

Medford District Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Report

Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011



Medford District Vision

Working together to sustain and enhance resilient landscapes and quality of life in southwest Oregon.

Medford District Mission

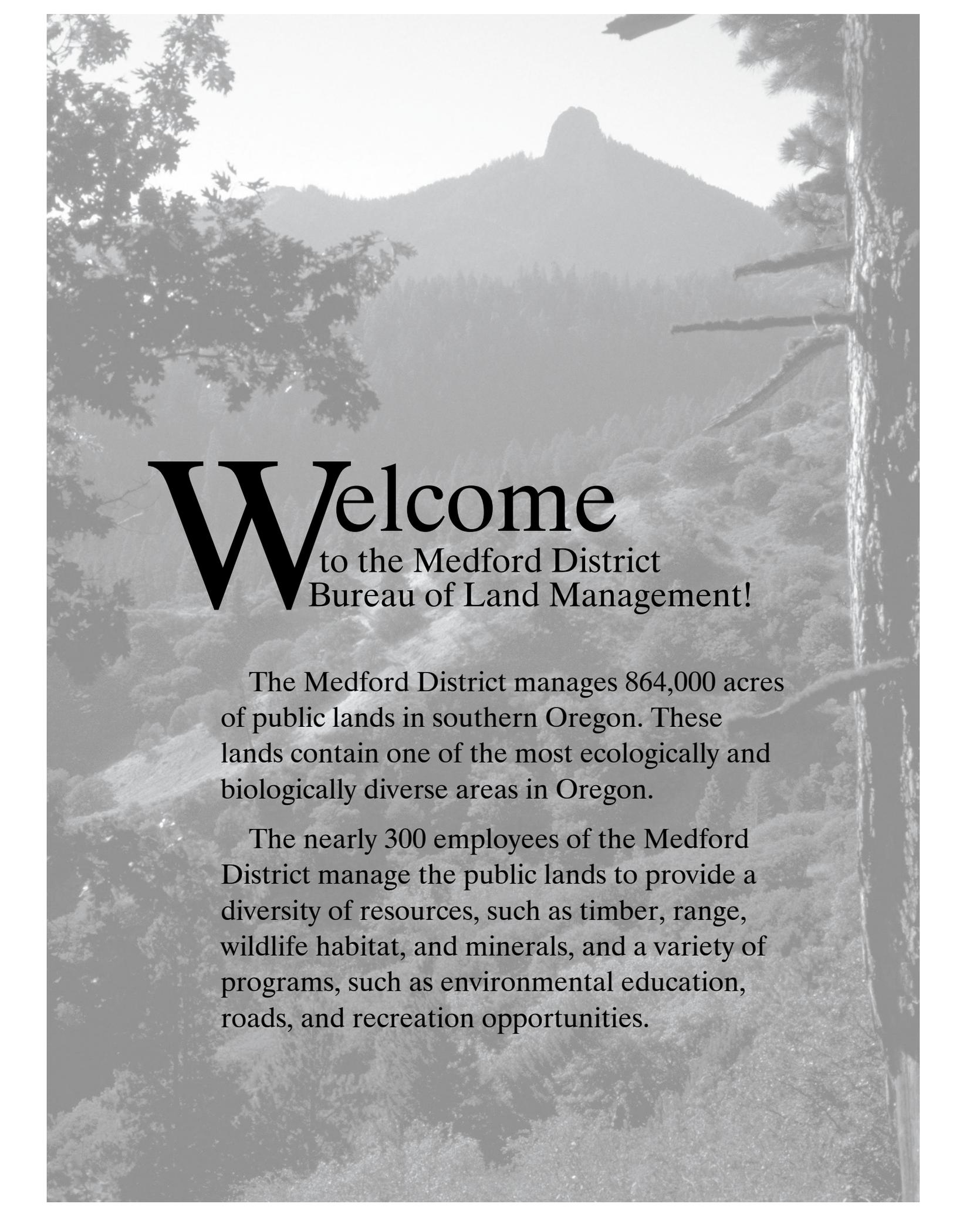
We are dedicated to professional management of the public lands by sustaining a wide variety of uses to serve the American people, now and in the future. We do this with a land ethic of balanced resource management in an environmentally, socially, and economically sound manner.

We are engaged, knowledgeable, informed, supported, and contributing toward solutions to current and future challenges.

We contribute to and manage toward resilient landscapes and habitats.

We effectively contribute to our communities through a diverse and flexible portfolio of goods, services, and opportunities.





Welcome

to the Medford District
Bureau of Land Management!

The Medford District manages 864,000 acres of public lands in southern Oregon. These lands contain one of the most ecologically and biologically diverse areas in Oregon.

The nearly 300 employees of the Medford District manage the public lands to provide a diversity of resources, such as timber, range, wildlife habitat, and minerals, and a variety of programs, such as environmental education, roads, and recreation opportunities.



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Table S-1. Medford RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments Fiscal Year Accomplishments or Program Status

| RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity | Activity Units | 2010 | 2011 | Cumulative Practices (2005-2011) | Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014) |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Forest and Timber Resources | | | | | |
| Regeneration harvest offered | acres | 132 | 88 | 1,203 | 10,400 |
| Commercial thinning/ Density management/ Uneven-age harvest offered (harvest land base) | acres | 2,892 | 2,108 | 16,686 | 44,900 |
| Salvage acres offered (reserves) | acres | 0 | 119 | 6,417 | N/A |
| Timber volume offered (harvest land base) | million board feet | 23.9 | 19.4 | 174.6 | 571 |
| Timber volume offered (reserves) | million board feet | 0.4 | 1.5 | 10.0 | N/A |
| Precommercial thinning (harvest land base) | acres | 754 | 2,056 | 5,194 | 78,000 |
| Precommercial thinning (reserves) | acres | 753 | 684 | 1,791 | N/A |
| Brushfield/hardwood conversion | acres | 0 | | 0 | N/A |
| Fire and Fuels | | | | | |
| Site preparation (prescribed fire) | acres | 0 | | 984 | 6,000 |
| Fuels treatments • Slash and hand pile • Burn (hand pile or underburn) | acres acres | 11,865 7,576 | | 75,621 | 18,000 |
| Fuels treatments (other methods) | acres | 0 | | 25,282 | N/A |
| Silviculture | | | | | |
| Planting—regular stock | acres | 689 | 480 | 3,608 | 2,700 |
| Planting—genetically selected | acres | 597 | 54 | 3,099 | 10,300 |
| Fertilization | acres | 0 | | 0 | 57,000 |
| Pruning | acres | 331 | | 3,028 | 18,600 |
| Site preparation (other methods) | acres | 93 | 179 | 966 | 1,000 |
| Noxious Weeds | | | | | |
| Noxious weeds control | acres | 6,004 | 7,770 | 38,343 | N/A |
| Native Plants Program | | | | | |
| Wildland native seed collections | collections | 106 | 80 | 268 | 425 |
| Native seed produced | pounds | 7,635 | 16,000 | 93,240 | 11,7240 |
| Native seed applied | acres/ # seeded | 728/ 792 | 1,225/ 12,000 | 6,510/ 59,704 | 8,900/ 83,700 |



Table S-1. Medford RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments Fiscal Year Accomplishments or Program Status

| RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity | Activity Units | 2010 | 2011 | Cumulative Practices (2005-2011) | Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014) |
|---|---|-------|-------|----------------------------------|---|
| Range | | | | | |
| Livestock grazing permits or leases | annual leases/ 10-year renewals | 46/1 | 50/6 | N/A | N/A |
| Animal unit months (actual) | animal unit months | 8,239 | 5,918 | N/A | N/A |
| Livestock fences constructed or maintained | units/miles | 5/4 | 2/23 | 166/72 | N/A |
| Realty | | | | | |
| Land sales | actions/ acres | 0 | 0 | 20 | N/A |
| Land purchase | acres | 777 | 1,274 | 4,074 | N/A |
| Land exchanges | actions/ acres acquired/ acres disposed | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 | N/A |
| R&PP leases/patents | actions | 1 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| Road easements acquired for public/agency use | acres | 21 | 15 | 61 | N/A |
| Road rights-of-way granted Utility rights-of-way granted | actions | 39 | 44 | 598 | N/A |
| Utility rights-of-way granted (communication sites) | actions | 0 | 1 | 50 | N/A |
| Special use permits | actions | 0 | 0 | 26 | N/A |
| Withdrawals completed | actions/ acres | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 | N/A |
| Withdrawals revoked | actions/ acres | 0/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 | N/A |
| Minerals/Energy | | | | | |
| Oil and gas leases | actions/ acres | 0/0 | | 0/0 | N/A |
| Other leases | actions/ acres | 0/0 | | 0/0 | N/A |
| Mining plans approved | actions/ acres | 0/0 | | 1 | N/A |



Table S-1. Medford RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments Fiscal Year Accomplishments or Program Status

| RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity | Activity Units | 2010 | 2011 | Cumulative Practices (2005-2011) | Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014) |
|--|-------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Mining claims patented | actions/ acres | 0/0 | | 0/0 | N/A |
| Mineral materials sites opened | actions/ acres | 0/0 | | 0/0 | N/A |
| Mineral material sites closed | actions/ acres | 0/0 | | 0/0 | N/A |
| Recreation | | | | | |
| Off-highway vehicle trails maintained | number/ miles | 5/25 | 5/40 | N/A | N/A |
| Hiking trails maintained | number/ miles | 25/161 | 33/124 | N/A | N/A |
| Recreation sites maintained | number/ acres | 28/ 1,389 | 31/ 1,109 | N/A | N/A |
| Cultural Resources | | | | | |
| Cultural resource inventories | sites/acres | 19/ 3,725 | 19/ 3,433 | N/A | |
| Cultural/historic sites nominated | sites/acres | 0 / 0 | 0/0 | N/A | |



Annual Program Summary

This Annual Program Summary (APS) is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management for the period of October 2009 through September 2011. The Medford District did not publish an APS for fiscal year 2010; therefore, this combines the fiscal years 2010 and 2011 review of programs. The program summary is designed to report to the public and to local, state, and Federal agencies a broad overview of activities and accomplishments for fiscal years 2010 and 2011. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, forestry, recreation, and other programs. Included in the Annual Program Summary is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

The Record of Decision for the Medford District, signed December 30, 2008, was withdrawn by the Secretary of the Interior in July 2009. On March 31, 2011, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia vacated and remanded the Secretary of the Interior's decision to withdraw the 2008 RODs/RMPs (*Douglas Timber Operators et al. v. Salazar*), effectively returning the districts to the 2008 RMP.

Plaintiffs in the *Pacific Rivers Council v. Shepard* litigation filed a partial motion for summary judgment in the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon on Endangered Species Act (ESA) claims and requested the court to vacate and remand the 2008 RODs/RMPs. A magistrate judge issued findings and recommendations on September 29, 2011 and recommended granting the Plaintiffs motion for partial summary judgment on their ESA claim. The Court recommends setting aside the agency action, vacating the 2008 RODs and reinstating the Northwest Forest Plan as the appropriate remedy. The Court issued a final order on March 20, 2012 vacating the 2008 RODs. During 2010 and 2011, given the current uncertainty surrounding planning in western Oregon, the Medford District designed projects to conform to both the 2008 ROD/RMP and the 1995 ROD/RMP. As the period addressed under this APS encompasses the period primarily when the 1995 ROD/RMP was in place, and planning for most projects was initiated under the 1995 RMP, the primary focus in this document is actions completed under the 1995 RMP.

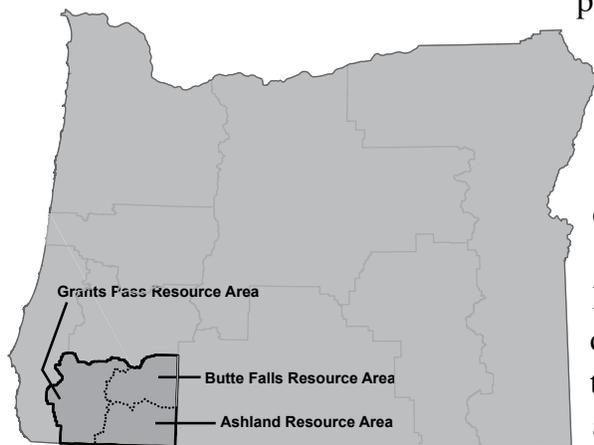
In April 1994, the *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (Northwest Forest Plan or NWFP) was signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior. The *Medford District Record of Decision (ROD) and Resource Management Plan (RMP)*, approved in April 1995, adopted and incorporated the Standards and Guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan in the form of Management Actions/Directions.

Both the Northwest Forest Plan and the ROD/RMP embrace the concepts of ecosystem management in a broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land use



allocations covering all Federal lands within the range of the northern spotted owl were established in the NWFP. Analyses such as watershed analyses and late-successional reserve assessments are conducted at broader scale and involve landowners in addition to BLM. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been developed for implementation at the regional level.

