

SECRETARIAL FORESTRY PILOT PROJECTS UPDATE

December 15, 2011

In December 2010, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar set in motion a plan to apply the principles of ecosystem restoration, as suggested by Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin, on BLM lands within the Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Medford Districts. As the BLM moves forward with these pilot projects we'll be regularly posting updates about their status.

ROSEBURG PILOT PROJECT

The Roseburg District is continuing development of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Roseburg Secretarial Demonstration Pilot Project. The draft EA will be available for review and comment by the public tentatively in early March 2012. The current timeline for the Roseburg Pilot is attached, and can also be found on the following page:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/forestrypilot/pilot-maps.php>

For questions relating to the Roseburg pilot project, please contact Cheyne Rossbach, Roseburg District Public Affairs: (541) 464-3245 or by e-mail at crossbac@blm.gov

MIDDLE APPLGATE WATERSHED PILOT PROJECT

Logging operations have commenced on the Pilot Joe timber sale – the Secretarial pilot to demonstrate the restoration principles of Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin. A collaborative multi-party monitoring team is in place for this project. When appropriate, the monitoring team will organize a field trip to the site after treatment takes place. This would likely in February or March 2012.

The assessment of restoration needs for the Pilot Thompson project (second project under the Middle Applegate Pilot) is moving forward. The second meeting of the collaborative transportation team will occur in January 2012. There are no other public meetings scheduled at this time. Contact: John Gerritsma (541) 618-2438. Additional information about the pilot is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/forestrypilot/>

COOS BAY WAGON ROAD PILOT PROJECT

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biological opinion was completed on December 2, 2011. They concluded that the proposed action would not jeopardize the continued existence of the northern spotted owl or the marbled murrelet. The interdisciplinary team is reviewing the five letters that were received during the public comment period on the Wagon Road Pilot Environmental Assessment and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact. The comment period closed on December 12, 2011. Contact: Kathy Hoffine (541) 751-4421. Additional information about the pilot is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/forestrypilot/>

