

2006 Service First Accomplishments Oregon/Washington BLM Region 6, USDA Forest Service January 2007



In 2006, as in 2005, the Bureau of Land Management and the USDA Forest Service were successful with many significant changes that focused around the "Service First" concept. There are many ideas and much left to be done in Oregon/Washington BLM and USDA Forest Service Region 6. This past year the State Director and the Regional Forester provided the best practices presentation to the joint leadership meeting in Ogden, Utah. They also identified three new major initiatives, endorsed by the Director and the Chief of the USDA Forest Service, to advance business practices under Service First that improve operations and efficiency for both agencies. The following information is organized by geographical location and units.

Regional headquarters (State Office, BLM and Regional Office, Forest Service). Items are listed below.

- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Geospatial:** The USDA Forest Service and BLM established and filled a new Service First position to supervise both BLM and USDA Forest Service work for GIS, geospatial, and information management. This position leads integration activities and planning to improve the quality of GIS, geospatial, and information services in both agencies. A shared geospatial training coordinator position has also been established and filled. This position has developed a coordinated training program for both agencies for 2007, has partnered with national technology training organizations in both agencies to leverage funds and maximize training delivery, and is developing a longer term Service First geospatial training strategy. A FS employee and BLM contractor resource have been teamed to develop and implement plans for near term mobile computing program improvements in both agencies, and longer term integration strategies. An interagency team has been identified to identify ways to provide GIS software tools efficiently across agency lines. Seamless interagency data sets are in development or maintenance for land status and hydrography. Other "base layers" of commonly used spatial data are being assessed for potential consolidation or creation of seamless coverages. The first interagency visitor recreation map was produced for FS and BLM in Oregon. Development of this series required reconciliation of mapping standards in both agencies. Benefits include production cost savings (fewer total maps) and ease of use by the public. Other mission support and geospatial management processes will be evaluated to improve efficiency and effectiveness through integration and re-engineering.
- **Shared Computers:** A joint effort with the respective Washington Offices has been initiated to address uncoordinated IT development and to facilitate shared computer services – with GIS as a primary focus. The BLM and USDA Forest Service hired a GIS Director to serve both agencies who reports to the BLM Oregon/Washington CIO. We are identifying potential joint GIS positions and services that can share funding and workload. Currently we are looking at the One GIS model; where two computers is an issue and we have co-located staff to assess ways to meet our goal for one computer for employees. In addition, a national interagency work group is evaluating the business case for building an interface between the networks.
- **Interagency Radio Backbone System:** The USDA Forest Service and BLM led the way to develop and implement radio operating plans to resolve technical communications shortcomings, support fire operations, and initiated migration to a single backbone system for communications. These plans brought together personnel from the District, State, Center and Washington Office levels to identify and resolve radio coverage, equipment interoperability and usage plans, resulting in no service interruptions in 2006 and organizational changes supporting closer inter-agency coordination.

The USDA Forest Service and BLM developed a Regional Coverage Map for each Forest and District in Oregon/Washington with the objective of relocating mountaintop repeaters to assure coverage across the region by December 31, 2006. Dependent on completing the coverage map, by the spring of 2007, we will analyze ways to share frequencies more efficiently. Beginning in



2007, we will standardize equipment through procuring one common model handheld radio for use by both agencies and jointly procure/install mountaintop repeaters.

With regard to Radio Control Over Internet Protocol (RCOIP), there will be no further conversion until all problems with reliability have been resolved. The conversion to narrowband began in 2006 as a part of a 10 year acquisition plan, with sync-up implementation of digital narrowband between the USDA Forest Service and BLM. For radio system support we've established an Interagency Radio Systems Coordination Group to provide oversight to implement radio backbone strategy that targets an integrated program using the strongest points of both the USDA Forest Service Information Solutions Organization and BLM radio support organization.