The Medford District administers approximately 866,000 acres located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, and Curry counties. Under the NWFP and ROD/RMP, management of these lands is included in three primary land use allocations: Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur; Late-Successional Reserve, where



providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized; and Riparian Reserve, where maintenance of water quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized. The ROD/RMP established objectives for management of 17 resource programs occurring on the District. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in a detailed manner in the APS because of the overlap of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource

programs is not included in the APS to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in the ROD/RMP and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both available at the Medford District and Grants Pass Interagency Offices.

Until 2010, the Medford District consisted of four Resource Areas. In FY 2011, the Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas were combined into the Grants Pass Resource Area, encompassing all lands within both Resource Areas; this was approved by the Department of the Interior in 2011.

Recent Court Rulings

A series of recent court rulings have affected the approach for this APS, particularly regarding monitoring requirements. The details are included in the Monitoring Report for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 in this document.

Survey and Manage

On December 17, 2009, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington issued an order in *Conservation Northwest, et al. v. Sherman, et al.*, No. 08-1067-JCC (W.D. Wash.), granting Plaintiffs' motion for partial summary judgment and finding NEPA violations in the *Final Supplemental to the 2004 Supplemental Environmental Impact*



Statement to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines (USDA and USDI, June 2007). In response, parties entered into settlement negotiations in April 2010, and the Court filed approval of the resulting Settlement Agreement on July 6, 2011. Projects that are within the range of the northern spotted owl are subject to the Survey and Management Standards and Guidelines in the 2001 ROD, as modified by the 2011 Settlement Agreement.

Budget

The Medford District receives its annual operating budget from congressionally appropriated funds and other nonappropriated revenue sources. The BLM Washington Office and BLM Oregon/Washington State Office determine the Medford District budget based on congressional appropriations and other authorities and departmental direction. In fiscal year 2011, the Medford District received a total of \$17.3 million in Oregon and California Land Grant (O&C) appropriations; \$3.7 million in Management of Lands and Resources appropriations; and \$15.4 million in other appropriated and nonappropriated funds (Table 1). These figures do not include carry-over from prior fiscal years, or fire suppression costs.

The “other appropriated funds” category included \$7.4 million in hazard fuels reduction, emergency fire rehabilitation, and fire preparedness funds; \$3.5 million in land acquisition related funds; \$2.5 million in Secure Rural Schools Act funds; and \$1 million in deferred maintenance funds.

“Nonappropriated funds” included \$0.2 million of timber sale pipeline restoration funds, \$0.15 million in road use fee collections, and \$0.34 million in recreation fee collections. Other nonappropriated funding includes reimbursements for work performed for other Federal agencies, appropriated funds transferred to BLM from other agencies, funds contributed from non-Federal sources, and other miscellaneous collection accounts.

The total monetary resources (excluding prior year carryover) available to the Medford District in fiscal year 2011 was \$36.5 million. The District had an additional \$6 million in carry-over funds available in fiscal year 2011, roughly three-quarters of which were from multi-year projects or appropriations, or from nonappropriated sources. Carry-over funding also included \$0.67 million of forest ecosystem health and recovery funds, and \$0.1 million of timber sale pipeline restoration funds.



Table 1. Medford District Budget for Fiscal Years 2007 - 2011

| Appropriation Category | FY2007 | FY2008 | FY 2009 | FY 2010 | FY 2011 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Oregon and California Land Grant | 18,936,000 | 18,564,000 | 18,093,000 | 16,691,000 | 17,377,000 |
| Management of Lands and Resources | 2,657,000 | 1,802,378 | 3,840,000 | 2,192,000 | 3,698,000 |
| Other Appropriated and Nonappropriated Funds | 23,639,000 | 19,368,574 | 25,124,601 | 22,183,215 | 15,412,122 |
| Total | 44,232,000 | 39,734,952 | 47,057,601 | 41,071,215 | 36,487,122 |

Land Use Allocations

Lands administered by the BLM are managed to maintain or restore healthy, functioning ecosystems from which a sustainable production of natural resources can be provided. Ecosystem management involves the use of ecological, economic, social, and managerial principles to achieve healthy and sustainable natural systems.

The building blocks for this strategy are composed of several major land use allocations under the 1995 RMP: riparian reserves; late-successional reserves; adaptive management areas; matrix, which includes general forest management areas and connectivity/diversity blocks; and a variety of special purpose management areas such as recreation sites, wild and scenic rivers, and visual resource management areas (Table 2).

Table 2. Major Land Use Allocations on the Medford District

| Allocation | Acres |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Congressional Reserves | 14,267 |
| Late-Successional Reserves | 178,467 |
| Late-Successional Reserves within AMA | 32,937 |
| Marbled Murrelet Reserves | 3,478 |
| District Defined Reserves | 1,290 |
| Connectivity/Diversity Blocks | 27,237 |
| Applegate Adaptive Management Area | 113,912 |
| Reserved Habitat Area | 16,732 |
| General Forest Management Area | 470,776 |
| Total | 859,096 |

NOTE: The allocations in this table do not have any overlapping designations. There are approximately 369,200 acres of riparian reserves which overlap all of these major land use allocations.



Late-Successional Reserves

Late-successional reserves are areas established by the NWFP and the Medford District ROD/RMP to maintain functional, interactive late-successional and old growth forest ecosystems. They are designed to serve as habitat for late-successional and old growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

The Medford District contains portions of five late-successional reserves: Elk Creek, Azalea, Galice Block, Munger Butte, and Jenny Creek.

Late-successional reserve assessments were completed for all late-successional reserves.

Aquatic Conservation Strategy

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) was developed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems contained within them on public lands. The ACS is composed of riparian reserves, key watersheds, watershed analysis, and watershed restoration.

The strategy is to protect salmon and steelhead habitat on Federal lands managed by the BLM. This conservation strategy employs several tactics to approach the goal of maintaining the “natural” disturbance regime. The ACS strives to maintain and restore ecosystem health at watershed and landscape scales to protect habitat for fish and other riparian-dependent species and resources and restore currently degraded habitat.

Silviculture practices have been implemented within riparian reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain ACS objectives. These silviculture practices include tree planting, precommercial thinning, and density management thinning.

Watershed analysis is required by the NWFP. Watershed analysis includes

- analysis of the at-risk fish species and stocks, their presence, habitat conditions, and restoration needs;
- description of the landscape over time, including the effects of fire and the impacts of humans and their role in shaping the landscape;
- distribution and abundance of species and populations throughout the watershed; and
- characteristics of the geological and hydrologic conditions.

This information is obtained from a variety of sources such as field inventory and observation, history books, agency records, and old maps and survey records.



Watershed Council Coordination

The District coordinates with and offers assistance to a number of watershed associations. This provides an excellent forum for exchange of ideas, partnering, education, and promoting watershed-wide restoration. The District is active with approximately 14 watershed associations.

Air Quality

All prescribed fire activities conformed to the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. Air quality considerations in prescribed burn plans include burning during high-quality smoke mixing when good dispersal exists and rapid mop-up of burned units to reduce residual smoke. Qualitative and some quantitative monitoring occurred during prescribed burning episodes in 2010 and 2011. On-site and permanent nephelometer monitoring, which measures smoke particulates in the air, as well as ocular monitoring ensured smoke did not impact Smoke Sensitive Receptor Areas and reduce visibility.

Water and Soils

Water Quality Limited - 303(d) Streams

Approximately 242 stream miles included on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) 2004/2006 Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Waterbodies cross BLM-administered land in the Medford District. These streams are primarily listed as water quality limited due to temperature, but some stream segments are listed for additional reasons such as dissolved oxygen, biological criteria, fecal coliform, *E. coli*, and sedimentation.

The Medford District worked cooperatively with the Oregon DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMP) for 303(d) listed streams on BLM-administered lands. As of December 2010, Oregon DEQ has completed TMDLs and WQMPs for the Umpqua and Rogue Basins and Upper Klamath Subbasin.

The BLM prepares Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRP) for BLM-administered lands; the WQRPs are incorporated into Oregon DEQ's WQMPs. The Medford District completed 3 WQRPs in 2010 and 7 in 2011, bringing the total Oregon DEQ-approved WQRPs to 29 (Table 3). All but two of these WQRPs may be found on the Medford District Web site at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/plans/activityplans.php>. The BLM's Upper Sucker Creek and Lower Sucker Creek WQRPs were prepared as part of the DEQ's WQMPs with the same titles. These WQMPs may be found on the DEQ Web site at <http://www.deq.state.or.us/WQ/TMDLs/rogue.htm#is>.

**Table 3. Medford District WQRPs Approved by DEQ**

| WQRP Name | Year Approved by DEQ |
|--|----------------------|
| Upper Sucker Creek (WQMP) | 1999 |
| Grave Creek | 2001 |
| Lower Sucker Creek (WQMP) | 2002 |
| West Fork Cow Creek | 2004 |
| Middle Cow Creek | 2004 |
| Upper Cow Creek | 2004 |
| Applegate Subbasin | 2005 |
| Lower East Fork Illinois River | 2006 |
| McMullin Creek | 2006 |
| South Rogue River-Gold Hill | 2006 |
| West Bear Creek | 2006 |
| North and South Forks Little Butte Creek | 2006 |
| West Fork Illinois River | 2007 |
| Illinois River-Kerby | 2007 |
| Big Butte Creek | 2008 |
| Althouse Creek | 2008 |
| Upper Bear Creek | 2009 |
| Elk Creek | 2009 |
| Evans Creek | 2009 |
| Jumpoff Joe Creek | 2010 |
| Horseshoe Bend-Rogue River | 2010 |
| Lower Little Butte Creek | 2010 |
| Hellgate Canyon-Rogue River | 2011 |
| Silver Creek | 2011 |
| Trail Creek | 2011 |
| Shady Cove-Rogue River | 2011 |
| North Gold Hill-Rogue River | 2011 |
| Grants Pass-Rogue River | 2011 |
| Deer Creek | 2011 |



The following restoration projects (Table 4) were implemented in fiscal year 2010 to improve water quality on water quality limited streams.

Table 4. Medford District Fiscal Year 2010 Water Quality Restoration Projects

| Watershed | Stream Name | Water Quality Limited Parameter | Restoration Project |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Applegate Subbasin | | | |
| Little Applegate River | Little Applegate River | Summer Temperature | Installed 25 water dips to improve road drainage; armored water dips and spot rocked a section of 2nd Waters Gulch Road to reduce sedimentation. 2nd Waters Gulch is a tributary to the Little Applegate River. |
| Little Applegate River | Grouse Creek | Summer Dissolved Oxygen | Installed 4 water dips to improve road drainage; surface graded 3 road miles and cleaned 25 culverts to reduce sedimentation. |
| Upper Applegate River | Star Gulch | Summer Temperature | Decommissioned lower portion (0.75 mile) of Ladybug Gulch road to reduce sedimentation of Ladybug and Star gulches. |
| Upper Applegate River | Beaver Creek | Summer Temperature; Sedimentation | Installed 12 water dips to improve road drainage; armored water dips and cleaned 30 culverts to reduce sedimentation on Texter Gulch road. Texter Gulch is a tributary of Beaver Creek. |
| Illinois Subbasin | | | |
| Deer Creek | Deer Creek | Year-round Temperature | Placed large wood in 0.5 mile of lower Draper Creek, a tributary of Deer Creek, to improve stream habitat and reduce channel width-to-depth ratio. |
| Deer Creek | Deer Creek | Year-round Temperature | Replaced culvert on Draper Creek, a tributary of Deer Creek. |
| Althouse Creek | Althouse Creek | Year-round Temperature | Replaced culvert on Number 7 Gulch, a tributary of Althouse Creek. |

**Table 4. Medford District Fiscal Year 2010 Water Quality Restoration Projects**

| Watershed | Stream Name | Water Quality Limited Parameter | Restoration Project |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Lower Rogue Subbasin | | | |
| Jumpoff Joe Creek | Louse Creek and Jumpoff Joe Creek | Year-round Temperature | Added wood to 3 Louse Creek tributaries and 1 Jumpoff Joe Creek tributary for a total of 4 stream miles. Benefits to stream temperature include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width-to-depth ratio. |
| Middle Rogue Subbasin | | | |
| Gold Hill-Rogue River | Rogue River | Summer Fecal Coliform; Year-round Temperature | Upgraded 2 culverts and improved road drainage on Foothills Creek Road. Foothills Creek is a tributary to the Rogue River. |
| South Umpqua Subbasin | | | |
| Middle Cow | Quines Creek | Summer Temperature | Placed large wood at 17 sites in 0.6 mile of stream and manipulated legacy structures. Benefits to stream temperature include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width-to-depth ratio. |
| Middle Cow | Whitehorse Creek | Habitat Modification | Placed large wood at 19 sites in 1.3 stream miles and manipulated legacy structures. Benefits to stream temperature include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width-to-depth ratio. |
| Upper Rogue Subbasin | | | |
| Big Butte Creek | Jackass Creek | Year-round Temperature | Created a riparian grazing enclosure by fencing approximately 28 acres of riparian reserve along Jackass Creek. |
| Big Butte Creek | North Fork Big Butte Creek | Year Around Temperature | Placed 50 pieces of large wood to improve stream habitat complexity over 6 sites on North Fork Big Butte Creek. |
| Little Butte Creek | Conde Creek | Year Around Temperature | Installed a 5-acre riparian grazing enclosure and increased an existing enclosure by 2.5 acres. |



The following restoration projects (Table 5) were implemented in fiscal year 2011 to improve water quality on water quality limited streams.

