

**Eugene District  
Bureau of Land Management  
Planning Update  
September 2010**

*Eugene District Office*

**BLM**



*September 2010*

**Public Lands: Use, Share, Appreciate**



## **A Note from the District Manager**

This document 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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### Notice

On July 16, 2009 the U.S. Department of the Interior, withdrew the Records of Decision (2008 ROD) for the Western Oregon Plan Revision and directed the BLM to implement actions in conformance with the resource management plans for western Oregon that were in place prior to December 30, 2008. Since project planning and preparation of National Environmental Policy Act documentation for these projects began prior to the effective date of the 2008 ROD, these projects have been designed to comply to the land use allocations, management direction, and objectives of the 1995 Eugene District resource management plan (1995 RMP), as amended.

## **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**Administratively Withdrawn Areas** - One of the six land use designations in the 2008 Resource Management Plan. These lands are withdrawn from the harvest land base for specific reasons including the following: recreation sites, areas not suitable for sustainable timber production, Areas of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**-Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and 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.

**District Wide Projects**

Name/Description	Locations	Planning Status	Contact
<p><b>Eugene District Aquatic and Riparian Restoration Project</b> – This project proposes to complete various aquatic and restoration activities on BLM-administered lands and non-BLM-administered lands in watersheds throughout the District, and to identify priority watersheds where restoration would be emphasized. Activities may include large wood, boulder and gravel placement, fish passage culvert and bridge replacements, reconnection of existing side channels and alcoves, head-cut stabilization, streambank restoration, reduction of recreation impacts, riparian vegetation treatments (except for hardwood conversions), riparian area invasive plant treatment (except use of herbicides), riparian exclusion fencing, and road treatments.</p>	District-wide	A decision was signed in August 2010.	Richard Hardt (683-6690)

**Upper Willamette Resource Area Projects**

<p><b>2011 Thinning Project</b> – This project proposes to commercially thin approximately 1800 acres in the Calapooya, Mohawk River and Lower McKenzie 5<sup>th</sup> field watersheds. Land Use Allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve. The project may also include riparian reserve thinning and road management activities.</p>	<p>T.14S.,R1W., Sec. 31; T15S.,R1W., Secs. 9, 17, 21,22,27,29; T15S.,R2W., Secs. 1,11,15; T.16S.,R1W., Sec. 31; T.16S., R2W., Sec 21,29; T.16S.,R.3W., Sec. 13</p>	<p>Work on the environmental assessment has been completed. The EA was made available for public review March 24 – April 23, 2010. Decisions are expected in the Winter of 2011.</p>	<p>Sara Ashkannejhad (683-6935)</p>
<p><b>Oak Basin Restoration Plan</b> - The proposed project area is a total of 224 acres, with 40 acres on BLM managed lands and 184 adjacent acres on property owned by Edgar and James Merzenich. The project area is a mix of oak woodlands and upland prairie. The proposed project is enhancement and restoration of upland oak woodland and prairie.</p>	<p>T. 14S., R2W., Secs. 29, 30, and 33.</p>	<p>Work on a restoration plan is currently underway. Work on an environmental assessment is scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2010. The EA is expected to be made available for public review in the Spring of 2011.</p>	<p>Cheshire Mayrsohn (683-6407)</p>
<p><b>Hills Camp Project</b> – This project proposes to implement commercial thinning and density management projects on approximately 1300 acres in the Lower McKenzie and Little Fall Creek 5<sup>th</sup> field watersheds. Other project activities may include riparian reserve thinning, aquatic restoration and road management actions. The land use allocations Matrix and Riparian Reserve.</p>	<p>T16S., R01W., sec 33, T17S., R01W. sec. 7 T17S., R01W. sec. 35, T18S., R01W., sec. 5 T18S., R01E., sec. 19, T18S., R01W., secs. 7, 9</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment is currently underway. The EA is expected to be available for public comment in September 2010.</p>	<p>Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)</p>
<p><b>North Mohawk Project</b> - This project proposes to implement commercial thinning and density management projects on approximately 1200 acres in the Lower McKenzie and Little Fall Creek 5<sup>th</sup> field watersheds. Other project activities may include riparian reserve thinning, aquatic restoration and road management actions. The land use allocations Matrix and Riparian Reserve.</p>	<p>T14S., R01W., secs. 25, 33 T15S., R01W., secs. 1, 11 T14S., R02W., secs. 25, 35 T15S., R02W., sec. 3 T16S., R01W., sec. 21</p>	<p>Work on an environmental assessment will begin in June 2010. The EA is expected to be available for public comment in December 2010.</p>	<p>Christie Hardenbrook (683-6110)</p>

<b>Siuslaw Resource Area Proposed Projects</b>			
<b>Gunsight</b> - Pursuant to the North Lake Creek Thinning Project EA, this project would commercially thin approximately 188 acres in the North Lake Creek planning area. The land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T15S- R7W- Sec 8,17	A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale is scheduled for auction in October 2010, pending findings in the DNA.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>Barlow Creek</b> – Pursuant to the Upper Siuslaw Landscape Plan environmental assessment this project would thin approximately 218 acres in the planning area. The land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T20S- R4W- Sec 3	A DNA is being prepared. The timber sale is scheduled for auction in October 2010, pending findings in the DNA.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>Ten High Density Management Study</b> – This is a re-thin of a 325 acre research site as part of a continuing effort to evaluate silvicultural methods intended to promote development of late-successional forest structure. The land use allocations are Matrix and Riparian Reserve.	T15S-R7W-Sec10,15	An Environmental Assessment was prepared and a Decision was signed in July 2010. The timber sale was auctioned in August 2010.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>Long Tom Landscape Plan</b> – BLM is preparing an environmental document to address a commercial thinning and density management program in the Long Tom 5 <sup>th</sup> Field Watershed. The land use allocations are Matrix, LSR and Riparian Reserves.	Long Tom 5 <sup>th</sup> Field Watershed.	An Environmental Assessment is being prepared and will be available in Fall 2010.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>ARRA project culvert replacements</b> – Culverts located on Esmond Creek, Hawley Creek and Buck Creek were replaced under the Upper Siuslaw Late-Successional Reserve EIS and the Upper Siuslaw Landscape Plan EA.	T19S- R8W- Sec 21, 28; T19S- R4W- Sec 33; T20S- R6W- Sec 15	A DNA was prepared in March 2010.	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>Fish Habitat Restoration Project</b> – Habitat restoration such as restoring spawning grounds, culvert removals and culvert replacements will provide better conditions for fish spawning and rearing and provide improved access to this type of habitat.	T20S- R6W- Sec 11; T20S- R6W- Sec 9; T20S- R6W- Sec 5; T19S- R6W- Sec 29; T19S- R7W- Sec 21	A DNA was prepared in August 2010	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)
<b>Last Hurrah Snag Creation Project</b> – Snags are being created on approximately 87 acres within the previously thinned Last Hurrah stand located in the LSR 267 EIS planning area.	T19S- R6W- Sec 33, 21	A DNA was prepared in July 2010	Sharmila Premdas (683-6794)