- **Joint Fire and Aviation Management Reviews:** The USDA Forest Service and BLM sent a letter to the National Interagency Fire Center executives requesting future reviews to be of the "full organization. We also asked for reciprocity in terms of each agency accepting the results of such reviews, thus saving the field from unnecessary duplication.
- **Integrated Fire and Aviation Management Organization:** Maintained an integrated State Office/Regional Office Fire & Aviation Management Organization along with five integrated administrative units with the Forest Service, and nine interagency dispatch centers around the region.
- **Interagency Fire Management Program Qualification:** Standards were established and fully implemented.
- **FERC Relicensing:** The Inter-agency Agreement for the USFS Regional Hydropower Assistance Team involving the BLM State Office, Lakeview, Vale, Salem, Prineville, and Spokane Districts was used to support FERC relicensing workload (Energy Policy Act) for Hells Canyon and Klamath River.
- **Aquatics Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring:** The Aquatics Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program (AREMP) monitors watersheds on BLM and USFS across California, Oregon and Washington.
- **Special Status Species:** Maintained an interagency Special Status Species staff to provide budget and guidance on Survey and Manage, Special Status Species and threatened and endangered species management.
- **Survey and Manage:** Convened interagency "strategic team" to provide guidance and tech support for reimplementation of Survey and Manage program after and unfavorable court ruling in January 2006.
- **Service First Land Office:** Efforts included integrated sales of BLM, USDA Forest Service, and other interagency passes, consolidated map printing and purchases with BLM Districts and Region 6 covering, on average, 500 to 700 USDA Forest Service maps each year for resale in BLM offices and 300 to 400 BLM maps at USDA Forest Service offices each year.
- **OHV Specialist:** Previously, the position was a Service First position, however, with a retirement, the agreement ended on September 30, 2005 (agreement No. 04-IA-11060000-283). Chris Knauf was hired by the BLM. The new Service First agreement for this position was to be implemented by December 2006. Chris is currently working with USFS staff on travel management issues in the PNW region. With an emphasis on travel management planning completion within the next four years for both agencies, we can provide greater coordination and consistency between agencies in this effort. Maps, signing, education, and public involvement will be greatly enhanced through this concerted coordinated effort.
- **Interpretive Services and Tourism Specialist:** We currently have a Service First position, Bonnie Lippitt, serving as Interpretive Services and Tourism specialist for both BLM and USDA Forest Service. Sharing this position has been advantageous for both agencies. November, 2006 marked the completion of seven successful years with this shared position. A new 5-year agreement was initiated in FY 2006.
- **Agreement with the Washington State Historic Preservation Office:** The USDA Forest Service and BLM are working to develop a new Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the Washington State Historic

Preservation Office (SHPO) involving all Forests in the State of Washington and the BLM Spokane District.

The PA explicitly describes the pathway for agencies to conform to Section 106 consultation procedures with the State and Indian Tribes in a streamlined manner. A consistent process between the two agencies for addressing project reviews in conformance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will provide a more consistent set of requirements for public land users and provide greater consistency between the two agencies in responding to the same legal requirements. Washington tribes will also benefit from the consistent approach to addressing tribal cultural issues in a consistent/coordinated manner. The goal for adoption of the new PA is January 2007.