Table 5. Medford District Fiscal Year 2011 Water Quality Restoration Projects

| Watershed | Stream Name | Water Quality Limited Parameter | Restoration Project |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Applegate Subbasin | | | |
| Little Applegate River | Little Applegate River | Summer Temperature | Decommissioned/obliterated 1.6 miles of Lick Gulch Road. Included culvert removal and channel reconstruction at crossing. Lick Gulch is a tributary to the Little Applegate River. |
| Little Applegate River | Grouse Creek | Summer Dissolved Oxygen | Upgraded 8 culverts to accommodate flood flows and pass bedload. |
| Little Applegate River | Yale Creek | Summer Temperature | Removed fish passage barrier culvert, installed stream simulation structure, and reconstructed channel to improve flow capacity. |
| Middle Applegate River | Applegate River | Dissolved Oxygen; Summer Temperature | Upgraded culvert on Chapman Creek tributary to accommodate flood flows and pass bedload. Chapman Creek is a tributary to the Applegate River. |
| Middle Applegate River | Applegate River | Dissolved Oxygen; Summer Temperature | Removed fish passage barrier culvert on Keeler Creek—a tributary to the Applegate River, installed stream simulation structure, and reconstructed channel to improve flow capacity. Upgraded a non-fish culvert to accommodate flood flows and pass bedload. |

**Table 5. Medford District Fiscal Year 2011 Water Quality Restoration Projects**

| Watershed | Stream Name | Water Quality Limited Parameter | Restoration Project |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| Middle Applegate River | Thompson Creek | Summer Dissolved Oxygen | Placed 50 pieces of large wood in Ninemile Creek, a tributary to Thompson Creek, to improve stream habitat complexity. Benefits will include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width-to-depth ratio. Removed old mining diversion in Ninemile Creek tributary and returned stream to natural channel. |
| Upper Applegate River | Star Gulch | Summer Temperature | Placed 50 pieces of large wood to improve stream habitat complexity. Benefits will include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width-to-depth ratio. |
| Upper Applegate River | Beaver Creek | Summer Temperature; Sedimentation | Improved road drainage and replaced culvert to reduce sedimentation. |
| Middle Rogue Subbasin | | | |
| Evans Creek | Battle Creek | Summer Temperature | Replaced road cross-drain culverts to improve drainage and reduce sedimentation. |
| Evans Creek | Salt Creek | Summer Temperature | Replaced road cross-drain culverts to improve drainage and reduce sedimentation. |
| Evans Creek | West Fork Evans Creek | Summer Temperature | Replaced road cross-drain culverts to improve drainage and reduce sedimentation. |
| Evans Creek | Evans Creek | Fecal Coliform | Surfaced Murphy Gulch Road to reduce sedimentation. |
| Gold Hill-Rogue River | Rogue River | Summer Fecal Coliform; Year Around Temperature | Surfaced Sardine Creek Road to reduce sedimentation. Sardine Creek is a tributary to the Rogue River. |

**Table 5. Medford District Fiscal Year 2011 Water Quality Restoration Projects**

| Watershed | Stream Name | Water Quality Limited Parameter | Restoration Project |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Gold Hill-Rogue River | Rogue River | Summer Fecal Coliform; Year-round Temperature | Decommissioned/obliterated 1.7 miles of Max Gulch Road, removed culvert, and reconstructed channel. Max Gulch is in the Foothills Creek drainage and Foothills Creek is a tributary to the Rogue River. |
| Gold Hill-Rogue River | Rogue River | Summer Fecal Coliform; Year-round Temperature | Removed fish passage barrier culvert on Right Fork Foothills Creek, installed stream simulation structure, and reconstructed channel to improve flow capacity. Foothills Creek is a tributary to the Rogue River. |
| South Umpqua Subbasin | | | |
| Middle Cow | Quines Creek | Summer Temperature | Manipulated legacy structures along 0.25 mile of Quines Creek. Benefits to stream temperature include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width-to-depth ratio. |
| Upper Rogue Subbasin | | | |
| Little Butte Creek | Antelope Creek | <i>E. coli</i> ; Summer Temperature | Upgraded culvert on Antelope Creek tributary to accommodate flood flows and pass bedload. |
| Little Butte Creek | Lake Creek | <i>E. coli</i> ; Sedimentation; Summer Temperature | Decommissioned/obliterated 12 miles of OHV routes, blocked access around gates and to meadows and riparian reserves to reduce sedimentation. |
| Little Butte Creek | North Fork Little Butte Creek | <i>E. coli</i> ; pH; Summer Temperature | Decommissioned/obliterated OHV route and blocked access to meadow. |

Monitoring

The BLM conducted stream surveys on 11 stream miles in fiscal year 2010 and 15 stream miles in fiscal year 2011. The information collected is being used for project planning and updating the hydrography dataset. Channel cross sections were surveyed at 6 sites in 2010 and 5 sites in 2011.



Water monitoring was conducted in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 at sites across the District for various parameters (Table 6).

Table 6. Medford District Water Monitoring FY 2010 and FY 2011

| Parameter Monitored | Number of Monitoring Sites | |
|---|----------------------------|---------|
| | FY 2010 | FY 2011 |
| Summer stream temperature using recording instruments | 62 | 61 |
| Streamflow | 21 | 23 |
| Turbidity | 31 | 38 |
| Conductivity | 40 | 38 |
| pH | 40 | 38 |
| Dissolved oxygen | 25 | 25 |
| Precipitation | 11 | 9 |

Terrestrial Habitat and Species Management

Wildlife habitat work generally occurs through implementation of other projects such as timber sales, fuels treatments, or silviculture projects. Wildlife biologists in each of Medford's resource areas review those projects through interdisciplinary team processes. Biologists prioritize surveys for species and habitats to evaluate what species might occur in or adjacent to the project areas, assess relevant literature, and talk with species' experts to determine potential effects of proposed projects. Required surveys are accomplished with contracts or in-house personnel. Through the interdisciplinary process, biologists offer recommendations to managers to reduce impacts and minimize effects on species during sensitive periods (generally the reproductive period). Wildlife biologists also propose projects that may improve habitat for key species or restore habitat when opportunities and funding allow.

Objectives of the land use allocations delineated in the Northwest Forest Plan dictate the type and degree of wildlife conservation or management. Most timber harvest volume comes from matrix lands, which includes General Forest Management Areas (GFMA), Adaptive Management Areas (AMA), and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks. Major habitat components are retained in timber projects through land use allocation, green tree retention, snag retention and recruitment, and coarse woody debris (CWD) management. Specific measures were provided in the Northwest Forest Plan to meet the needs of most priority wildlife species found in the District.

In 2010 and 2011, the Medford Wildlife program continued to work on several wildlife-related lawsuits, including cases on northern spotted owl critical habitat, processes related to the incidental take of Endangered Species Act listed species, and the Survey and Manage program.



Snags and Snag Recruitment

The BLM leaves as many existing snags in a timber harvest unit as possible. Standing dead trees that meet RMP requirements are left if they do not conflict with prescribed burning or Occupational Safety and Health Administration safety guidelines. Dead wood provides important habitat components to many species of wildlife, including the northern spotted owl.

Connectivity

Designated connectivity/diversity blocks are spaced across the District. The BLM manages connectivity/diversity blocks on a 150-year harvest rotation and must maintain 25 to 30 percent of each block (640-acre section) in late-successional forest. Regeneration harvest areas in connectivity/diversity blocks maintain a minimum of 12 to 18 green trees per acre. Additional connectivity is provided by the riparian management network (100 to 300 feet on each side of a stream) and by 250 known 100-acre northern spotted owl activity centers that are managed as late-successional reserves.

Wildlife Survey and Manage

The BLM protected wildlife species listed under the 2001 Survey and Manage ROD as required. Surveys for Survey and Manage species, including red tree voles, great gray owls, and mollusks, were performed prior to ground-disturbing activities. Protection buffers according to species-specific management recommendations were applied as needed to maintain species persistence. General regional surveys are normally coordinated and funded through the BLM Oregon State Office. The Medford District did not assist with any regional surveys in fiscal years 2010 or 2011.

The 2011 Settlement Agreement from *Conservation Northwest et al. v. Sherman et al.*, Case No. 08-1067-JCC (W.D. Wash.) went into effect July 21, 2011. A revised Survey and Manage species list was included in the settlement agreement and implemented by the BLM. The species categories for Survey and Manage remain the same in the settlement agreement which requires surveys for Category A and C species and management of known (documented) sites for Category A, B, C, and E species; management of “high-priority” Category D species; and no site management requirement for Category F species.

Wildlife Special Status Species

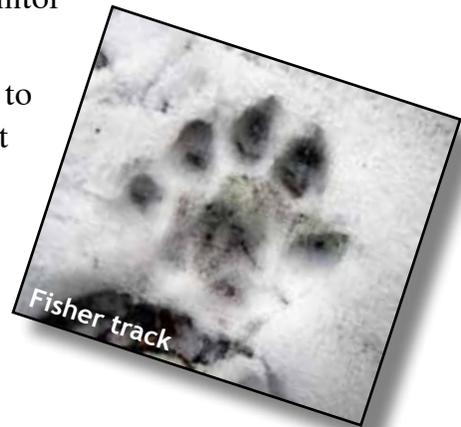
Wildlife biologists worked with other resource specialists and managers to implement the revised BLM Manual 6840-Special Status Species Management on rare and sensitive species (including species listed under the Endangered Species Act). Regular updates are made to the Special Status Species list (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/sfpnw/issssp>).



Medford conducted work on several special status species projects during fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

Fiscal Year 2010 Projects

- Black salamander: Completed work initiated in 2008. Positive detections were documented in Jackson County; none were found in the historic areas of Josephine County.
- Snakes (District-wide): Conducted Oregon snake surveys. Documented 11 different species, including 2 sensitive species.
- Western pond turtle (Grants Pass Resource Area): Conducted surveys in nine ponds. A total of 26 turtles were captured; 3 were recaptures from previous seasons.
- Mardon skipper (Ashland Resource Area): Installed exclosures to protect butterflies from grazing.
- Johnson's hairstreak (Ashland and Butte Falls Resource Areas): Initiated surveys for these butterflies and their habitat.
- Bald eagle (District-wide): Continued to monitor 19 known sites and conduct 3 mid-winter eagle counts.
- Peregrine falcon (District-wide): Continued to monitor 10 known sites.
- Pacific fisher (District Project): Continued surveys to help refine distributional boundaries on the district and collect genetic samples to help determine the range of the disjunct Oregon populations. Worked with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service to develop project evaluation methods for this warranted species.



Fiscal Year 2011

- The Ashland Resource area implemented the habitat management plan for the Mardon skipper. Boulders were placed at three meadow complexes in order to restrict illegal OHV use; one cattle exclosure was built to reduce the effects of grazing on key habitat; encroaching conifers were cut at five of the known sites; and educational signs were created to educate the public on the restoration work and skipper ecology.

- Surveys for the Coronis fritillary butterfly occurred in the Grants Pass Resource Area. The species was documented to occur on BLM



administered lands (previously only suspected) and confirmed at two historic locations.

- Bald eagle (District-wide): Continued to monitor 19 known sites and conduct 3 mid-winter eagle counts.
- Golden Eagle (Grants Pass and Butte Falls RA): Monitored two sites
- Peregrine falcon (District-wide): Continued to monitor 11 known sites
- Pacific fisher (District Project): Continued surveys to help refine distributional boundaries on the district and collect genetic samples to help determine the range of the disjunct Oregon populations. Thirty-one sample units were surveyed and fishers were documented at 14 sample units and 32 hair samples were collected. BLM employees also assisted the US Forest Service in a trapping effort to place GPS collars on fisher.



Coronis fritillary

Federally-listed Species Management

The Medford District contains three species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and vernal pool fairy shrimp. The District consults under Section 7 of the ESA on all activities proposed within the habitat of federally listed species. The District completed five Biological Assessments in fiscal year 2010 and four in fiscal year 2011 for Section 7 consultation evaluating multiple project effects to listed species and critical habitat. Wildlife consultation documents are posted on the Medford District Web site under planning documents/consultation.

