

SECRETARIAL FORESTRY PILOT PROJECTS UPDATE

March 23, 2012

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 posting periodic 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 EA will be available for public review and comment by April 3, 2012. The Roseburg District will hold a public open house to provide information about the EA on April 12, 2012, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Roseburg District Office.

Contact: Cheyne Rossbach, (541) 464-3245 or at crossbac@blm.gov
<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/forestrypilot/>.

MIDDLE APPLGATE WATERSHED PILOT PROJECT

Pilot Joe timber sale (Secretarial Pilot) operations have ceased due to an inability to haul and operate on roads affected by wet weather. Several public field trips to view operations were held and several more are planned, but will likely be postponed until operations begin toward the end of Spring. Pilot Thompson analysis and planning is ongoing. Staff is refining the list of units proposed for restoration, considering access and logistics. A collaborative transportation group continues to meet and discuss existing and future transportation needs for the project area. The group will discuss both road transportation needs (new roads) and opportunities for road decommissioning and converting roads to trails.

Contact: John Gerritsma, (541) 618-2438. Additional information about the pilot is available online at: www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/forestrypilot/.

COOS BAY WAGON ROAD PILOT PROJECT

The District will re-offer the Wagon Road Pilot timber sale on March 30. There were no bidders on the sale when it was originally auctioned on February 17. The District has worked to lower the minimum bid price by adjusting the appraised timber value, the site preparation costs, and the timeline to complete road work.

Contact: Kathy Hoffine (541) 751-4421. Additional information about the pilot is available online at: www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/forestrypilot/

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