- **Heritage Cultural Resources and Native American Coordination:** Maintained Service First positions for heritage-cultural resources and Native American coordination at the regional/state office level.
- **Intragovernmental Agreement between the BLM Oregon State Office and the Fish and Wildlife Service for Cultural Resource Assistance:** Developed and implemented a new Intragovernmental Agreement (IA) with the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 1, Division of Federal Assistance (USFWS), to provide cultural resources technical assistance for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1974 and its' implementing regulations (36CFR800). The USFWS manages a Landowner Incentive Program grant program that provide funds for surface-disturbing watershed restoration and species enhancement projects on private, tribal, and other lands in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada and California, and also involving multiple-partners, including state wildlife agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and others. Sharing professional expertise with BLM will allow the USFWS to meet grant program and cultural compliance responsibilities. This IA was signed 7/24/06.
- **Partnerships:** The Forest Service and BLM Continue to support and create an inclusive environment that encourages cross-program integration, enhances the agencies coordination with mutual partners, and aligns priority work for the agencies with that of partners. Areas of emphasis include joint recognition and incentives, seed money programs, Service First awards, success stories, integration of training delivery for the collaboration module, and use of corporate budget and work planning structures to clarify what "partnerships" mean to programs.
- **Merit Promotion Vacancies:** In 2006, the Oregon/Washington Bureau of Land Management (BLM) State Director and the USDA Forest Service, Region 6, Regional Forester issued a joint Service First memorandum (OR/WA IB No. 2006-106) requesting that the "...area of consideration" for permanent BLM/FS for merit promotion vacancies be government-wide unless there are legitimate factors for doing otherwise. The joint memorandum states that for recruitment accomplished by the USDA Forest Service and BLM in Fiscal Year 2005, and to date in Fiscal Year 2006, approximately 75 percent of all vacancies for both agencies were advertised government-wide. This policy also applies to temporary promotions and details between USDA Forest Service and BLM in this region. In addition, the joint USDA Forest Service-BLM memorandum helped to define intra-governmental orders to facilitate Service First. Current Human Resource policies of both agencies were posted to the Human Resources intranet websites. An interagency firefighter training program has been developed for the eastern Oregon District offices, which includes employee relations training for interagency fire staff.
- **Acquisition Management:** As a result of collocation of facilities and enhanced working relationship between our agencies, we have increased the number of contracts and grants and agreements through which we share business. In some cases, we are transferring funds to enable employees of one agency to provide services to the other agency. In other instances, we are sharing costs of services which we procure externally. Some of the examples of this program include:
 - Zone Interagency Recreation Programs
 - Share Fire Management Officer Position
 - Wild horse Gathering
 - Archeological Surveys
 - Contract Inspector and Contracting Officers Representative (COR) services
 - Site surveys for bridges
 - Remote Sensing and Fire Weather Support
 - Field support of water quality, fisheries and riparian monitoring
 - Improving Elk Habitat
 - Watershed road inventory
 - Administrative Officer Services

- Fleet Manager, Transportation Services, fleet maintenance, and summer use of vehicles
 - Property Management Officer Services
 - Mailroom services and postage reimbursement
 - Road and facilities maintenance
 - Visual Information Services
 - District Manager Details
 - Soil Scientist Services
 - Safety Services and Support
 - Interagency Map Reimbursement
 - Interagency engineering
 - Sharing of fire engines
- **Reimbursable Agreements:** A team of procurement and financial staff from both agencies are working on streamlining the process for reimbursable agreements between agencies to improve organizational efficiencies. A separate team has been looking at an "offset protocol" as another alternative to reimbursements. An informational bulletin will be released that addresses the current abilities of units to execute service first work. In addition the Portland office will explore how to bundle like reimbursable arrangements and will provide offset guidelines for units to reference.
 - **Blue Mountain Acquisition Management Area:** The USDA Forest Service and BLM are working on a contract to produce quantities of grass and forb seed for units located in the States of Oregon and Washington. This benefits the BLM in that they will not have to do their own native grass and forb seed production contract. This contract is not mandatory use for the BLM but allows them the flexibility to utilize the indefinite quantities type contract we created for their native grass and forb seed needs over the next five years.
 - **Interagency Space Policy:** The USDA Forest Service and BLM have prepared cross delegation authority that allows either agency to take the lead without detailed "re-briefings" and on interagency space guidelines. A shared space policy plan has been discussed with the Washington Offices as a possible national prototype.

Collocation across Oregon and Washington: A Service First Collocation and BLM Oregon/Washington Space Policy was completed in June 2006 and shared with the Washington Office to cover collocated facilities, resolving inconsistencies in direction that created conflict when designing and occupying common facilities. There are currently a number of collocation efforts that are currently pending, including:

Baker City: Lease of space at Baker City for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Supervisor's Office, the Baker Ranger District, and the Baker City BLM District Resource Area Office. Joint location of both agencies for sharing of resources will provide one stop service to public customers. This will be accomplished January 2009.

