

**Eugene District
Bureau of Land Management
Planning Update
February
2013**



Eugene District Office

February 2013

BLM

Public Lands: Use, Share, Appreciate



A Note from the District Manager

This document provides updates on the status of projects and is designed to serve as a scoping tool for upcoming projects on the Eugene District. If you would like to provide issues, concerns, or opportunities relative to one or more of the projects, I encourage you to contact the project lead. For some of the projects listed we have conducted or will be conducting additional scoping based on our knowledge of the project and potentially interested parties.

Thank you for your continued interest in public land management.

Ginnie Grilley
Eugene District Manager

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Abbreviations and Definitions

Administratively Withdrawn Areas - One of the six land use designations in the 2008 Resource Management Plan. These lands are withdrawn from the harvest land base for specific reasons including the following: recreation sites, areas not suitable for sustainable timber production, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, areas dedicated to specific purposes such as roads and buildings.

CX - 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.

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).

DNA-Determination of NEPA Adequacy - Used to document that a BLM action has been adequately analyzed in an existing NEPA document (EA or EIS) and that no further NEPA analysis is needed.

IDT - Interdisciplinary Team - A team is a group of resource specialists, whose participation is determined by the issues relating to the project proposal, and who conduct environmental analysis.

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

Matrix Lands - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. Most 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.

NWFP - Northwest Forest Plan - A common name for the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994).

O&C Lands - Revested Oregon and California Railroad Lands.

RR – Riparian Reserves - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. These reserves are managed for the aquatic conservation strategy objectives.

RMP -Resource Management Plan - A land use plan prepared by the BLM in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

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.

Name/Description	Locations	Planning Status	Contact
Eugene District Projects			
<p>Valley Fringe Project – This project proposes fuels reduction treatments which may reduce the threat of wildfire in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and improve habitat conditions for fire-dependent species. Actions considered include burning of meadows; underburning stands that include oak or ponderosa pine; conifer pruning; thinning of small-diameter conifers; piling and burning of slash; removal of small-diameter material for biomass; and mastication of brush and slash.</p>	<p>District-wide: BLM-administered lands identified as wildland-urban interface in the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway.</p>	<p>Eric Johnson (683-6484)</p>
<p>Invasive Vegetation Treatments – This project proposes the use of herbicides to slow the spread of noxious and other weeds and invasive plants throughout the District. Herbicides would be one of several tools used by the District to control noxious and other weeds and invasive vegetation. The EA for this proposal will tier to the state-wide “Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon” Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (ROD). Although the ROD addressed the use of up to 14 herbicides in western Oregon, the Eugene District EA will consider a proposed action to allow the District to use 4 herbicides in its vegetation treatment programs.</p>	<p>District-wide, except for the West Eugene Wetlands</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway.</p>	<p>Steven Fowler (541-4475)</p>
<p>Travis Tyrrell Seed Orchard General Operational Activities – Routine activities for orchard maintenance such as: removal of dead/dying material, orchard thinning, stump removal/grinding, pile burning, chipping, mowing, tilling, scion collection, planting, tree moving, field grafting, pruning, topping, bark scoring, pruning, flower stimulation, tree breeding, cone collection, orchard inventory, and fence and building maintenance</p>	<p>T20S, R05W, Secs. 9, 15, and 21</p>	<p>Categorical exclusion (DOI-BLM-OR-E000-2013-0003-CX) was completed in January 2013.</p>	<p>Erin Hooten (767-9017)</p>