Northern Spotted Owl (NSO)

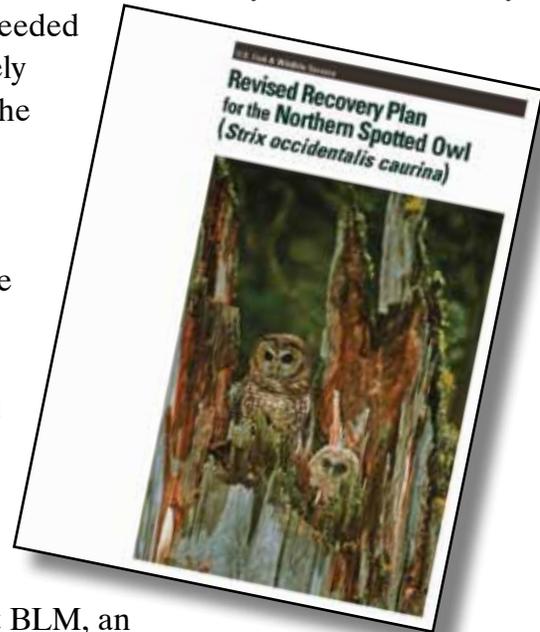
Northern spotted owls are federally listed as threatened. The Klamath Area northern spotted owl demographic study continued in the Glendale Resource Area as one of two BLM long-term owl effectiveness projects designed to rigorously monitor northern spotted population trends. In addition to the suit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on their regulatory language related to critical habitat, there is ongoing litigation related to incidental take quantification. USFWS is in the process of reevaluating their Critical Habitat designation, so we continued to use the most recent (2008) Critical Habitat designation in 2011.

NSO Recovery Plan

On June 30, 2011, the USFWS released the *Revised Recovery Plan for the Northern Spotted Owl* (USDI FWS 2011). The Notice of Final Revised Recovery Plan Availability



was published in the Federal Register on July 1, 2011 (76 FR 38575 38576) for the Northern Spotted Owl. The 2011 Recovery Plan contains 33 Recovery Actions. Recovery Actions are recommendations to guide activities needed to accomplish the recovery objectives and ultimately lead to delisting of the species. At the local level, the Medford District implemented Recovery Actions 2 and 3 by continuing demographic monitoring. Additionally, the Medford District implemented Recovery Actions 10 and 32, which aim to conserve spotted owl sites and habitat. The intent of Recovery Action 32 (RA 32) is to maintain the older and more structurally complex multi-layered conifer forests on Federal lands in order not to further exacerbate the competitive interactions between spotted owls and barred owls. Within the administrative units of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and the Medford District BLM, an interagency, interdisciplinary team was created to develop a methodology for identifying Recovery Action 32/structurally complex forest for project level planning and NSO consultation needs in southwest Oregon. The most current methodology (version 1.3, January 2010) was used to identify RA 32 stands for proposed projects within the Medford District. During an Integrated Vegetation Management process to rank watersheds within the Medford District, Recovery Action 10 was used as a basis to determine how to best enhance and conserve spotted owls.



Marbled Murrelet

Marbled murrelets are federally listed as threatened. The BLM completed surveys in marbled murrelet habitat for timber sales within the required survey zone, but no murrelets were located during the 2010 and 2011 surveys. No murrelets have ever been located in the Medford District, despite significant survey efforts. The District has been compiling past survey data into the new marbled murrelet GIS database.

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp

Vernal pool fairy shrimp are federally listed as threatened in Oregon and are only found on the Table Rocks in the Medford District. The tops of the Table Rocks are designated as critical habitat for vernal pool fairy shrimp. The Butte Falls Resource Area continued work on a draft Table Rocks Management Plan in 2011. The plan identifies the BLM's proposal to manage the increasing recreational popularity in the area, while also protecting the unique wildlife and plant habitats through vegetation management and designated hiking trails. The BLM continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and associated vernal pool habitat.



Special Habitats

Special habitat is forested or nonforested habitat that contributes to overall biological diversity within the District. Special habitats may include meadows, seeps, cliffs, caves, and talus slopes for plants and animals.

Resource damage continues to occur in special habitats such as meadows. Mud bogging in low elevation meadows diminishes wildlife habitat suitability from deep ruts and mud holes created by vehicles. BLM expends time and money to protect sensitive areas, replace vandalized road closures and gates, and educate the public on the importance of wise stewardship and prudent use of public lands. Road closures, signing, education and fencing continue to help address this issue.

Big Game and Furbearers

Big game and mammal habitat objectives were included in fuels treatment prescriptions that focused primarily on the Wildland-Urban Interface across much of the District.

A portion of the Medford District lands are included in the Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area where Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife restricts motor vehicle access from October 15 to April 30. Only roads marked by a green reflector are open to motor vehicles to improve wildlife protection, reduce disturbance, and reduce resource damage.

The Medford RMP was maintained to address new science related to elk and big game management.

In 2011, the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. and Pacific Northwest Research Station (La Grande, OR) conducted an elk foraging nutritional study on BLM lands within the Medford District to develop an elk summer nutritional forage model for southwestern Oregon. Nine plots were selected to represent Potential Natural Vegetative zones across the Medford District. Within those, there were approximately forty, 1-hectare sample macroplots for tame elk browsing/grazing and 60 vegetation sampling macroplots sampled by researchers. The purpose of the study is to develop an improved elk model based on plant nutrition and landscape abiotic factors to be used for land use planning projects. The previous model lacked foraging data from southwest Oregon.

Neotropical Migratory Birds

The Grants Pass Area conducted fall and spring population and avian productivity monitoring in partnership with Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) at one site. The mark-recapture data provides important spring and fall migration information for willow flycatchers, a Bureau special status species, and other Neotropical migratory birds. This



data is being analyzed for long-term trends in abundance, reproduction, and survivorship and is being compared with other similar stations from within the Klamath Demographic Monitoring Network. As part of this partnership, KBO, in cooperation with Southern Oregon University, trains college-level interns. KBO promotes monitoring efforts and its partnerships with the BLM and others by presenting at various meetings, and by submitting articles and papers to be included in newsletters and technical publications. In 2011, KBO submitted the document titled *Response of landbirds to fuel reduction treatments in the Hellgate Recreation Section of the Rogue River*. This report summarizes pre- and post-monitoring results from the fuel reduction treatments and examines bird response in both the treated uplands and adjacent riparian areas within the Recreation Section of the Rogue River Corridor in the Grants Pass Resource Area.

Bats

Biologists throughout the District collected data on bat species to contribute to regional species group evaluations. Medford BLM participated in the Oregon Grid program, a systematic sampling method across Oregon and Washington. Biologists throughout the District joined with Forest Service biologists to mist net and monitor eight sites in southwest Oregon as part of the long-term, interagency effort between the BLM and Forest Service to evaluate bat populations. The bat grid information is compiled by the Forest Service to establish baseline information.

The Medford District received funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to reclaim abandoned mines that pose a safety hazard to people that might fall into the old shafts and tunnels. Some of these abandoned mines have been inactive since the early 1900s. New estimates suggest we have 1,833 mining features across the district, but only 383 are open adits. The open adits also provide rare “cave” habitat for bats, several of which are special status. BLM biologists have been working with other specialists to prioritize closures and design methods to make the mines safe for humans and wildlife, while also maintaining habitat for bat maternity dens and hibernacula. This work will continue through fiscal year 2012 as priority adits are identified for closure/gating or grating. Adits that may support bats are being treated to allow bat passage while providing safety for humans.



Abandoned mine adit with bat grate



Aquatic Habitat and Species Management

Watershed Council Cooperation

The Grants Pass Resource Area has ongoing stream restoration and fish passage projects with three watershed councils, Middle Rogue, Williams Creek, and Illinois Valley. The Resource Area implemented two cooperative agreements and partnered in stream restoration on Jones and Bill Creeks. The Illinois Valley Watershed Council acquired logs for two BLM instream log placement project sites for salmon habitat.

Fish Passage

BLM continued development of the design to correct a fish barrier on Draper Creek. The Grants Pass Resource Area installed two bottomless arch structures to allow better passage for coho salmon on Draper Creek and Althouse #7 Gulch. A culvert was replaced to allow fish passage for cutthroat trout in the Butte Falls Resource Area on the Right Fork Salt Creek in the Evans Creek Watershed. Ashland Resource Area replaced culverts for improved fish passage on Yale, Keeler, and Right Fork Foothills Creeks. Fish passage projects were designed in 2010 for culvert replacement projects on Keeler Creek, Yale Creek, and Foothills Creek in 2011. The Resource Area submitted an application for a waiver from fish passage requirements for Little Hyatt Dam, while pending a decision about the fate of the dam. The Area also assisted the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife with fish salvage efforts at the Gold Ray Dam removal project on the Rogue River.

Population Monitoring

Biologists monitored fall chinook spawning in the Recreational Section of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River, as monitoring requirements for the Rogue River Recreation Area Management Plan. Biologists conducted coho spawning and juvenile surveys on streams with previously replaced culverts and fish habitat projects.

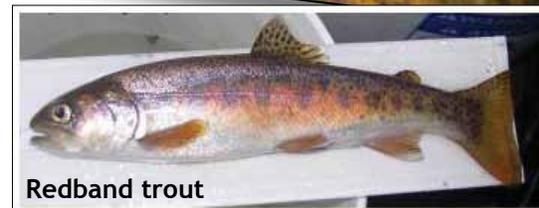
Juvenile snorkeling surveys were conducted throughout the District to evaluate the effectiveness of past habitat restoration projects. Adult spawning surveys were conducted throughout the District primarily for coho and chinook salmon and for summer and winter steelhead. The Grants Pass Resource Area monitored fall chinook spawning in the Recreation Section of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River in relation to commercial jet boat use.

Ashland Resource Area:

- Conducted spawning surveys (coho and steelhead) in Star Gulch and Ninemile Creeks. Annual surveys documented fewer spawners than in previous years, partially as a result of lower than normal winter precipitation



- Resurveyed the Jenny Creek sucker populations. Surveys documented an increase in relative sucker abundance coupled with a decline in redband trout abundance. Information was used in the Jenny Creek sucker conservation plan.
- Conducted population surveys to estimate redband trout populations in Keene Creek. Surveys documented depressed numbers of trout relative to expected densities. Survey results were incorporated into an application submitted to the state for a waiver from fish passage requirements over Little Hyatt Dam.
- Monitored willow and aspen plantings. Erected exclosures around new plantings.
- Monitored old road decommissioning. Inventoried and prioritized potential new decommissioning locations.
- Surveyed for aquatic mollusks at Klamath Basin and Bear Creek springs and found pebble snails were still present. Monitored grazing allotments on Foothills Creek, Howard Prairie, Lake Creek, and Cove Creek.
- Inventoried streams, seeps, wetlands, and nonnatural water features (e.g., pump chances, water troughs) in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.



Instream and Riparian Projects

The Ashland Resource Area continued the design of riparian thinning restoration for Crooks Creek. The Resource Area decommissioned roads along Lady Bug Gulch and Lincoln Creek road, which included the removal of three culverts, road decommissioning, and channel restoration.

The Butte Falls Resource Area placed 50 logs in North Fork Big Butte Creek to increase habitat for coho salmon. A 10-acre portion of the Beaver Dam Creek wetland area in the South Fork Rogue River fifth-field watershed was fenced to improve cutthroat trout habitat and allow riparian vegetation to recover from cattle grazing. A fence encompassing 28 acres was constructed along Jackass Creek and Big Butte Creek to protect coho salmon habitat from cattle grazing. The Resource Area constructed a bridge on Indian Creek.



The Grants Pass Resource Area placed large wood into Draper, Jumpoff Joe, and Louse Creeks to improve coho salmon habitat along five miles of streams. The Glendale Resource Area placed logs in five miles of streams that include Quines Creek, Tennessee Gulch, Hogum Creek, Boulder Creek, Fizzleout Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, Ninemile Creek, Star Gulch, Whitehorse Creek, Blackhorse Creek, and Jones Creek.

ESA and NEPA

District-level involvement continues to expand in relation to Endangered Species Act issues about grazing, seed orchard operations, timber sales, and mine operations. The District submitted two biological assessments to the National Marine Fisheries Service for Endangered Species Act consultation. These assessments were for timber sale/landscape management and mining projects.

The Medford District wrote more than 20 NEPA documents for timber harvest, National Fire Plan projects, mining Notices and Plans of Operation, off-road vehicle use, road rehabilitation, Wild and Scenic River projects, road right-of-way projects, and rangeland grazing allotment lease renewals. Biologists worked on timber sales (Slim, Deer North, East West Junction, Jumping Bean, and Evans Creek) and continued analysis of Mining Notices and Plans of Operation for claims on Sucker Creek and Grave Creek, and in the French Flat ACEC. Other environmental assessments include Fire Resiliency, Far Out, Speaking Coyote, and Middle Cow Creek Watershed Restoration.