Klamath Falls: The market study and pre-advertisement is complete. The Team is working with a new Leasing Contracting Officer. The solicitation for proposals should be posted to Fed Biz Ops soon. The collocation team, comprised of members of the Lakeview District BLM, Crater Lake National Park and Fremont-Winema NFs is reviewing the final employee numbers for inclusion in the solicitation notice. Collocation will provide for one stop shopping to public land customers and increase efficiencies resulting in reduced costs. Some of the efficiencies gained will be shared administrative staff, office equipment, utilities and space.

Springfield: The Lease of land and future lease of space for BLM Eugene District at Springfield, Oregon, Oregon National Guard. This joint location of BLM, with planned USDA Forest Service space for sharing of resources, will provide one stop service to public customers. They are on schedule for a Spring 2008 co-location. A joint Eugene BLM- Willamette NF leadership team meeting was scheduled for January 2007 to discuss, among other topics, co-location.

Salem BLM and Siuslaw National Forest: The Salem BLM and Siuslaw National Forest lands adjoin in many areas of the Northwest Coast Range. Successful implementation in these areas would save tax payer dollars.

Tillamook BLM and Hebo Ranger District Collocation Site Evaluation: In 2006, Salem BLM and Siuslaw National Forest planned to conduct a site evaluation, contingent upon funding, for the collocation of Tillamook Resource Area and Hebo Ranger District. Site evaluation did not occur due to lack of funding through Regional priorities. They are re-initiating the co-location process for FY07

Salem Safety Officer to perform Siuslaw/Willamette Safety pre-Compliance Assessment - Safety, Health, and the Environment Review: Salem BLM Safety Officer assisted in safety and HAZMAT inspections and ECAP

audit for Siuslaw National Forest. In addition, Salem and Eugene BLM and Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests have tentatively agreed to share a safety officer beginning calendar year 2007. Salem BLM Safety Officer assisted in facilities inspection and gave technical assistance prior to ECAP audit.

Alsea Basin Stewardship Contract: Salem BLM and Siuslaw National Forest are working together in the Alsea Basin to create stewardship contract opportunities. The first actual project will take place in 2007 to 2008. The Alsea Basin Stewardship Contract Partnership struggles with the difference in interpretation between the USDA Forest Service and BLM on the use of the Wyden authority with respect to excess receipts for use on private lands. This issue was presented to both agencies' legal staff in Washington. Collaboration is working well with formation of partnerships and project planning. Communities are pleased at having the two major federal agencies together in one room.

Medford Collocation: The USDA Forest Service administrative site known as the McAndrews Service Center was advertised and auctioned on line using the GSA real property auction process. On-line bidding began on March 21st and was concluded on May 5th with a bid for \$3.5 million. These funds will be used to make office improvements at the BLM site to accommodate the USDA Forest Service. Construction could begin in late fall of 2006 with completion in the summer or fall of 2007.

There will be a need for some funding beyond the sale amount for the McAndrews property. The regional office has provided about \$1.7 million for the construction phase in Fiscal Year 2006. Until the final design and estimates are completed it will not be known how much the project will cost.

Roseburg Service First Collocation Proposal: An updated analysis of the Roseburg Service First Collocation proposal and present to Regional Office and State Office Executives in March 2006. A January 2004 feasibility study was completed that evaluated the feasibility of constructing an addition to the existing BLM office. Region 6 will be programming about \$6 million from FY'08 – FY'12 for this project. BLM and Congressional funding sources are also being pursued.

The project will be implemented by phases. The first phase will be to collocate fire/dispatch. The second phase will be to contract for the architectural design for the campus at the current BLM location and the third phase will involve construction and moving.

Sharing Skills across Southwestern Oregon: The USDA Forest Service and BLM have been exploring shared positions that will serve multiple units across southwest Oregon, including: safety and health officers, hazmat coordinators, geotech, botany, and public affairs officers. These are some of the opportunities that were identified in the study that was conducted in the summer of 2005 to determine what types of positions, programs, or activities lend themselves to some type of sharing, zoning, etc. within the geographic area when it makes business sense.

Fire and Aviation Management: The Medford and Coos Bay Districts and Rogue River–Siskiyou National Forest are conducting a study of the Fire and Aviation management program in southwest Oregon to identify efficiencies in fire management for the geographical area in order to provide more efficient program delivery. The study should be completed this summer.

