upgraded to ArcGIS for both the Forest Service and BLM when the S&M Record of Decision removing S&M species was signed. The BLM became the only users of what is now called GeoBOB, the agency's Special Status Species database. The GeoBOB also holds most legacy S&M data. The Forest Service has begun using the national level NRIS TES Plants and Fauna databases to manage data for species within the agency's Sensitive Species Programs. Region 6 ISMS data will also be migrated from GeoBOB to NRIS TES Plants and Fauna this fiscal year. Region 5 ISMS data has been migrated into NRIS Fauna, and migration of TES plant data will take place this fiscal year.

As S&M is implemented again, we expect field units will be initiating pre-disturbance surveys for some projects and will need a data management solution to record and query survey and site information.

#### **BLM Data Management Strategy**

The BLM units should follow the survey protocols for data collection, and enter survey and site information into GeoBOB. Any remaining data that GeoBOB cannot store should be kept in a notebook or other local method and tagged with the Site/Observation ID in GeoBOB, so that the paper form can be tied to the data record in GeoBOB.

### **Region 6 Data Management Strategy**

Because the Forest Service is dealing with issues regarding the availability of NRIS TES Plants, direction on data entry is variable. Units should use the TES plants field form, filling in the required fields identified in those forms. For units where NRIS Fauna and/or TES Plants are available, please enter the survey and site information, and use a paper-database records' tracking strategy similar to that of the BLM. Staff at units where NRIS TES Plants is not yet available should hold onto field visit and site forms for later entry. Keep track of the information either in your GIS systems, local databases, spreadsheets, hard copy files, etc. The information should be kept by the unit in such a way that it can be easily queried to support local project analysis work and can be used for Regional Office data calls. In the meantime, the Regional Office is developing a strategy to gain uninterrupted access to both applications to facilitate the most effective compliance with the court order.

### **Region 5 Data Management Strategy**

The NRIS Fauna and NRIS TES plant databases are the databases of record for Region 5 S&M data. Forests should follow the Survey Protocols for data collection, and enter survey and site information into the NRIS databases.

### **Red Tree Vole Data Management Strategy for both Forest Service (Regions 5 & 6) and BLM**

Under the previous S&M Program, a unique module was developed for storing red tree vole data. The agencies are still in the process of developing a data management strategy for this species. Until that time, both BLM and the Forest Service should continue to follow the Survey Protocol and fill out paper field forms. Keep track of the information in your GIS systems, local databases, spreadsheets, hard copy files, etc. The information should be kept by the unit in such a way that it can be easily queried to support local project analysis work and can be used for State Office/Regional Office data calls.

See Attachment 1 for a current list of S&M species. For questions regarding this document, please contact Kathy Anderson ([kanderson03@fs.fed.us](mailto:kanderson03@fs.fed.us), 503-808-2256).

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State Director, OR/WA  
USDI Bureau of Land Management

Mike Ash (for)  
LINDA GOODMAN  
Regional Forester, Region 6  
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MIKE J. POOL  
State Director, CA  
USDI Bureau of Land Management

Bernie Weingardt  
BERNARD WEINGARDT  
Regional Forester, Region 5  
USDA Forest Service

1 Attachment

1 – [Table 1-1. Species Included in Survey and Manage Standards and Guidelines and Category Assignment \(December 2003\)](#) (7pp)

BLM Distribution

WO-230 (204LS) (Peggy Olwell)  
 CA-330 (Paul Roush)  
 CA-932 (Ed Lorentzen)  
 OR-931 (Anita Bilbao, Michael Haske,  
 Barbara Hill, Rob Huff, Joan Seevers,  
 Kelli VanNorman)  
 OR-932 (Todd Thompson)  
 OR-014 (Steve Hayner)  
 OR-015 (Todd Forbes, Alan Munhall)  
 OR-026 (Darren Brumback, Matt Obradovich)  
 OR-030 (Cynthia Tate)  
 OR-036 (Jon Sadowski)  
 OR-050 (Jan Hanf)  
 OR-056 (Jimmy Eisner)  
 OR-080 (Roy Price, Bob Ruediger)  
 OR-090 (Mark D'Aversa)  
 OR-095 (Eric Greenquist)  
 OR-100 (Scott Lightcap)  
 OR-104 (Christopher Foster)  
 OR-105 (Nancy Duncan)  
 OR-110 (Dale Johnson, Carole Jorgensen)  
 OR-125 (Bill Hudson)  
 OR-128 (Kerrie Palermo)  
 OR-134 (Joe Kelly)  
 OR BOTANY ALL

cc:

Forest Service WO  
 Marc Bosch

Forest Service R6

Kathy Anderson  
 Alan Christensen  
 Russell Holmes  
 Carol Hughes  
 Cal Joyner  
 Sarah Madsen  
 Elaine Rybak  
 Sue Zike  
 Forest Botanists  
 Forest Fish Biologists  
 Forest Wildlife Biologists

Forest Service R5

Stephen Bishop  
 Kathy Clement  
 Sue Danner  
 Christopher Fischer  
 Dave Gibbons  
 Jayne Handley  
 Patricia Krueger  
 Diane Macfarlane  
 Robert Mobley  
 Quentin Youngblood