

# Bureau of Land Management Coos Bay District Planning Update

Summer 2010

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# *Coos Bay District BLM Planning Update*

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Summer 2010

Dear Citizen:

The *Planning Update* is published to provide current information about ongoing and future projects planned by the Coos Bay District of the Bureau of Land Management. It is our intent to increase the public's awareness of BLM activities and to seek ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our resource management programs. Your ideas, comments, and participation help us make informed decisions and implement better projects. Please send written comments, including the specific project and field office name, during that project's public comment period to: 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR 97459.

Projects started and completed between editions of *Planning Update* have gone through the full analysis process. Legal notices published in *The World* newspaper of Coos Bay provide details on public involvement and the public comment process for these projects.

Thank you for your continued interest in public land management.

A copy of the *Planning Update* is available for viewing on the Coos Bay District's web page, at:  
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/plans/index.php>

Sincerely,

/s/ Mark E. Johnson  
Coos Bay District Manager

USDI - Bureau of Land Management  
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## **ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES AND NEW PROJECTS**

Pages two through seven of the *Planning Update* summarize projects on the Coos Bay District. Some projects were previously listed and are still in the process of being completed, while others are in the process of being implemented. Projects that have been dropped from consideration, have a signed decision, or are completed will not be listed in future issues.

This publication allows you to see a brief explanation of ongoing and proposed projects and decide if you wish additional information about any of them. If you previously requested to be put on a mailing list for specific activities, we have that on file and will continue to keep you informed.

The contact people listed with the projects are available to answer questions and provide additional details. They are interested in information you wish to share concerning any of the projects or project areas. These people may be contacted either by mail, by telephoning our office at 541-756-0100, or emailing us at: [OR\\_CoosBay\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:OR_CoosBay_Mail@blm.gov).

## **Categorical Exclusions**

Required analysis for categorically excluded activities is generally completed within a one to four- week time-frame. This frequently occurs in between publications of the *Planning Update*. These types of projects are generally routine or require timely processing. A complete listing of categorical exclusions may be found on the Coos Bay District's Planning web page under Existing/Historic Documents, at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/plans/index.php>.

# Umpqua Field Office

## TIMBER MANAGEMENT

### Holey Foley DM DNA

DOI-BLM-OR- C030-2010-0004-DNA

**Description:** The project proposes an additional 200 acres of density management thinning in the Late-Successional and Riparian Reserve land-use allocations. This project lies within the analysis area of the Umpqua River – Sawyer Rapids DM/CT EA and a Determination of NEPA Adequacy for this project is planned.

**Location:** T21S R07W Section 33.

**Planning Status:** Summer 2010.

**Decision date:** Decision Documentation 2011.

**Implementation:** Timber Sale planned for 2011.

For further information, please contact John Goering.

### Fairview NWFP Project EA

OR C030-2010-0001-EA

**Description:** The project proposes approximately 8,000 acres of commercial thinning, density management, and hardwood conversion treatments in the Matrix and Riparian Reserve land-use allocations.

**Location:** T26S, R13W Sections 11, 13 and T26S, R12W, Sections 25, 26, 27, 35, 36 and T27S, R12W, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 23, 25, 27, 33 and T27S, R11W, Sections 17, 19, 20 and 21, Willamette Meridian, Coos County, Oregon.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – complete.

Analysis – scheduled for release summer 2010.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations - starting 2011.

**Implementation:** Timber Sales are planned for 2011 through 2015.

For further information, please contact John Goering.

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The following EA is complete and projects will continue to be implemented over the next several years.

### Umpqua River – Sawyer Rapids DM/CT EA

EA OR125-05-01

**Description:** The project proposes approximately 10,000 acres of commercial and density management thinning, and hardwood conversion.