Service First on the Coast: As a follow-up to the 2005 study about potential for sharing more in southwestern Oregon, the two Field Managers and two District Rangers for the coastal units have been charged with exploring how to advance the Service First concept across their units. The proposal will be drafted and presented in the spring with decisions being made some time later in the spring or summer of 2007.

Northern Washington (Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF and Mt. Rainier and North Cascades National Parks):

2006 Service First activities resulted in the following results:

- A VIS operation with Mt. Rainier and North Cascades National Parks to run front desk operations during the summer
- A joint venture mountain goat study with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, tribes, NPS, and northern Washington national forests
- Bald Eagle Survey with The Nature Conservancy, Tribes, MBS NF and Park
- A historic renovation of a mule barn that houses the Regional Foresters' sensitive species – Townsend's big eared bat with the North Cascades National Park

- National Park Service crews conduct stream surveys forest wide on restoration projects and the Skagit Wild and Scenic monitoring
- National Park Service staff have constructed kiosks and a shelter for the Marblemount and Sauk boat launches
- Semi-annual forest supervisor and park superintendent meetings in Washington to discuss common issues and provide a form for exchange

North Central Washington: For the Okanogan & Wenatchee NF, 2006 results included continued discussions with area agency representatives to initiate actions where appropriate. In cooperation with the North Cascades National Park Superintendent, they took the lead in getting a national agreement put together, similar to the one with the BLM. This effort came out of the Forest Supervisors and Park Superintendents meeting last fall. In addition they continue to work cooperatively with the Wenatchee Area BLM, the US FWS Mid-Columbia Fish Resource Office in providing leadership and technical support to the locally led Entiat Watershed Planning effort. One challenge was the differences in lease expirations and the complications associated with remodeling leased facilities to meet agencies needs. Overall there collective efforts resulted in:

- Remodeling of the HQ leased facility was completed to accommodate additional Fish and Wildlife personnel. Co-location continues to contribute to positive working relationships.
- Business process re-engineering and local workforce reductions will result in some available space in the HQ facility.
- Discussions have occurred with local, state and federal natural resource type agencies, regarding future co-locations.
- The Flick Fire was a good example of cooperative relations and management between the Park Service and the Forest Service.
- The cooperative agreement between the Park Service and Forest Service is still in the “draft” stage.
- The Entiat Watershed Planning effort continues to be a successful example of interagency cooperation and support.

Eastern Washington and Idaho: The BLM Idaho Coeur d’Alene and Spokane Districts are examining shared resources in a number of areas including: GIS, IT, engineering, law enforcement, planning, public affairs, and shared fleet. The Coeur d’Alene and Spokane District Managers have also agreed to notify each other of vacancies on their respective units prior to advertising and filling them. The goal is to look for career advancement and placement opportunities for employees. The District Managers also agreed to involvement of each other’s staff when forming “hiring selection panels” during the hiring process as appropriate to increase future opportunities for partnerships.

Colville National Forest & Spokane BLM District: The units share a Safety Officer, as of March 6, 2006 at the Spokane District Bureau of Land Management March 6, 2006 as the Forest Service/BLM shared Safety Officer. Both units continue to refine what is needed for core safety work to assure the full-time safety workloads are met appropriately. They both agreed to share the Forest’s partnership coordinator at no salary cost to the BLM. They agreed to use staff on personal selection panels when available.

Colville NF continues to work with Lake Roosevelt National Park personnel on fire and fuels issues. Although not federal, the Colville NF is working close with the Washington Department of Natural Resources to have a combined dispatch office making for a more efficient and safe organization. Recently, they allowed the Washington State Patrol to occupy a surplus building on the compound to provide more security for employees and government vehicles. Likewise, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife occupies another building making customer service and project input more efficient. The Initial project work plan for 2007 has been submitted. The BLM Associate District Manager served on the selection panel for the Three Rivers Ranger District position. BLM FMO served on selection panel for the Forest FMO position.

