

Secretarial Forestry Pilot Projects Update: March 18, 2011

In December 2010, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar set in motion a plan to apply the principles of ecological restoration, as suggested by Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin, on BLM lands within the Roseburg 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 BLM is currently working on development of an Interdisciplinary Team (ID Team) within the Roseburg District and South River Field Office staff to prepare for the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The next public meeting will be a field trip to see how the stands would be marked in sample areas. The original date for this field trip was March 26, 2011. This trip has been cancelled due to snow and poor weather conditions. A new date for this field trip is still being determined and will be posted as soon as possible. Drs. Johnson and Franklin will identify specific units from the unit pool by mid-April 2011. Maps that show these units will be posted on the pilot project website.

Middle Applegate Watershed Pilot Project Update:

During the week of March 14 the Medford BLM worked with Drs. Johnson and Franklin Further reviewing the pilot project's landscape and the process thus far for selecting stands for restoration. Drs. Johnson and Franklin also worked with BLM silviculture staff and marking crew coordinators to discuss prescriptive approach in a variety of stand types. On Saturday, March 19, there was a public field trip (attended by approximately 40 people) that reviewed several stands that have been selected for restoration through a collaborative process to view a sample mark of trees to be removed. Upcoming meetings for the Middle Applegate Watershed Pilot Project include:

May 5, 2011

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A field trip to demonstration sites where the public can review stands and trees marked for harvest.

Location: Information forthcoming on logistics.

May 20, 2011

Time: 9 to 12 Noon, 1 to 3 p.m. (if needed)

Public workshop to draft the monitoring plan.

Location: BLM Medford Interagency Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, OR 9750

For these upcoming Middle Applegate Watershed Pilot Project-related events please RSVP to Stephanie Kelleher at: (541) 618-2205, or Stephanie.Kelleher@blm.gov

Coos Bay Wa Forest Management Pilot:

The Coquille Indian Tribe proposed the Coos Bay Wagon Road Forest Management Pilot to the Secretary of the Interior on December 8, 2010. The Department of the Interior and BLM are reviewing the proposal. In the meantime, a copy of the Tribe's pilot proposal is now online on the Coos Bay Wagon Road Forest Management Pilot website at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/forestrypilot/>. No public meetings/field trips are scheduled at this time, but they will be offered in the near future.

