

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

*Eugene District Office*

**BLM**



*November 2013*

**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 listed 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**

**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
<b>Eugene District Projects</b>			
<p><b>Valley Fringe Project</b> – 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 (541) 683-6484</p>
<p><b>Invasive Vegetation Treatments</b> – 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>Pat Johnston (541) 751-4475</p>
<p><b>West Eugene Wetlands Resource Management Plan</b> – This project proposes to adopt a resource management plan for the BLM-administered lands in the West Eugene Wetlands to contribute to the recovery of threatened and endangered species, while providing other benefits.</p>	<p>West Eugene Wetlands</p>	<p>Work on a final environmental impact statement and proposed resource management plan is currently underway.</p>	<p>Panchita Paulete (541) 683-6976</p>

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<b>Upper Willamette Resource Area Projects</b>			
<p><b>South Dorena Project</b> - 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. Land use allocations are Timber Management, Riparian Management Areas and Late –Successional Management Areas</p>	<p>T21S, R2W, Secs. 9 &amp; 15; T22S, R3W, Secs. 21 &amp; 27; T21S, R3W, Sec. 25.</p>	<p>The EA was made available for public comment in the Winter of 2013. The Eagles Bluff Timber Sale Decision Record was issued in September 2013 and sold in October 2013. The EA was made available for public comment in the Winter of 2013. Decisions are expected in 2013 and 2014.</p>	<p>Mike Blow (541) 683-6495</p>
<p><b>The 2014 Project</b> – 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, R1W, Sec. 17; T15S, R2W, Secs. 10, 11, 13, 15, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, &amp; 35; T16S, R2W, Secs. 17 &amp; 33.</p>	<p>Work on two environmental assessments is currently underway. The EAs are expected to be made available for public review in the Fall and Winter of 2013.</p>	<p>Panchita Paulete (541) 683-6976</p>
<p><b>McKenzie Landscape Project</b> – This project proposes to implement timber harvest on approximately 1,720 acres in the Adaptive Management Area land use allocation of the RMP. The AMA was designated to test new management approaches to integrate and achieve ecological and economic health and other social objectives. It is an area where management will contribute substantially to other plan objectives including provision of a well distributed late-successional habitat outside reserves; retention of key structural elements of late successional forests on lands subjected to regeneration harvest; restoration and protection of riparian zones; and provision of stable timber supply. Project activities may include Riparian Reserve thinning, aquatic restoration, and road management actions.</p>	<p>T16S, R2E, Secs. 15, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, &amp; 33; T16S, R3E, Secs. 30 &amp; 31; T17S, R2E, Secs. 1 &amp; 5; and T17S, R3E, Secs. 6, 7, 8, &amp; 17</p>	<p>A Scoping Meeting was held in September 2013. Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA is expected to be made available for public review in the Summer of 2014. Decisions are expected in 2015, 2016, and 2020.</p>	<p>Kristine Struck (541) 683-6469</p>
<p><b>15-1-32 Road Segment Closure</b> - Pursuant to the Eugene District Aquatic and Riparian Restoration Activities Environmental Assessment this project would remove two old, undersized, and failing culverts that are creating chronic high sediment conditions in the stream as well as mud bog which has rendered the road segment impassable. Water bars and berms will be added to gain proper drainage and prevent vehicle access to the impassable road segment.</p>	<p>T15S, R2W, Sec. 36</p>	<p>A DNA was prepared. This project is planned to occur during fall of 2013.</p>	<p>Steve Liebhart (541) 683-6454</p>
<p><b>Upland Restoration OHV Trail Decommissioning</b> - Pursuant to the Eugene District Aquatic and Riparian Restoration Activities Environmental Assessment and the Shotgun OHV Trail System Modifications Environmental Assessment, the project would close, re-route, and rehabilitate stretches of OHV trails with severe ruts and gullies which are causing sedimentation of nearby streams.</p>	<p>T15S, R1W, Sec. 19</p>	<p>A DNA was prepared. The project is planned to occur during fall of 2013 or the dry season of 2014.</p>	<p>Rudy Wiedenbeck (541) 683-6633</p>

Name/Description	Locations	Planning Status	Contact
<b>Siuslaw Resource Area Proposed Projects</b>			
<b>Hardy Creek</b> - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project will thin approximately 305 acres in the planning area. Land use allocations are Matrix, Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve.	T18S, R6W, Sec. 17.	A DNA was prepared. This timber sale was sold at auction in August 2013.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794
<b>Overhaul</b> - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan and Upper Siuslaw Landscape Plan environmental assessments this project will thin approximately 420 acres in the planning area. Land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T19S, R4W, Sec. 29 & 33. T20S, R4W, Sec. 5.	A DNA was prepared. This timber sale was sold at auction in October 2013.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794
<b>Coyote Camp</b> - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project will thin approximately 85 acres in the planning area. Land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T19S, R4W, Sec. 21 & 29.	A DNA was prepared. This timber sale was sold at auction in October 2013.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794
<b>Fairview</b> - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project will thin approximately 160 acres in the planning area. Land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T18S, R6W, Sec. 3.	A DNA was prepared. This timber sale was sold at auction in October 2013.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794
<b>Burnt Bottle</b> - Pursuant to the Re-Thin EA this project will thin approximately 57 acres in Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.	T20S, R6W, Sec. 3.	The EA was released for public comment in Spring 2013. A decision to implement Burnt Bottle timber sale is expected in March 2014.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794
<b>Just Deed It</b> - Pursuant to the Long Tom Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project will thin approximately 360 acres in the planning area. Land use allocations are Matrix, Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve.	T17S, R7W, Sec. 11, 15 & 23.	A DNA will be prepared. The timber sale auction will occur in March 2014, pending findings in the DNA.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794
<b>Carpenter Bypass EA</b> - 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.	A decision to implement this project was issued in July 2013.	Wade Judy (541) 683-6457
<b>Steam Donkey Echo</b> – This project explores the implementation of “eco-forestry” principles within spotted owl designated critical habitat and would implement variable retention harvest, commercial thinning and density management on approximately 260 acres. Land use allocations include Matrix, Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve.	T18S, R7W, Sec. 9 & 23.	A public scoping meeting was held in September 2013. The scoping period has been extended until November 14, 2013 in response to the partial government shutdown.	Sharmila Premdas (541) 683-6794