National Park Service & Spokane BLM District: The Manager of the Lake Roosevelt Cleanup and Restoration Project is co-located in the Spokane District Office as of January 23, 2006. The Spokane District is providing office space, telephone, administrative support and use of GSA vehicle pool. Spokane District Associate District Manager will provide technical support to the project manager and serving as a member of the Lake Roosevelt Case Management Team. The Department of the Interior’s Central HazMat will provide funding to BLM for the District’s involvement.

Eastern Oregon (Wallowa Whitman NF and Vale BLM): Project descriptions follow.

- **Collocated Office:** Baker Field Office BLM & Baker Office of Whitman Unit FS – Office was moved to a shared modular in 2006 (due to non-extension of a lease in previous collocated office). The office move was completed in January. Further integration of cross-agency skills sharing is anticipated. Although not BLM/FS-centric, they also took advantage of incorporating other USDA agencies in the Enterprise area into the Wallowa Mountains District Office. The movement of Forest Service personnel has occurred and the move in for the other agencies' personnel was slated to occur Fall 06. They anticipate that this office sharing will result in a Forest annual savings of approximately \$50,000 in lease and utility costs.
- **Skills Sharing:** The units committed to sharing administrative staff at a co-located office; use FS Engineering skills for BLM project work, initiate a contract for shared Tribal staff assistance for project coordination, and the BLM would fill a forester position that would be shared with the Forest. This year the forest and BLM engaged coordinated and shared resources to accomplish prescribed burning, out-year fuels/vegetation planning, and fire suppression activities. The Forest entered into a Service First Agreement with the Vale BLM for fleet maintenance set to being implementation October 1, 2006. Some highlights of these shared skills follow in the bullets listed below,
- **OHV Coordination with the Vale BLM District and the Wallowa Whitman:** This is a multiple year project where both the BLM and USDA Forest Service will continue coordinating with OHV issues and concerns. BLM and USFS recreation staffs and managers met in September 2005 to discuss issues and concerns in each agency. The BLM and USDA Forest Service will continue to work closely together to complete Travel Management Plans (including OHV management) to identify which roads to keep our systems and which to close. The Vale BLM District and the Wallowa Whitman managers will make contacts with their counterparts in Idaho to coordinate a 2007 meeting with agency recreational staffs, OHV groups and committees with the intent of forming a task group to guide the coordination of dealing with OHV issues and concerns at a broader scale.
- **Forest Health Vegetation Treatments with the Vale BLM District and the Wallowa Whitman:** This is a multiple year project where both the BLM and USDA Forest Service will continue coordinating with vegetation treatment projects to improve forest health and reduce fuel loads. BLM and USDA Forest Service timber staffs will continue to work closely on the Sumpter stewardship and Stices Gulch projects.
- **Burns BLM District and the Malheur National Forest:** These units have several ongoing Service First arrangements in place including: cost reimbursement agreements for shared personnel, services, and facilities; and the USDA Forest Service use of BLM horse corrals. The pending collocation between the Burns BLM District and the Emigrant Creek Ranger District will likely include a considerable workload for the next 18 months.

Central Oregon (BLM Prineville District, Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests): The Fredrick Butte Wildfire Use Plan is nearing completion. The proposed project received front page news coverage, and the Central Oregon Leadership Team made a field trip to review the fire use plan area. Public outreach with affected landowners is complete. The Biomass Supply Memorandum of Understanding with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs was signed January 2006. The tribe must meet its financial and power sales agreement requirements prior to next steps for supplying biomass from public lands. The Biomass Steering Committee hosted a Biomass workshop February 2006. The Units completed the central Oregon Resource Offering Protocol and posted results on the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council web page. In addition, they completed the wildland urban interface fuels reduction monitoring strategy. The Central Oregon Leadership Team began re-focusing efforts and goals towards resource issue problem solving and peer-to-peer interaction, in addition to oversight of long-standing service first efforts and info sharing. Computer and radio issues remain a challenge.