**Location:** T21S, R9W, Sections 31,32, & 33, T22S, R9W, Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 25, & 35, T21S, R8W, Sections 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 33, & 35, T22S, R 8W, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 17, 18, 19, 25, 27, 29, 31, 32, & 33, T21S, R7W, 19, 20, 29, 30, & 31, T23S, R8W, Sections 5, 6, & 7, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** Complete.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations - starting 2009.

**Implementation:** Multiple timber sales are planned for FY 2009 through 2011.

For further information, please contact Scott Hoefs.

## RESTORATION

### Lutsinger Creek In-stream Habitat Restoration Project

DOI-BLM-OR- C030-2009-0005-DNA

**Description:** This project proposes to install logs, whole trees, and boulder structures in Lutsinger Creek on 2.4 miles of private lands (Roseburg Resources) and 1.0 miles of BLM-administered lands for a total of 3.4 miles.

**Location:** T22S, R08W, Sections 13, 23, 24, 25 & 26, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** complete.

**Decision date:** August 31, 2009

**Implementation:** Phase I complete; phase II expected summer 2011.

For further information, please contact Dan Van Slyke.

### Middle Creek and Cherry Creek In-stream Habitat Restoration Project

DOI-BLM-OR- C030-2009-0004-DNA

**Description:** This project proposes to install logs, whole trees, and boulder structures in up to 14 miles of salmonid-bearing streams on public and private lands in the Middle Creek subwatershed. Actual stream miles treated would be dependent upon funding and cooperation from private landowners.

**Location:** Various stream reaches within the Middle Creek and Cherry Creek subwatersheds: generally T26S, R10W; T27S, R10W; and T27S, R11W

**Planning Status:** complete.

**Decision date:** August 31, 2009

**Implementation:** Phase I complete; subsequent phases expected to be implemented over next 3 years dependent upon funding.

For further information, please contact Dan Van Slyke.

### West Fork Smith River In-stream Habitat Restoration Project

DOI-BLM-OR- C030-2009-0003-DNA

**Description:** This project proposes to install logs, whole trees, and boulder structures in up to 25 miles of salmonid-bearing streams on public and private lands in the West Fork Smith River subwatershed.

**Location:** Various stream reaches within the West Fork Smith River subwatershed: generally T21S, R09W.

**Planning Status:** complete.

**Decision date:** August 31, 2009

**Implementation:** Expected to be implemented over next 4 years, starting summer 2010.

For further information, please contact Dan Van Slyke.

## Other ACTIONS

### Blue Ridge Communication Site Beam Path & Fuels Reduction

DOI-BLM-OR- C030-2010-0007-EA

**Description:** The project proposes to remove trees within beam paths from various communication towers at the Blue Ridge communication site. The site users are currently experiencing interference with their signals to and from the site; these include the emergency 911 system, as well as a rural fire district. In addition, a fuels reduction clearing around the communication site is proposed to reduce the potential for damage to the communication facilities in the event of a wildfire.

**Location:** T26S, R12W, Sections 25, 26, 35, and 36; T27S, R12W, Section 2, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – summer 2010.

Analysis – scheduled for release winter 2010.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations - spring 2011.

**Implementation:** Scheduled for summer 2011.

For further information, please contact Linda Petterson.

## Myrtlewood Field Office

### TIMBER MANAGEMENT

#### Cherry Vaughn

DOI-BLM-OR-C040-2010-0005-EA

**Description:** The project proposes 2000 acres of density management thinning in Late-Successional and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.

**Location:** T. 27 S., R. 10 W., Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, & 29;  
T. 28 S., R. 10 W., Sections 3 and 4, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** Scoping –complete June 11, 2010.  
Analysis – ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentation – Fall 2012.

**Implementation:** Timber sales planned for FY 2012 through 2013.

For further information, please contact Aimee Hoefs.

#### Weaver-Sitkum

DOI-BLM-OR-C040-2010-0001-EA

**Description:** The project proposes 1000 acres of commercial and density management thinning in Matrix, Late-Successional and Riparian Reserve land-use allocations.