Public Outreach

The Grants Pass Resource Area continued its annual fish tank and display in the Grants Pass Interagency Office foyer (in English and Spanish), which is a popular demonstration of salmon life history. Other outreach events in Grants Pass included Outdoor Education days at the Deer Creek site, Partners for Umpqua Rivers meetings, and field trips to Quines Creek with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. The Glendale Resource Area fish biologist area participated in National Public Lands Day (NPLD) and the Partners for Umpqua Rivers meetings. The Ashland Resource Area participated in education of children in Salmon Watch, a macroinvertebrate workshop, fish and fire, and fish/wildlife/forestry workshops. Ashland also contributed two articles complete with maps and photos to *The Applegator* newspaper regarding water quality and fish distribution in the Applegate River subbasin.

Weed Management

The BLM completes weed surveys in conjunction with vascular plant surveys for BLM actions. Medford BLM surveyed 64,719 acres in 2010 and documented 369 new noxious weeds locations. In 2011, 34,787 acres were surveyed for noxious weeds and 347 new



sites were recorded. The number of noxious weeds reported in annual surveys continues to increase, especially in areas of disturbance, along roads, on timber sale landings, at recreation sites, and in open grasslands and oak savannas. The overall majority of sites are small, less than an acre in size, but a small minority of sites can be categorized as large (greater than 10 acres).

The Medford BLM has known occurrences for 60 State-listed noxious weed species. Another 14 species are suspected to occur based on presence in adjacent counties. New nonnative invasive plants are documented each year on the Medford BLM as plants come into the subbasin from the California basin and the Great Basin. New occurrences of Dyer's woad, Italian and Scotch Thistle, garlic mustard, Japanese knotweed, and yellow tuft (*Alyssum murale*) have been documented over the last few years.

In 2010, the BLM treated 6,004 acres of noxious weeds: 4,355 acres using 3 of the 4 herbicides approved for use on Oregon BLM lands and 1,649 acres of manual control.

Treatment areas ranged from a single plant to 40-acre dense areas of yellow star thistle, Canada thistle, or Dyer's woad. Herbicides were applied with backpack sprayers following the 1998 Medford District Integrated Weed Management Plan. Treatment monitoring, evaluating the effectiveness of treatments, occurred on 1,946 acres in 2010, mostly in areas treated under herbicide contract. In 2011, Medford District BLM treated noxious weeds on 7,770 acres: 6,710 acres with approved herbicides and 1,060 acres of manual control.

The BLM continues to work cooperatively with the Jackson and Josephine County Weed Management Areas on education and information exchange, and with other members (e.g., Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, Oregon State Parks) on joint projects. Considerable coordination has also occurred with the Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District in treatments on the small portion of Douglas County in the northeast area of the district.

In 2011, the Medford District provided input on an environmental assessment tiered to the 2010 *Final Environmental Impact Statement Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon Record of Decision*. The EA will provide 13 additional herbicides



Yellow tuft
Photo by Ken French,
Oregon Department of Agriculture



as tools for noxious weed control in the Medford District BLM. The EA is projected to be completed and released to the public for review in 2012.

Botanical Special Status Species

Special status species are those species listed under the Endangered Species Act as threatened, endangered, or proposed; listed by a state as threatened, endangered, or candidate species; and listed by the BLM as sensitive species,

The Medford District BLM contains a diversity of plant communities and unique habitats that support 200 species of Special Status plants (Table 7), with another 129 species suspected of occurring. While some species occur throughout the district, others are restricted in range to specific locations.

Table 7. Number of plant and fungi species on Medford District BLM

| Category of Plants | Documented Species | Species Suspected of Occurring |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Federally Listed | 2 | 2 |
| Sensitive | 97 | 45 |
| Strategic | 44 | 41 |
| Survey and Manage | 57 | 41 |

A number of actions were undertaken by the Medford BLM in 2010 and 2011 that contributed to the conservation of two federally endangered plant species, Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*) and Cook's desert parsley (*Lomatium cookii*), and several BLM Sensitive plant species. These actions follow Bureau policy found in BLM Manual 6840.

Plant Inventories

BLM botanists and contractors surveyed 64,719 acres in 2010 and 34,287 acres in 2011 for vascular plants in the Medford District in support of BLM activities. The surveys mostly occurred in areas proposed for timber sales, various silviculture and fuels reduction treatments, and grazing permit renewals. These surveys were done to protect and conserve Special Status vascular plant species. Additionally, surveys were completed on 40,019 acres¹ in 2010 and 12,408 acres in 2011 for BLM Sensitive and Strategic and Survey and Manage nonvascular species (rare lichens and bryophytes). Surveys for Bureau Sensitive, Bureau Strategic, and Survey and Manage fungi were also conducted in 2011 on 2,164 acres in old growth forest stands.

Surveys for known and suspected federally listed plants are a requirement of the existing Biological Assessment/Letter of Concurrence (Tails 13420-2008-I-0136) from the USFWS following the Endangered Species Act. The survey requirements for the endangered species

¹ These acres are for the most part a subset of the acres surveyed for vascular species. That is, independent surveys occurred on the same acre for vascular and nonvascular plants and, in some cases, fungi.



Gentner's fritillary include a 2-year survey protocol for certain activities occurring within its range and in areas containing suitable habitat. This species does not flower regularly and the 2-year survey protocol is required because it increases the likelihood of detecting populations and avoiding impacts from BLM actions. The protocols for the other federally listed plants have only a 1-year survey requirement for ground-disturbing projects occurring within the ranges and in suitable habitat. The need for predisturbance surveys for known and suspected Sensitive, Strategic, and Survey and Manage plant and fungi species comes from Bureau Policies and the Northwest Forest Plan.

In 2010, 24 new locations of the federally endangered Gentner's fritillary were found, mostly during second year surveys. Population sizes ranged from 1 to 12 flowering plants, although most had 1 to 3 plants. The average occupied area was less than 10 square feet, with one site that was 4,800 square feet. In 2011, 7 new Gentner's fritillary populations were discovered, also mostly during second year surveys targeted at finding this species. The average population size was 3.9 flowering plants. All new sites were small populations with an average occupied area of less than 2 square feet. This is consistent with the other Gentner's fritillary sites in the District that have few mature flowering individuals and occur in small patches across the landscape. The median size for all sites on the Medford BLM is two flowering plants.

In 2010, 200 Bureau Sensitive species occurrences were documented in project inventories. In 2011, 79 Bureau Sensitive and 75 Survey and Manage species occurrences were also documented in the project inventories.

Monitoring Populations and Sites

District botanists, contractors, and partners continued monitoring sites and populations of federally listed and Sensitive plant species in 2010 and 2011 using both formal and informal methodologies. Formal monitoring usually consists of sampling protocols and plots monitored through time to assess trends. Informal monitoring may just be revisiting sites and doing total recounts of a species and may not be connected to a formal sampling methodology or a specific conservation plan. Many of the monitoring projects are Challenge Cost Share partnerships with the Institute for Applied Ecology, a local nonprofit conservation organization, and the State of Oregon Plant Conservation Program (Oregon Department of Agriculture).

The Challenge Cost Share Program is a matching funds program that works through cooperative partners to help accomplish high priority work to support habitat improvement, comprehensive travel management, recreation, and cultural projects.



Annual revisits of Gentner's fritillary sites

In 2010 and 2011, the BLM continued monitoring at 57 occurrences of Gentner's fritillary, out of the 180 sites District-wide. Monitoring started in 1998 at 13 sites and currently includes 57 sites. Monitoring has occurred at 32 of the 57 sites since 2002 and all 57 sites since 2008 (Figure 1).

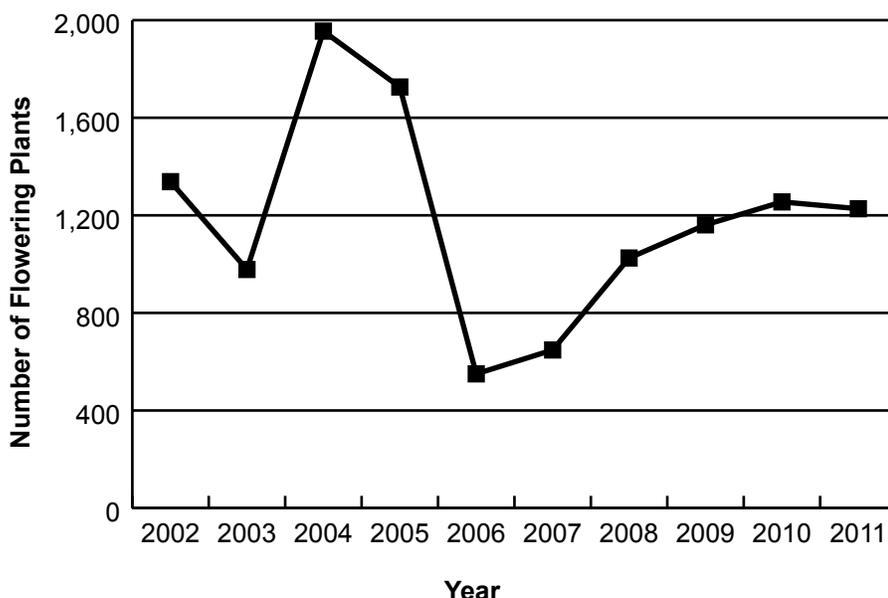


Figure 1. Number of flowering Gentner's fritillary plants at 57 populations monitored on the Medford District from 2002 to 2011.

Gentner's fritillary monitoring showed slight increases in the total counts of flowering plants in 2010. The average number of flowering plants for 2010 was 21.6 plants per site, up slightly from 20.01 in 2009. In 2011, the total count of flowering plants was slightly down, but still about average over the 10-year monitoring period. The average number of flowering plants for 2011 is 21.2 plants per site, down slightly from 21.6 plants in 2010. Only 8 of the populations had more than 30 flowering plants. Across its range most populations of this rare lily are very small with a median of 2 plants per site.

Gentner's fritillary population monitoring at Pickett Creek

Monitoring continued in 2010 and 2011 at the Pickett Creek population of Gentner's fritillary. Both census data and density data were collected by the Institute for Applied Ecology with assistance from BLM personnel. Census monitoring has been ongoing since 1999 and has documented the wide variation in flowering of this species. The density monitoring has been ongoing since 2002, and represents the only in-depth population study for this species that tracks age and size classes, reproduction, and dormancy. Annual



reports through 2011 are available online at the Institute of Applied Ecology (<http://www.appliedeco.org>).

The census monitoring recorded 104 flowering plants at the Pickett Creek site in 2010 and 100 flowering plants in 2011. The 2011 count is the second lowest number of flowering plants in the 10 years of monitoring, but is within the range of variability over the span of the study.

In general, the number of plants counted in the density plots at Pickett Creek declined from 2002 to 2006, increased from 2006 to 2008, and has been steadily decreasing since. In 2011 the number of plants in the density plots was 14% less than in 2010 and the number of flowering individuals has decreased since 2008.

Overall monitoring results:

1. The number of *Fritillaria gentneri* at Pickett Creek has remained stable between 2009 and 2011. The estimated total population size declined a little, but is within the pattern of variation.
2. Most individuals at Pickett Creek are very small bulblets, while plants of larger size classes and reproductive stages are much less frequent. In all years, the majority (more than 97%) of the plants in the population have been vegetative, while fewer than 3% produce flowers.

Cook's desert parsley population monitoring

The Institute for Applied Ecology, a partner of the BLM, continued population monitoring at 3 locations of Cook's desert parsley in the Illinois Valley in 2010 and 2011. In 2011, the number of plants increased at the Indian Hill and Rough and Ready populations, but decreased at the French Flat populations. The Population Viability Analysis (PVA) study suggests that one of the French Flat subpopulations may be at risk of a long-term decline of 50% over a 20-year period if current off-road vehicle use and damage continues (Newton *et al.* 2011, p. 31). Although the other French Flat subpopulation has declined since 2000, the PVA projected it would grow over the long term.

A 10-year summary of Cook's lomatium population data for the Middle and South French Flat subpopulations and Rough and Ready and Indian Hill sites is available at <http://www.appliedeco.org/>. Population size estimates include all life-history stages from seedlings to large reproductive plants.

Bureau Sensitive Species Monitoring

The BLM completed formal monitoring for four Bureau Sensitive species in 2010 and 2011. No other formal monitoring was done due to a lack of funds and competing district priorities, although random populations are revisited every year by BLM botanists or



during contract surveys. The following Bureau Sensitive species were formally monitored in 2010 and 2011:

- Greene's mariposa lily (*Calochortus greenei*)
- Howell's lily (*Calochortus howellii*) (State-listed; serpentine endemic)
- Clustered lady slipper orchid (*Cypripedium fasciculatum*) (State listed)
- Dwarf woolly meadowfoam (*Limnanthes floccosa* ssp. *pumila*) (vernal pool monitoring on Table Rock)

Greene's mariposa lily

There were no dramatic increases or decreases in population size in 2010 or 2011 for Greene's mariposa lily, an endemic species to the Rogue Valley. The species is experiencing some affects from native herbivores (insects and rodents), but currently populations appear to be stable. The 2010 and 2011 reports for Greene's mariposa lily can be found at <http://www.appliedeco.org>.



