

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR120-11-9
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Coos Bay BLM Receives National Fisheries Award

North Bend, Ore. – The Coos Bay District received an award for “*Extraordinary Action in support of Fish Habitat Conservation*” by the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The NFHAP is a coalition of partners involving 118 conservation groups, 35 industry, 16 federal, 40 state, local and tribal governments and six universities. Coos Bay District Manager Mark Johnson and District Fish Biologist Dan VanSlyke traveled to Washington, D.C. to receive the award at NFHAP’s Jim Range Casting Call event on April 15, 2011.

The District was recognized for its cooperative efforts to restore habitat for coho and Chinook salmon, resident and searun cutthroat trout, steelhead trout, and both Pacific and brook lamprey as well as numerous other aquatic and riparian species. From 2006-2010, the BLM placed more than 3,600 logs and 14 boulder structures across 52 stream miles, accomplishing some of the largest restoration projects in Oregon.

Johnson underscored this success by saying, “The conservation work that has been done in the Coos Bay region is nothing short of amazing. By working with businesses and landowners, we have made significant impact in aquatic conservation in Oregon.” Dan VanSlyke, Coos Bay Fish Biologist added, “Despite the checkerboard ownership we were able to focus on restoration within whole watersheds.”

The Coos Bay District partnered with three private timber companies, three watershed councils, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Coquille Indian Tribe to accomplish the fish habitat restoration projects. Funding for the projects included dollars from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bring Back the Natives program and in-kind contributions from private timber companies and other local entities.

Additional information about the BLM’s Coos Bay District and its programs is available online at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/index.php>. Additional information on NFHAP can be found at <http://www.fishhabitat.org>.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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