North central Oregon (Siuslaw, Willamette and Mt. Hood NFs, Eugene and Salem Districts): They continue to work on interagency programmatic consultation for commercial thinning with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. They are on-schedule to complete programmatic consultation, with a letter of concurrence anticipated in early FY07. The Willamette and Eugene District continue to make progress toward integrating the safety program. A recent decision was to review potential use of local BLM expertise to achieve environmental remediation required by ECAP process. They continue sharing of engineering personnel and safety personnel to accomplish pre-OSHA inspections.

Southeastern Oregon - Fremont-Winema NFs and Lakeview District BLM: Project descriptions follow.

- **Radio Tactical Team:** Employees from both agencies worked to resolve serious radio problems that occurred in 2005. Together they developed recommendations for local fixes, such as changing radio frequencies and flight following, and implementing more effective training of end users. They developed a formal technical project proposal to FS IRM for backup radio control to RCOIP on mountain top repeaters. The project was adopted by CGA and is to be funded and initiated this year, with completion in FY 07.
- **Highway Vehicle Road and Trail Inventory:** Lakeview District BLM and Fremont-Winema NFs applied for and received a grant from the Oregon ATV Grant program to conduct OHV Roads and Trails inventory. The BLM and Forest hired an interagency field crew and jointly conducted a route inventory on the Klamath Falls RA and Fremont-Winema NFs. This work will continue in 2007. NEPA planning will be done separately under each agency's rules. Implementation and signing on the ground will be done jointly.
- **Facilities Engineering Services:** Fremont-Winema National Forests provided facilities engineering services in the form of design and construction contract administration for the BLM Lakeview District. So far this year the Forest Service has provided, or will provide, design and construction administration services for the following BLM Projects: Duncan Reservoir Picnic Shelter, LIFC HVAC Cleaning, North Outback Byway Interpretation Site, Fort Rock Site Reconstruction, and Lakeview Airport Heliport Septic.
- **Klamath Falls Office Collocation:** The market study and pre-advertisement is complete. The Team is working with a new Leasing Contracting Officer. The solicitation for proposals should be posted to Fed Biz Ops soon. The collocation team, comprised of members of the Lakeview District BLM, Crater Lake National Park and Fremont-Winema NFs is reviewing the final employee numbers for inclusion in the solicitation notice. Collocation will provide for one stop shopping to public land customers and increase efficiencies resulting in reduced costs. Some of the efficiencies gained will be shared administrative staff, office equipment, utilities and space.
- **Interagency Challenge Team:** Several interagency employees participated in this team that identified the challenges and stressors of interagency employees. They focused on key items and recommended changes to Leadership that could relieve some of the stress. Leadership is currently implementing some of the team's recommendations by scheduling an all-employee meeting and potluck to discuss the vision for service first on the Fremont-Winema NFs and Lakeview District BLM.
- **Accountability:** The Fremont-Winema and Lakeview units have reviewed past agreements and suggested modifications based on changes in workload. To improve accountability they have created a simple spreadsheet to help employees track actual time worked for both agencies. Communication and coordination has increased between agreement coordinators and that has improved expenditure monitoring and tracking. The number of offsets has been reduced to those within a specific program which has improved accounting for their work.
- **Recent agreements with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS):** The Fremont-Winema NFs entered into several employee exchange agreements with the USFWS in various locations. F&WS employees were detailed into two key leadership positions, including the Chemult DR position and the Deputy Fuels Fire Management Officer position in Lakeview. An agreement was made with Klamath USFWS to jointly use a FS Fish Biologist to work on the Klamath Basin restoration projects involving FS and private lands. The USFWS in Lakeview is building a Fire Cache building on the Lakeview Interagency 9th Street Compound. While the property is owned by BLM, the Fremont-Winema NF, Lakeview BLM and now the Sheldon-Hart Mountain National Wildlife Refuges will all be active players in management of this compound.
- **With the Service First Award money received for FY2006,** a riparian crew mapped the riparian ecological types along approximately 8 miles of stream in relatively inaccessible areas of the Lakeview Resource Area as well as re-reading transects at 5 long-term effectiveness monitoring sites related to grazing effects on listed sucker species.