Greene's mariposa lily

Howell's lily

The Oregon Department of Agriculture continued monitoring two populations of Howell's lily in the Illinois Valley. The 2010 report has been received but the 2011 report was submitted in January 2012. They found in 2010 that the overall population has declined at the Mariposa Meadow site by 30% since 1991. The population numbers at the Selma site have increased over the last 4 years, but the long-term trend at this site is not known. Deer and insect herbivory seem to be affecting reproductive success in these populations and combined with bulb dormancy has made developing a Population Viability Analysis challenging. Monitoring will continue to aid in a longer-term prediction of population viability for both sites.

Clustered lady-slipper orchid



Clustered lady-slipper

A 4-year study of clustered lady-slipper (*Cypripedium fasciculatum*) by the Institute for Applied Ecology consisted of revisits of randomly selected sites on Medford BLM. It found that 40% of the previously documented sites are extirpated. The majority of the sites were from low- to mid-elevation areas in the Rogue river subbasin, but the study looked at data from 225 populations in Oregon and Northern California that were revisited 1 to 29 years after the previous site visit. The analysis shows an ongoing trend of population decline and local extinction. The study found that 60% of the populations declined in size and 32% fell to zero (extirpated). Small



populations (less than 10 plants) fared the worst, with a 52% extinction rate, while 26% of mid-size populations (10–30 plants) went extinct and only 3% of large populations (greater than 30 plants) declined to zero. The majority (77%) of the Medford BLM clustered lady's slipper sites are considered small (less than 10 plants).

In 2010, additional sites were selected from higher elevation Forest Service lands. Surveys found that 22% of the populations were extirpated, suggesting that populations at lower elevations are becoming extirpated at a higher rate than populations at higher elevations. The factors for this difference are not known, but changing climate factors could be involved. The study recommends looking at the frequency at which new populations are found across the landscape and including this factor in the population viability analysis.

A separate 10-year demographic study of 28 clustered lady-slipper populations in the Medford District BLM has also documented declines in the number of plants at more than two-thirds of the sites. Other findings of interest were that the species has a low dormancy rate (less than 3%), the growth rate for those populations was less than 1, and population size and stability in flowering and plant size were associated with higher basal area of trees and cover of low- to mid-level vegetation.

Vernal pool/dwarf woolly meadowfoam

The Institute for Applied Ecology began monitoring and studies of the vernal pool populations of dwarf woolly meadowfoam (*Limnathes floccosa* var. *pumila*) and winged water starwort (*Callitriche marginata*) at the Table Rocks ACEC in 2007. In 2009, they



began habitat quality monitoring on the tops of the Table Rocks. Their study found that the two greatest impacts to native plant communities are trampling associated with recreation and invasion by exotic plant species, especially nonnative grasses. They found that trampling during the active growing period (April through May) of the dwarf woolly meadowfoam has the potential to greatly decrease seed production and

future recruitment. Dwarf woolly meadowfoam is an annual species and they observed great fluctuations in plant numbers during the study. However, the number of flowers per plant has steadily decreased. See the full report on line at <http://www.appliedeco.org/>. The study will continue in 2012. .

Oregon white fairypoppy

In 2010, the BLM funded the Oregon Department of Agriculture to start a conservation plan for the Oregon white fairypoppy (*Meconella oregana*). This diminutive poppy is a BLM Sensitive species and a candidate for the State Endangered species list. It is known from 13 sites in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. The project is collecting information



about seed germination, breeding systems, habitat preferences, and other ecological parameters and making management recommendations for each site. Southern Oregon University also conducted a pollinator study on this species in 2010 and concluded it is self-pollinating. The management plan for populations of the Oregon white fairypoppy on BLM and State Parks lands in Oregon is scheduled to be completed in 2012.

Hickmann's checkerbloom

The BLM also funded a pollinator study in 2011 by Southern Oregon University on a new, as yet unnamed, subspecies of Hickman's checkerbloom (*Sidalcea hickmanii* ssp. *novum*). This species, which is dependent on fire for germination, was discovered on a mesa near Sam's Valley after the Hull Mountain Fire. The other subspecies occur in California. The pollinator report will be completed and submitted to the BLM in 2012.

Endangered Species Recovery Actions

Gentner's fritillary bulb collection, outplanting, and population augmentation

The BLM continued to move forward on recovery actions for Gentner's fritillary in 2010 and 2011. This was done under a partnership project with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and involved collecting bulbs and bulblets in the wild, growing plants ex situ at Oregon State University, out planting, and monitoring the survival of the plantings back into the wild. In summary, 3,264 bulbs in 2010 were outplanted at 6 Gentner's fritillary sites to increase population numbers. In 2011, 6,483 bulbs were outplanted at 9 sites on BLM lands and Jacksonville Woodlands, and 1 site on BLM lands in California. Five of the sites were newly created Gentner's fritillary populations. Since 2004, a total of 22,676 bulbs and bulblets have been transplanted back into 10 sites on Medford BLM. Additional work has been done on City of Jacksonville lands in the Jacksonville Woodlands and an adjacent cemetery.

Monitoring since 2004 is showing that outplanting small 'rice grain' bulblets is not very effective, with only about 10% surviving over multiple years. Large bulbs that have been grown in the greenhouse for 2 years fare much better, with survival rates estimated to be near 40% for all outplantings (some sites did better than others) As a result, the cultivation time in the greenhouse has been extended and larger bulbs were outplanted in 2010 and 2011. In situ bulblet collection, ex situ production (which can involve harvesting bulblets and replanting to increase numbers in the greenhouse), and outplanting back at collection sites or in unoccupied habitat is demonstrating that this is a viable way to increase and create populations of this federally listed endangered lily, and eventually recover the species. Even with the mortality that occurs (approximately 60%), continued outplanting is increasing population sizes. The number of plants is also increasing as planted bulbs start producing bulblets that break off through natural processes and start growing on their own in a short amount of time. Additional collections and outplantings are scheduled in 2012 per the USFWS recovery plan.



Cook's desert parsley reintroduction 2007–2011

In past years the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Institute for Applied Ecology developed a protocol for collecting and germinating Cook's lomatium (*Lomatium cookii*) seed and growing plants ex situ.

In 2010 and 2011 we continued to examine the question of direct seeding and transplanting seedlings as means to establish new populations of this listed species. Like the listed Gentner's fritillary, the draft recovery plan for Cook's lomatium calls for augmentation and outplanting to recover the species. Seed was sown in plots on BLM lands at French Flat ACEC and Reeves Creek sites, as well as at The Nature Conservancy's Agate Desert Preserve. Seeds were sown within the existing population boundaries and germination was monitored. First year plant establishment from seed has varied from 13.2% at French Flat to 40.5% at Agate Desert. Mortality of seedlings after the first year was much lower at French Flat than Agate Desert. While survival to three years declined slightly from 11.3 to 11.8% at French Flat with local seed, it dropped to about 6% at Agate Desert. Monitoring will continue at these plots for several years. It is not known yet what percentage of seeded individuals will reach maturity and reproduce.

One- and two-year old seedlings were transplanted at French Flat and Agate Desert between 2008 and 2011. Survival at French Flat has ranged between 39.3 and 52.2%, while survival at Agate Desert populations has ranged from 0 to 19.4%. Monitoring will also continue at these plots in 2012.

The 2011 report from the Institute for Applied ecology is available at <http://www.appliedeco.org/>. Results from 2010 indicate both direct seeding and transplanting greenhouse-grown bare stock are feasible methods for establishing Cook's lomatium. Direct seeding with large numbers of seeds are the most cost-effective, but transplanting one- to two-year old plants will reproduce quicker. Additional seed collection and sowing will occur in 2012.

Native Plant Program

The Medford District has the largest and most diverse native plant program in the Department of the Interior and is recognized as a leader throughout the country. In 2011 the program developed a western regional multi-agency native grass and forb seed increase contract for 11 western states. The BLM completed 70 wildland seed collections of 80 different species, contracted over 25 acres of native seed production, produced over 16,000 pounds of seed from 35 native species and 53 seed sources; managed a seed inventory of over 45,000 pounds and 400 different germplasms; and seeded approximately 1,225 acres with 12,200 pounds of seed.



Outreach Events

In both 2010 and 2011 botanists from the BLM participated in 23 outreach events, providing education and information on rare plants and weeds on wildflower walks, at fairs, and at presentations for local groups.

Special Management Areas

Formal monitoring of two ACECs occurred in 2010. Long-term vegetation monitoring plots following a standard protocol used by the Interagency Research Natural Area (RNA) Four plots were permanently installed in Oregon Gulch RNA and Bobby Creek RNA. Plots focused on the elements for which the RNAs were established. These plots will provide data on those elements and on vegetation changes in the RNAs in response to successional and climatic changes.

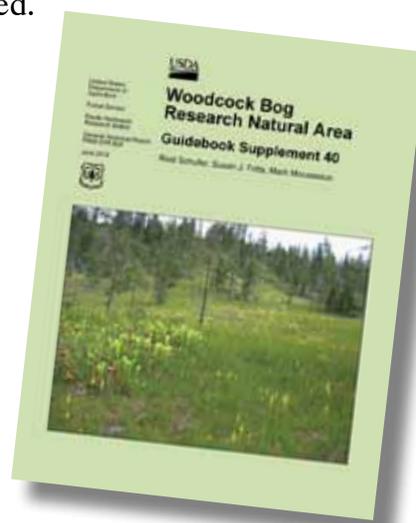
A guidebook for the Woodcock Bog RNA, based on vegetation monitoring done in 2009, was completed and was published as a General Technical Report from the Pacific Northwest Research Station (PNW-GTR-824 Woodcock Bog Research Natural Area, Guidebook Supplement 40).

Revisits of French Flat ACEC during the year documented more off-highway vehicle trespass from adjacent private land and through closed fences and gates. Considerable work has occurred to prevent damage to the meadows and to protect the elements that the ACEC was created for in the last 10 years. Cut fences and new tracks off Sherrier Road and Rockydale Road were repaired and signs were reinstalled to identify the area as closed to vehicles. A new track was found entering the area off the Logan cut (private land) and the BLM is working with the landowner to gate the area.

In 2011 BLM botanists conducted surveys for T&E plants and weeds around the boundary of French Flat ACEC. One to two miles of suitable habitat were surveyed.

In 2010, , the BLM placed boulders at the Rough and Ready ACEC along an irrigation district access road to protect the population of Cook's desert parsley that occurs in that area. This site has experienced some illegal dumping and off-highway vehicle trespass in recent years. The boulder placement occurred when the plants were dormant to minimize any affects. The BLM consulted with the USFWS because some slight impacts had to occur to place the boulders to protect the population.

In 2010 the Medford BLM started a management plan for the Table Rocks ACEC in conjunction with The Nature Conservancy. The BLM and The Nature Conservancy also





completed a Conservation Assessment Plan in 2010 that evaluated the unique values of the area and prioritized management actions that would protect or improve the key values. The management plan is scheduled to be completed in 2012. The District also completed a management plan for the Soda Mountain Wilderness area in 2011, which included two RNAs, Scotch Creek and Oregon Gulch.

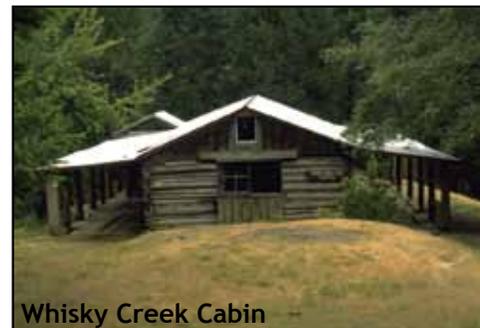
In 2011 the U.S. Park Service finalized the designation of Round Top RNA as a National Natural Landmark, 22 years after it was originally nominated. National Natural Landmark designations recognize some of the best examples of physiographic diversity of our nation's natural resources. Round Top RNA was recognized for its high quality native bunchgrass meadows, oak woodlands, and savannas.

Cultural Resources

A number of actions were undertaken to identify, preserve, and enhance cultural resources on the Medford District.

Whisky Creek Cabin Preservation Work

The Whisky Creek Cabin site, a National Register listed property, can be reached only by hiking trail or riverboat and is a popular stop for hikers and boaters to see one of the few remaining relics of the Rogue River gold rush era. Whisky Creek Cabin is the oldest known mining cabin still standing in the remote lower Rogue River canyon.



Whisky Creek Cabin



Replacing sill log and fixing rotten vertical half-log ends

materials, now stands in the same location. An historic preservation team based out of Missoula, Montana completed the work.

