

Secretarial Forestry Pilot Projects Update: May 13, 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, Bureau of Land Management, and Drs. Franklin and Johnson recently hosted members of the public on two field trips within the Myrtle Creek Watershed on May 1, 2011, and May 2, 2011. Participants had the opportunity to visit candidate stands for the demonstration of Moist Forest restoration. The field trips provided an opportunity to review the stands suggested by Drs. Franklin and Johnson for the demonstration, review the marking prescriptions that they applied, and provide suggestions for improving the learning potential of the demonstration.

The stand marking guide and associated maps from the field trips can be accessed on the pilot project website at the following address: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/forestrypilot/pilot-maps.php>

The stand marking guide and maps are also available at the Roseburg District Office, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg OR, 97471.

For questions relating to the Roseburg Pilot Project, please contact: Cheyne Rossbach, BLM Roseburg District Public Affairs at: Cheyne_Rossbach@blm.gov or by telephone at (541) 464-3245.

Middle Applegate Watershed Pilot Project Update

An initial alternative (Proposed Action) is now being finalized by the Interdisciplinary Team. This alternative does not require the construction of roads, an issue that the community was keenly interested in. A number of changes due to field reviews, access, and the ability to treat in an initial project this fiscal year have occurred since the initial pool of potential units was declared. There is also a proposal for a small amount of road obliteration.

The multi-party monitoring public workshop originally scheduled for May 20 has been postponed with a new date to be announced later. 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 Wagon Road Pilot Project

The Coquille Indian Tribe proposed the Coos Bay Wagon Road Landscape Management Proposal to the Secretary of the Interior on December 8, 2010. The Department of the Interior and BLM continue to review the long term management proposal. The Coos Bay Wagon Road Pilot is a near term project in cooperation with the Coquille Indian Tribe that applies the principles of Drs. Franklin and Johnson similar to the Medford and Roseburg pilots.

The BLM and Coquille Indian Tribe will be hosting a public meeting on the CBWR pilot on the evening of May 31 with a subsequent field trip scheduled for June 1. Details on the time and location of the meetings will be announced shortly. Additional information on the Coos Bay Wagon Road Pilot Project and the Tribe's long term management proposal can be accessed at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/forestrypilot/>



An Associated Press article mentioning the Coos Bay Pilot and providing general information about the Secretarial Pilot Projects in Medford, Coos Bay and Roseburg was published on May 11, 2011. The article can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.kval.com/outdoors/news/121662794.html>

Moist Forest Workshop Video

On February 17, 2011, Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin held a workshop that focused on a review of the fundamentals of Moist Forest ecosystems. A core objective of this presentation was to improve understanding among participants of the basis and objectives of retention harvesting. The program presented information on:

- Natural stand development and the structure and function of Pacific Northwest coniferous forests;
- Disturbances and the nature and role of biological legacies of disturbance;
- Nature and importance of early successional (pre-forest) ecosystems; and
- Silvicultural applications of this science in ecological forestry, including variable retention regeneration harvesting.

A complete video of the Moist Forest Workshop is now available online in five parts. The videos can be viewed on the BLM's website at: www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/forestrypilot/pilot-videos.php

