



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Glendale Resource Area  
2164 N.E. Spalding  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1790 (ORM080)

NOV 25 2009

Dear Interested Party:

The Glendale Resource Area, Medford District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to thin approximately 325 acres (Mini Mule Project) of managed forest stands 40 to 80 years old within the General Forest Management Area portion of the Matrix (including one Connectivity/Diversity Block) and Riparian Reserve land use allocations. The Planning Area is located within the Mule Creek and Missouri Creek sixth-field watersheds, which flows into the larger Rogue River-Horseshoe Bend fifth-field watershed.

There is a need to treat mid-seral stands that are currently overstocked to maintain stand vigor in the Matrix and maintain/enhance stand diversity in the Riparian Reserve. The purpose of the proposed project would be to reduce the stand densities through commercial thinning prescriptions, in a cost-effective manner following the 1995 Medford District Resource Management Plan (RMP)/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The RMP is itself an implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) which was also prepared by federal agencies, including the BLM. These EISs, and the corresponding Record of Decisions (RODs), specifically contemplated the ecological significance of the areas in which commercial and non-commercial timber harvest activities would be planned. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document that BLM would prepare for this proposed project would tier to analysis of project impacts already contained in these programmatic EISs.

The ultimate purpose of completing a NEPA document for this project is to allow the Field Manager to make choices between management options (alternatives) for the locations identified by the interdisciplinary team (IDT) as needing treatment. We are inviting you to participate in the planning of this project by identifying resource concerns that the IDT has not already identified, and that have not already been analyzed in the 1995 RMP. Helpful comments to assist me are identifying those concerns not previously considered that you feel are important, and explanation of why you believe those concerns are relevant to my ultimate decision on how to carry out the selected management option for the locations identified.

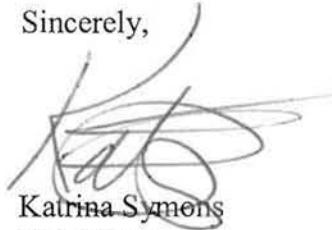
I encourage you to provide comments in writing regarding the proposed project on or before December 26, 2009 to me at 2164 NE Spalding Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526. Comments received in response to this letter will be used by the IDT to determine the scope (breadth and depth) of the environmental analysis.

If you would like to be kept informed on the Mini Mule Project, please state this prominently at the beginning of your comment letter. Comments, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available

for public inspection. Also, names of those who comment may be published as part of the environmental analysis document. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

For additional information concerning this proposed project contact Michelle Calvert at 2164 NE Spalding Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526 or phone (541) 471-6505.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina Symons', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Katrina Symons  
Field Manager  
Glendale Resource Area

Enclosure:

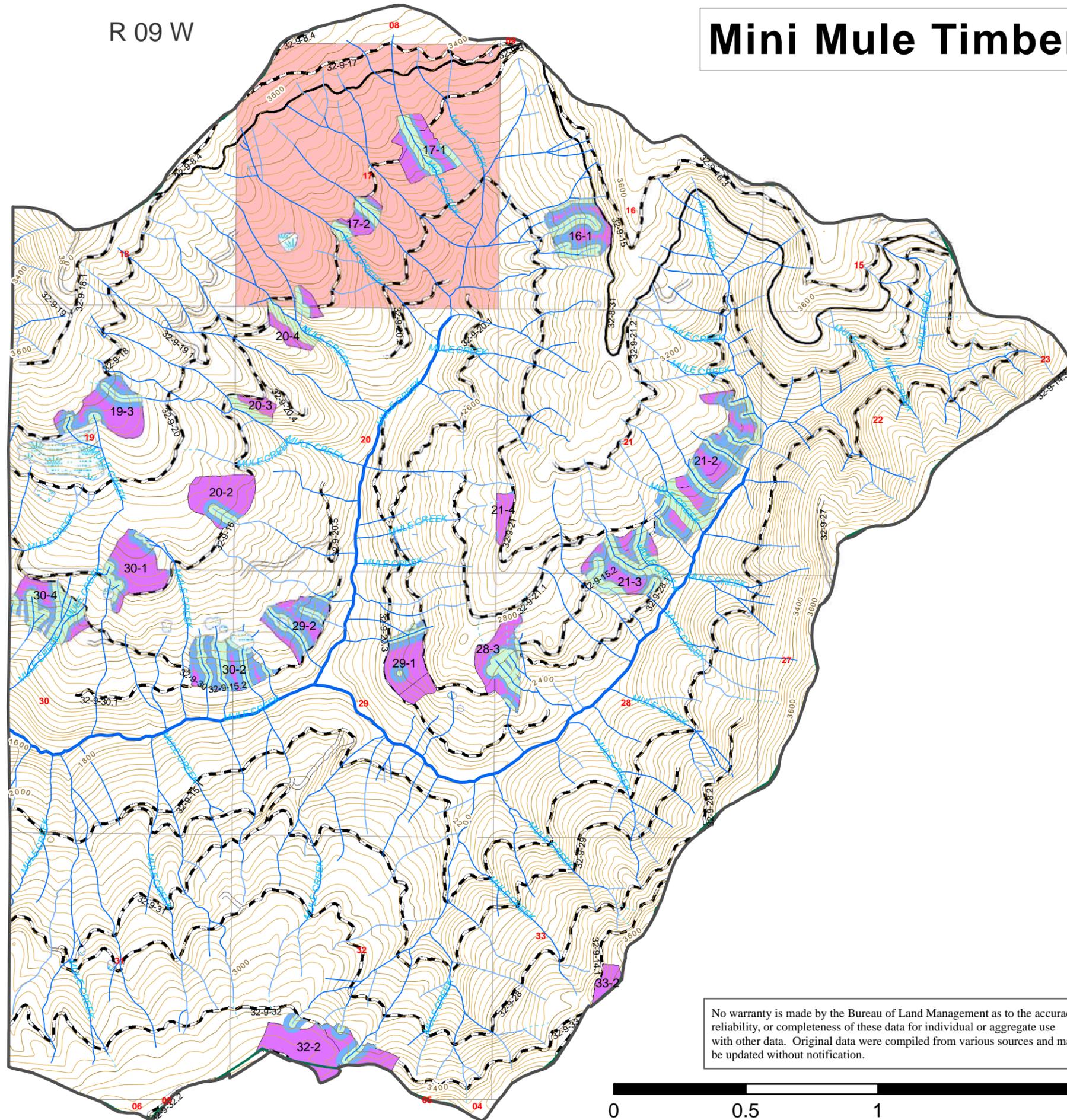
1-Mini Mule Scoping Report Map: Alternative 2 (1 p)

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# Mini Mule Timber Sale Scoping Map



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- Planning Area Boundary
- Mini Mule Units
- Watershed Boundary
- Streams
  - Perennial
  - Intermittent
  - Ephemeral
  - Fish Presence
  - Intermediate 40-ft contour
  - Index 200-ft contour
  - Wet Areas
  - Ecological Protection Zone
  - Riparian Reserve
- Roads
  - Rocked
  - Paved
  - Natural surface
  - Connectivity/Diversity Block
  - Matrix

Note: The Mini Mule Project is located entirely within an Elk Management area

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