Preservation work completed in 2011 included the cabin, ice house, wood shed, and outhouse. Work done on the exterior of the cabin included replacing rotted porch boards, porch posts, and window frames. Damaged corrugated sheeting on the roof was replaced and rotten log ends and a new sill log help stabilize one side of the cabin. The pole shed, leaning with age, now is standing upright with new posts and braces. The outhouse was in a state of decay and had to be torn down. A replica, made of the same design and with in-kind



Rogue River Ranch

The Rogue River Ranch, on the National Register of Historic Places, is located in the middle of the Wild Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River.

The Grants Pass Resource Area in partnership with the Jefferson Conservation Corps, accomplish needed repairs at the historic Rogue River Ranch. Repair work included replacing the fence and posts surrounding the Ranch's

vegetable garden and repairing a concrete retaining wall near one of the buildings. Oregon Youth Conservation Corps and Cultural Resource Grant funds were used.



Rogue River Ranch

Oregon Archaeology Celebration Event

The Medford District in collaboration with the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest participated in the Oregon Archaeology Celebration, offering a guided hike to the historic Anderson Mine, a gold mine located in the Illinois Valley.

BLM in partnership with the Siskiyou Upland Trails Association

BLM in partnership with the Siskiyou Upland Trails Association helped open a portion of the Sterling Mine Ditch on private land for hiking enjoyment.

Resources and People (RAP) Camp 2011

Medford BLM cultural program participated in the annual RAP Camp.

Abandoned Mine Lands Inventory

In 2009 the BLM Medford District was tasked with the mission of identifying numerous abandoned mines across the district. During inventory numerous historic structures, mining adits and shafts, mining equipment, and other cultural resource items were documented by Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) archaeologists.

In 2011, the cultural resource program and AML program began working together more closely to start the consultation



Historic mining stamp mill



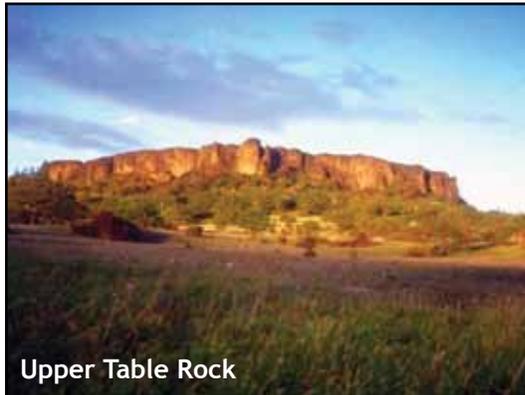
process with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for the cultural resource and remediation work planned on the Medford District, significantly increasing the number of cultural sites recorded on the District.

AML archaeologists plan to submit 17 reports with over 400 site records to SHPO. AML archaeologists did not complete any reports in 2010 or 2011. Most sites will be formally evaluated for significance and eligibility to the National Register.



Three of numerous mining cabins documented during the Abandoned Mine Lands Inventory cultural resource survey

Table Rocks Management Plan



Upper Table Rock

In 2011, the Butte Falls Resource Area began work on a management plan for the Table Rocks in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy. Under this management plan, The Nature Conservancy and BLM lands would be managed by the BLM for their public education, recreation, and interpretive values. Lands were once the site of the Table Rock Indian Reservation (1853–1855) and part of the Camp White military installation during World War II.

Archaeological Resource Damage

Medford District archaeologists conducted investigations at the Waldo Chinese Cemetery, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, where looters damaged cultural resources. This significant site dates from the 1850s to about 1912, when Chinese miners were an active part of the Waldo community. The cemetery contains approximately 20 open graves that had been exhumed and the remains returned to their homeland. Other shallow depressions in the area may be where additional exhumed graves had filled in with deposition or represent other graves. The cemetery contains no headstones.

Looters two dug holes that were found in the cemetery in 2011. Several broken artifacts were found in a small pile next to one hole. The site record was updated to document the vandalism and general condition of the cemetery. Several management options are being implemented and additional archaeological work is planned at the cemetery in 2012.



2011 Cultural Resources Program Annual Summary

During fiscal year 2011 the District's cultural resources program:

- Made progress converting a backlog of site records data into a new BLM cultural resource database referred to as the Oregon Heritage Information Management Systems (OHIMS)
- Increased the number of contacts with local federally recognized Tribe for various undertakings and planning efforts
- Worked with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in developing the Table Rock Management Plan.
- Completed curation facility inspection of Southern Oregon University Lab of Anthropology (SOULA).
- Made progress to help resolve NAGPRA claim after learning the claim was not resolved in a timely manner in 2007.
- Organized and reprinted approximately 2,100 archival photographs of local historical images at the Kerbyville Museum
- Completed cultural resource inventories for 26 projects totaling 3,433 acres.
- Evaluated and consulted with the State Historic Preservation Office on nine sites for significance and eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places.
- Supported SOULA's curation facility and SOU field schools, providing "shadowing" learning experiences for young adults, conducting presentations during National Native American Month, school field trips, and other community outreach events.
- Partnered with SOU to host two field schools:
 - Archaeological survey to locate where the Battle of Hungry Hill took place on October 31, 1855.
 - Archaeological survey and site testing of prehistoric site along the Rogue River.
- Continued to provide direction and support and coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office for the cultural resource work completed with the District's AML Program.
- Documented damages to two historic archaeological sites damaged by looting or trespass.

2010 Cultural Resources Program Annual Summary

During fiscal year 2010 the District's cultural resources program:

- Reviewed and provided comments to cultural resource site information documented during the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Projects.



- Participated with The Nature Conservancy to develop a Draft Conservation Action Plan for the Table Rocks geologic area.
- Participated with BLM interdisciplinary teams on the Soda Mountain Wilderness planning effort and for the Table Rocks Management Plan.
- Stabilized the historic Zane Grey cabin.
- Partnered with the Kerbyville Museum to organize and reprint archival photographs of local historical images.
- Assisted law enforcement officers with the assessment of damage to archaeological and historic sites as requested.
- Completed surveys in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the Fortified Zone of old Camp White near the community of White City and the Box O Ranch in the Soda Mountain Wilderness.
- Provided direction for site documentation during the District's Abandoned Mine Land Inventory effort.
- Solicited tribal input on various undertakings and planning efforts from the Klamath Tribes, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, The Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians, The Confederated Tribes of Siletz, and Quartz Valley Indian Reservation and maintained an updated list of interested tribes and tribal officials.
- Addressed public outreach and education goals through the continuation of the agreement with SOU to curate BLM cultural resources, installation of interpretive panels, and presentations during the Oregon Archaeology Celebration event, National Native American Month, school field trips, RAP Camp, and others.

Rural Interface Areas

The 1995 ROD/RMP objective for the rural interface areas is to consider the interests of adjacent and nearby rural residential land owners during analysis, planning, and monitoring activities occurring within managed rural interface areas. These interests include personal health and safety, improvements to property, and quality of life.

In the past year, the BLM worked with numerous local individuals and groups such as watershed councils, fire protection groups, area citizen groups, and environmental coalitions to mitigate many features of land management that are in close proximity to private residences.

Gates and other barricades are used to stop unauthorized use of public roads and dust abatement measures mitigate impacts to neighbors. The BLM is also attempting to reduce fuels hazards on public lands adjacent to private properties (see Wildfire and Fuels Management section).



Socioeconomic

The Medford District continues to successfully contribute to local, state, national, and international economies through monetary payments, sustainable use of BLM-managed lands and resources, and use of innovative contracting as well as other implementation strategies.

The District provides employment opportunities for local companies, contractors, and individuals through a wide variety of contractual opportunities and through the harvest of forest products. These opportunities include selling commercial timber and other timber products (e.g., poles, small diameter timber, biomass); thinning and planting trees; repairing storm-damaged roads; and collecting special forest products such as ferns, mushrooms, and firewood. The District also provides developed and undeveloped recreational facilities (such as campgrounds, hiking trails, boat ramps, and wildlife viewing facilities) that bring visitors to the area, providing indirect benefits to tourism-related businesses.

Monetary Payments

The BLM contributes financially to the local economy in a variety of ways. One of these ways is through monetary payments. They include Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and O&C Payments. Payments of each type were made in fiscal year 2010 as directed in current legislation. The specific amounts paid to the counties under the PILT revenue-sharing program in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 are displayed in Table 8.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

PILT are Federal payments made annually to local governments to help offset losses in property taxes from the nontaxable Federal lands located within their boundaries. The key law that implements the payments is Public Law 94-565, dated October 20, 1976. This law was rewritten and amended by Public Law 97-258 on September 13, 1982 and codified at *U.S. Code 31(69)*. The Law recognizes that the inability of local governments to collect property taxes on federally owned land can create a financial impact.

PILT payments help local governments carry out vital services such as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and search-and-rescue operations. These payments are one of the ways the Federal government can fulfill its role of being a good neighbor to local communities. This is an especially important role for the BLM, which manages more public land than any other Federal agency.

Payments to Counties

Payments are currently made to counties under the *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000*. The purpose of the act is “To restore stability and predictability to the annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System lands and public domain lands managed by the BLM for use by the counties



Table 8. Total Payments in Lieu of Taxes and Acres by County for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011

| County | Payments 2010 | Payments 2011 | Total Acres | BLM Acres |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Baker County | \$700,035 | \$796,283 | 1,020,858 | 367,086 |
| Benton County | \$24,218 | \$24,217 | 73,460 | 56,573 |
| Clackamas County | \$204,123 | \$204,230 | 619,157 | 78,719 |
| Clatsop County | \$16,062 | \$8,130 | 1,397 | 42 |
| Columbia County | \$26,280 | \$26,498 | 10,961 | 10,961 |
| Coos County | \$82,526 | \$186,673 | 249,153 | 168,475 |
| Crook County | \$309,613 | \$309,592 | 939,136 | 496,649 |
| Curry County | \$207,155 | \$207,141 | 628,355 | 67,975 |
| Deschutes County | \$471,913 | \$471,823 | 1,431,432 | 457,872 |
| Douglas County | \$552,605 | \$552,566 | 1,676,193 | 667,379 |
| Gilliam County | \$76,872 | \$72,978 | 34,616 | 28,793 |
| Grant County | \$577,613 | \$577,626 | 1,752,049 | 171,211 |
| Harney County | \$995,130 | \$1,004,921 | 4,461,083 | 3,881,161 |
| Hood River County | \$67,883 | \$67,878 | 205,905 | 180 |
| Jackson County | \$294,238 | \$294,474 | 892,501 | 431,639 |
| Jefferson County | \$143,459 | \$202,805 | 297,088 | 27,268 |
| Josephine County | \$231,418 | \$231,403 | 701,953 | 312,228 |
| Klamath County | \$733,229 | \$733,099 | 2,224,072 | 283,669 |
| Lake County | \$995,130 | \$1,004,921 | 3,696,077 | 2,483,695 |
| Lane County | \$575,146 | \$575,104 | 1,744,566 | 291,714 |
| Lincoln County | \$69,218 | \$69,213 | 209,954 | 19,946 |
| Linn County | \$185,215 | \$185,203 | 561,806 | 87,655 |
| Malheur County | \$2,314,624 | \$2,341,053 | 4,299,134 | 4,260,283 |
| Marion County | \$74,206 | \$74,201 | 225,085 | 20,904 |
| Morrow County | \$103,479 | \$129,452 | 149,695 | 1,609 |
| Multnomah County | \$26,488 | \$26,486 | 80,345 | 4,208 |
| Polk County | \$94,273 | \$95,772 | 42,087 | 40,608 |
| Sherman County | \$126,264 | \$126,424 | 53,672 | 51,438 |
| Tillamook County | \$43,219 | \$43,267 | 131,093 | 48,312 |
| Umatilla County | \$897,004 | \$905,652 | 419,459 | 7,345 |
| Union County | \$822,228 | \$901,673 | 624,349 | 6,452 |
| Wallowa County | \$385,129 | \$385,769 | 1,168,195 | 18,207 |
| Wasco County | \$73,085 | \$73,085 | 221,684 | 45,824 |
| Washington County | \$33,529 | \$33,806 | 13,984 | 11,386 |
| Wheeler County | \$99,539 | \$99,532 | 301,927 | 131,498 |
| Yamhill County | \$19,383 | \$19,382 | 58,793 | 33,370 |
| Total | \$12,651,531 | \$13,062,332 | 31,221,274 | 15,072,418 |



for the benefit of public schools, roads and other purposes.” The public domain lands managed by the BLM refer only to Oregon and California Revested Grant Lands (O&C) and Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands (CBWR), not public domain (PD) lands. The O&C lands consist of approximately 2.5 million acres of federally owned forest lands in 18 western Oregon counties, including approximately 74,500 acres of CBWR lands in the Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM Districts.