**Location:** T. 28 S., R. 9 W., Sections 31, 35; T. 29 S., R. 9 W., Section 5; T. 28 S.,  
R. 10 W., Sections 18, 21, 23, 25, 27; and T. 28 S., R. 11 W., Sections 9, 21, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** Scoping –complete.  
Analysis – ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentation – Fall 2010.

**Implementation:** Timber sales planned for FY 2011 through 2012.

For further information, please contact Aimee Hoefs.

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The following EAs are complete and projects will continue to be implemented over the next several years.

#### Remote Control EA

EA OR128-06-06

**Description:** The project proposed to regeneration harvest approximately 193 acres in the Matrix land-use allocation.

**Location:** T29S, R10W, Sections 9 and 26, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** complete.

**Implementation:** Timber sale previously sold and currently under Protest.

For further information, please contact Aimee Hoefs.

## Other ACTIONS

### New River Educational Facility

DOI-BLM-OR-C040-2010-0003-EA

**Description:** The project proposes to construct a semi-permanent yurt structure adjacent to the Ellen Warring Learning Center at the New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The structure is approximately 30 feet by 30 feet in size and has a maximum capacity of 49 people.

**Location:** T30S, R15W Section 11, Willamette Meridian.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – complete.  
Analysis – ongoing.

**Decision date:** Summer 2010.

**Implementation:** Spring 2011.

For further information, please contact Aimee Hoefs.

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The following projects are on hold until further notice.

### Edson Regen EA

EA OR 128-08-03

**Description:** The project proposed to regeneration harvest 1200 acres in the Floras Creek – Sixes River area.

For further information, please contact Aimee Hoefs.

## Abbreviations and Definitions

**ACEC/RNA** – Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area.

**CX or Categorical Exclusion** - Actions which do not have significant effects on the environment and for which an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

**CT - Commercial Thinning** - The removal of merchantable trees from an even-aged stand to encourage growth of the remaining trees. The term is applied to harvest within Matrix lands and may include some Riparian Reserve.

**DMT - Density Management** - Thinning of trees for the primary purpose of widening their spacing so that growth of remaining trees can be maintained. Density management harvest can also be used to improve forest health, open the forest canopy, or accelerate the attainment of old growth characteristics if maintenance or restoration of biological diversity is the objective. The term is applied to harvest within Late Successional Reserves and /or Riparian Reserves.

**DNA – Determination of NEPA Adequacy** – Documentation of BLM’s internal analysis process that a proposed action conforms to its land use plan and is adequately analyzed in an existing NEPA document.

**EA - Environmental Assessment** – This is a concise public document that briefly provides evidence and analysis of a proposed Federal action. It is used to determine whether further analysis needs to be done for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

**FONSI – Finding of No Significant Impact** - This is a document that briefly presents the reasons why the implementation of an action will not result in “significant” environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in the *Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Revision of the Resource Management Plans of the Western Oregon Bureau of Land Management Districts* (USDI BLM 2008).

**LSR – Late-Successional Reserves** - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. These reserves will maintain a functional, and interactive late-successional forest ecosystem.

**Matrix Lands** - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. Timber harvest contributing to the Allowable Sale Quantity takes place in this area.

**NEPA** - National Environmental Policy Act - A federal law which sets the systematic interdisciplinary analysis to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences to provide for an informed decision. The process provides for public participation in the development, review and revision of certain activities on Federal Lands.

**Public Involvement / Scoping** - An early and open part of environmental analysis that allows interested public and other Federal, state and local agencies the opportunity to provide issues, concerns and opportunities relative to proposed project actions. Scoping is required by regulation for Environmental Impact Statements and is optional for Environmental Assessments.

**RMP - Resource Management Plan** - A land use plan that governs BLM direction prepared by the BLM in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

**Riparian Reserves** - Designated riparian areas found outside Late-Successional Reserves.

**R/W - Right-of-Way** - A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public lands for specified purposes, such as pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, reservoirs, and the lands covered by such an easement or permit.



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