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Upper Willamette Resource Area Projects			
<p>North Dorena Project - This project proposes to implement commercial thinning and density management projects on approximately 1400 acres. Other project activities may include riparian reserve thinning, aquatic restoration and road management actions. The land use allocations Matrix and Riparian Reserve.</p>	<p>T20S, R02W, Secs. 13, 15, 21, 23, & 29; T19S, R02W, Secs. 23, 25, & 27; T20S, R02W, Secs. 1 & 3; T20S, R01W, Secs. 9, 11, & 15.</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA was made available for public comment in the Summer of 2012. Decisions are expected in 2013.</p>	<p>Panchita Paulete (683-6976)</p>
<p>South Dorena Project - This project proposes to implement commercial thinning and density management projects on approximately 1600 acres. Other project activities may include thinning in Riparian Management Areas, aquatic restoration and road management actions. The land use allocations are Timber Management, Riparian Management Areas and Late –Successional Management Areas</p>	<p>T21S, R02W, Secs. 9 & 15; T22S, R03W, Secs. 21 & 27; T21S, R03W, Sec. 25.</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA was made available for public comment in the Winter of 2013. Decisions are expected in 2013 and 2014.</p>	<p>Mike Blow (683-6495)</p>
<p>The 2014 Project – This project proposes to implement a commercial thinning on approximately 1700 acres, and a regeneration harvest of approximately 200 acres. Project activities may include riparian reserve thinning, aquatic restoration, and road management actions. Land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.</p>	<p>T15S, R01W, Sec. 17; T15S, R02W, Secs. 10, 11, 13, 15, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, & 35; T16S, R02W, Secs. 17 & 33.</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA is expected to be made available for public review in the Spring or Summer of 2013.</p>	<p>Panchita Paulete (683-6976)</p>
<p>Boulder Creek EA – This project proposes to implement a commercial thinning on approximately 400 acres. Project activities may include Riparian Reserve thinning, aquatic restoration, and road management actions. Land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.</p>	<p>T17S, R01W, Sec. 35; T18S, R01W, Sec. 05.</p>	<p>This project is a re-offer. Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA is expected to be made available for public review in the Spring of 2013</p>	<p>Panchita Paulete (683-6976)</p>

Siuslaw Resource Area Proposed Projects			
Wild Badger - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project would thin approximately 400 acres in the planning area. The land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T18S, R7W, Sec 1; T17S, R7W, Sec 27 & 35.	A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale auction will occur on March 28, 2013, pending findings in the DNA.	Dana Wilson (683-6221)
Major Nelson - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project would thin approximately 63 acres in the planning area. The land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T16S, R7W, Sec 33.	A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale auction will occur on March 28, 2013, pending findings in the DNA.	Dana Wilson (683-6221)
Re-Thin EA - Scoping was completed for this EA. Thinning is being proposed approximately 25 years after the initial thinning on approximately 600 to 800 acres. Land use allocations include matrix, late-successional reserves and riparian reserves under the 1995 RMP.	T17S, R7W, Sec 33; T18S, R7W, Secs 3 & 15; T18S, R6W, Secs 21 & 31; T19S, R6W, Sec13; T20S, R4W, Sec31; T20S, R6W, Sec 3.	An EA is being prepared and is scheduled to be released for public comment in Spring 2013.	Dana Wilson (683-6221)
Carpenter Bypass EA - This project would formalize, improve, and add to the existing trail system network, provide a safer and more secure parking area for visitors to utilize and include much needed sanitation facilities. The end result would be the creation and enhancement of multiple use non-motorized trail opportunities on BLM administered lands in Eugene District BLM Siuslaw Resource Area, Carpenter Bypass region.	T20S, R5W, Secs. 23, 27, & 35.	An EA was prepared and comments were received. It is currently being rewritten based on comments from user groups. A new version is expected to release for public comment in Spring 2013.	Wade Judy (683-6457)
Steam Donkey Echo – This project is the Siuslaw RA’s regeneration eco-forestry “Norm and Jerry” show. This project would use variable retention harvest methods on approximately 120 acres in the planning area.	T18S, R7W, Sec. 9.	A public scoping field trip is being planned for April 2013.	Dana Wilson (683-6221)
Hult Pond Dam CX – Per the Emergency Action Plan for Hult Pond Dam, this project allows for the BLM to monitor water level conditions at Hult Pond, and release water in the event of a heavy rain or rain-on-snow event which would cause flooding downstream.	T15S, R7W, Sec. 26.	The CX was completed in December 2012.	Darren Lemon (683-6212)
Clay & Whittaker Creek Hazard Tree Removal – Per the RA CX for hazard tree removal and a pathology report, diseased trees in the Clay and Whittaker Creek Recreation areas will be removed. Several trees fell last summer in the campground due to disease posing a safety risk.	T18S, R8W; T19S, R7W.	A vegetation management plan is currently being developed. A decision record will be issued associated with the Hazard Tree CX Spring 2013.	Jan Robbins (683-6465)