Fiscal year 2010 is the tenth year payments were made to western Oregon counties under the *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000* (Public Law 106-393). Counties made elections to receive the standard O&C payment as calculated under the Act of August 28, 1937 or the Act of May 24, 1939, or the calculated full payment amount as determined under Public Law 106-393. All counties in the Medford District elected to receive payments under the new legislation. Beginning in fiscal year 2001 and continuing through 2010, payments are based on historic O&C payments to the counties. The Act provided transition payments to the O&C counties through fiscal year 2010 and established another formula for calculating O&C county payments for fiscal year 2011. Because of the nature of the variables for calculating payments as established in the Secure Rural Schools Act, the final amount of O&C county payments for fiscal year 2011 could not be determined until the end of fiscal year 2011. Table 9 displays the statewide payments for fiscal year 2010 made under each Title of Public Law 106-393 as well as the grand total. Table 10 displays the estimated statewide payments for 2011.

In January 2012, the BLM issued payment to 18 counties in western Oregon eligible under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act extension. The amount paid to the O&C counties was \$40,037,160 (Table 10).

Title I payments are made to the eligible counties based on the three highest payments to each county between the years 1986 and 1999. These payments may be used by the counties in the same manner as previous 50 percent and “safety net” payments.

Title II payments are reserved by the counties in a special account in the Treasury of the United States for funding projects providing fish and wildlife habitat protection, restoration, and enhancement, and other natural resource objectives as outlined in Public Law 106-3983. The BLM is directed to obligate these funds for projects selected by local Resource Advisory Committees and approved by the Secretary of the Interior or a designee.

Title III payments are made to the counties for uses authorized in Public Law 106-393 such as (1) search, rescue, and emergency services on Federal land; (2) community service work camps; (3) easement purchases; (4) forest-related educational opportunities; (5) fire prevention and county planning; and (6) community forestry.



Table 9. Fiscal Year 2010 Secure Rural Schools Payments to Counties

| County | Title I Paid | Title II Paid | Title III Paid | Grand Total |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Benton | \$2,024,197 | \$190,513 | \$166,699 | \$2,381,408 |
| Clackamas | \$3,997,969 | \$376,279 | \$329,245 | \$4,703,493 |
| Columbia | \$1,483,931 | \$139,664 | \$122,206 | \$1,745,801 |
| Coos | \$4,250,093 | \$750,016 | \$0 | \$5,000,110 |
| Coos (CBWR) | \$532,081 | \$93,897 | \$0 | \$625,978 |
| Curry | \$2,629,295 | \$247,463 | \$216,530 | \$3,093,288 |
| Douglas | \$18,044,887 | \$1,698,342 | \$1,486,050 | \$21,229,279 |
| Douglas (CBWR) | \$96,188 | \$9,053 | \$7,921 | \$113,162 |
| Jackson | \$11,287,959 | \$1,062,396 | \$929,597 | \$13,279,952 |
| Josephine | \$8,701,886 | \$819,001 | \$716,626 | \$10,237,513 |
| Klamath | \$1,685,630 | \$297,464 | \$0 | \$1,983,094 |
| Lane | \$10,999,817 | \$1,035,277 | \$905,867 | \$12,940,962 |
| Lincoln | \$259,328 | \$39,662 | \$6,102 | \$305,091 |
| Linn | \$1,901,737 | \$178,987 | \$156,614 | \$2,237,337 |
| Marion | \$1,051,718 | \$98,985 | \$86,612 | \$1,237,315 |
| Multnomah | \$785,187 | \$73,900 | \$64,662 | \$923,749 |
| Polk | \$1,555,966 | \$146,444 | \$128,138 | \$1,830,549 |
| Tillamook | \$403,399 | \$71,188 | \$0 | \$474,587 |
| Washington | \$453,824 | \$80,087 | \$0 | \$533,910 |
| Yamhill | \$518,655 | \$48,815 | \$42,713 | \$610,183 |
| Total | \$72,663,747 | \$7,457,433 | \$5,365,581 | \$85,486,761 |
| CBWR\$739,140 O&C..... \$84,747,621 Total \$85,486,761 | | | | |



Jeffrey pine cone



Table 10. Fiscal Year 2011 Secure Rural Schools Act Payments to Counties

| County | Oregon & California Land Grant Fund | | | Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant Fund | | | Combined Total |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Payments to Counties Title I | Retained by BLM for Title II Projects | Payments to Counties Title III | O & C total | Payments to Counties | Retained by BLM for Title II Projects | |
| Benton | \$708,732 | \$66,704 | \$58,366 | \$833,803 | | | 833,803 |
| Clackamas | 1,034,571 | 97,371 | 85,200 | 1,217,142 | | | 1,217,142 |
| Columbia | 652,115 | 61,375 | 53,704 | 767,194 | | | 767,194 |
| Coos | 1,935,750 | 182,188 | 159,415 | 2,277,353 | 249,197 | 23,454 | 2,570,526 |
| Curry | 1,079,058 | 101,558 | 88,864 | 1,269,480 | | | 1,269,480 |
| Douglas | 9,153,203 | 861,478 | 753,793 | 10,768,474 | 45,049 | 4,240 | 10,821,473 |
| Jackson | 4,901,992 | 865,057 | 0 | 5,767,050 | | | 5,767,050 |
| Josephine | 4,910,825 | 462,195 | 404,421 | 5,777,441 | | | 5,777,441 |
| Klamath | 986,141 | 174,025 | 0 | 1,160,166 | | | 1,160,166 |
| Lane | 4,917,036 | 462,780 | 404,932 | 5,784,749 | | | 5,784,749 |
| Lincoln | 115,867 | 20,447 | 0 | 136,315 | | | 136,315 |
| Linn | 1,140,553 | 107,346 | 93,928 | 1,341,827 | | | 1,341,827 |
| Marion | 485,169 | 45,663 | 39,955 | 570,787 | | | 570,787 |
| Multnomah | 232,904 | 21,920 | 19,180 | 274,005 | | | 274,005 |
| Polk | 868,165 | 81,710 | 71,496 | 1,021,370 | | | 1,021,370 |
| Tillamook | 211,541 | 37,331 | 0 | 248,872 | | | 248,872 |
| Washington | 146,631 | 25,876 | 0 | 172,507 | | | 172,507 |
| Yamhill | 257,088 | 24,197 | 21,172 | 302,456 | | | 302,456 |
| Total | \$33,737,341 | \$3,699,223 | \$2,254,426 | \$39,690,989 | \$294,246 | \$27,694 | \$40,037,160 |



Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, directs all Federal agencies to “. . . make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing . . . disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities.”

New projects with possible effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or both will incorporate an analysis of Environmental Justice impacts to ensure any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects are identified and reduced to acceptable levels, if possible.

Recreation

The Medford District’s Recreation Management Program continues to be one of the most diverse in the state. BLM recreation staff provides a variety of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities throughout the Medford District.

Fiscal Year 2011 Highlights

On September 10, 2011, the BLM’s Medford District, The Nature Conservancy, and The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde signed a Memorandum of Understanding in a ceremony at the Table Rock Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Signing the

document was BLM State Director Ed Shepard, Oregon Director of The Nature Conservancy Russell Hoeflich, and Grand Ronde Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle Kennedy. The purpose of the MOU is to establish a framework for cooperation between the BLM, Grand Ronde, and The Nature Conservancy in establishing, managing, and maintaining the Table Rocks Management Area. Witnessing the event were approximately 60 tribal members who traveled from Grand Ronde the day before,

Jackson County Commissioners, and staff from the BLM and The Nature Conservancy.

The ceremony took place on the anniversary of the signing of the original treaty, September 10, 1853, which brought the Rogue River Wars to an end.



Signing ceremony on the Table Rocks



In September, National Public Lands Day and the Big Bend Trail Skills College was held within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in partnership with the Pacific Crest Trail Association. Approximately 40 volunteers had the opportunity to learn new trail maintenance skills along the Pacific Crest Trail.



Big Bend Trail Skills College participants



Sterling Mine Ditch trail dedication

Over 100 people attended a June National Trails Day reopening ceremony of the Sterling Mine Ditch trail on the Ashland Resource Area of the Medford District BLM. The work to reopen approximately 20 miles of the trail was completed in partnership with the Siskiyou Upland Trails Association and took about two years and thousands of volunteer hours. The

ceremony was highlighted by a ribbon cutting, and a guided nature and archaeological/historical interpretive hike.

Friends of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and Cascade-Siskiyou staff embarked on building membership through staffing a booth at the annual Ashland Earth Day Fair and at Ashland First Friday Art Walks. New publications and outreach material were rolled out during these events highlighting the Agency's role in protecting this special area.

Developed Recreation

Medford District BLM provides developed campgrounds at Hyatt Lake, Tucker Flat, Elderberry Flat, and Skull Creek. Developed day-use sites occur along the Recreation Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River and at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, and Hyatt Lake. Interpretive trails and sites are located at Eight Dollar Mountain, Table Rocks, Hyatt Lake, Gold Nugget, Rand Administrative Site, and three National Register Sites—Whisky Creek Cabin, Rogue River Ranch, and Smullin Visitor Center at Rand. A hang-gliding site is maintained at Woodrat Mountain. A winter tubing hill and a system of cross country and snowmobile trails are managed near Hyatt Lake. The recreation developments at Hyatt Lake are now encompassed by the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.



Rogue National Wild and Scenic River

The 84-mile Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, one of the eight original rivers designated in the *Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968*, is jointly managed by the Medford District's Rogue River Program and the U.S. Forest Service. The BLM manages the upper 50 miles of river and the Forest Service manages the lower 34 miles. The BLM administers both commercial and private boating permits. Rafting, boat and bank fishing, motorized tour boating, river trail hiking, and all other manner of water-related activities continue to flourish and grow.

Wilderness

The Soda Mountain Wilderness was created in March 2009 under the Omnibus Public Lands Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-011). The law designated approximately 24,100 acres within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument as wilderness. The *Stewardship Plan and Environmental Assessment* for the Soda Mountain Wilderness Area was released in September 2011 and a decision is expected in April 2012. This plan will provide the primary guidance for the Soda Mountain Wilderness.



The goal of this plan is to provide for the long-term protection and preservation of the area's wilderness character under a principle of nondegradation. Key issues addressed in this plan include restoration, visitor use, wildfire management, and valid existing rights. The plan also addresses actions outside the wilderness area, including wilderness access, trailheads, and interpretive and educational information provided to the public.

Trails

The Medford District is home to two nationally designated trails: Rogue River National Recreation Trail and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. The Medford BLM maintains 20 miles of the 40-mile Rogue River Trail and 40 miles of the 2,650-mile Pacific Crest Trail.

Back Country Byways

For users who enjoy driving for pleasure, the District provides three Back Country Byways and one designated off-highway vehicle area. For bicyclists, the 74-mile Glendale to Powers Bicycle Route is provided.



Winter Recreation

Winter recreation on the Medford District continues to increase. The Table Mountain Winter Play Area is designed for snow tubing. Buck Prairie Trailheads provide access to over 20 miles of cross-country ski trails. The BLM also provides 60 miles of snowmobile trails.

Environmental Education

The BLM's Environmental Education program provides outstanding opportunities for the public to learn about BLM lands and resources. BLM environmental educators conducted interpretive hikes on the Table Rocks for more than 4,000 school children. Environmental education opportunities were also provided for 3,200 children and adults during the summer and fall months at McGregor Visitor Center, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineer facility operated by the BLM.

In 2011, the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument launched its "Fall in the Field" environmental education program in partnership with Southern Oregon University. The program lasted 7 weeks and featured field-based environmental education lessons for kindergarten through 7th grade students. In concert with agency staff, programs were taught by environmental education graduate students from SOU. Over 30 separate classes were able to explore the Monument's diverse and scenic landscape.

Dispersed Use

Dispersed use throughout the District includes hunting, fishing, camping, driving for pleasure, horseback riding, hang gliding, caving, shooting, mountain biking, water play, sightseeing, hiking, rockhounding, geocaching, off-highway vehicle use, recreational mining, and mushroom and berry gathering. The types of use increase every year as does the amount of use. As the outdoor recreation equipment industry continues to develop new equipment, new unanticipated recreation activities emerge.

Special Recreation Permits

The District issues approximately 150 Special Recreation Permits for commercial use, group events, and competitive activities. The majority of these permits are issued to commercial outfitters and guides on the Rogue River. Permits are also issued for archery events, hunting guides, equestrian events, bicycle events, automobile road races, and off-highway vehicle events.

Forest Management

The Medford District manages 866,000 acres of land located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos counties. Under the Medford District ROD/RMP and Northwest Forest Plan, lands administered by the Medford District were assigned specific land use allocations as part of the strategy for ecosystem management. Lands were designated



as late-successional reserve, managed late-successional area, riparian reserve, adaptive management area, congressionally reserved area, administratively withdrawn area, and matrix. Matrix lands, including northern and southern general forest management areas, were anticipated to provide most of the timber harvest volume. Approximately 191,000 acres (or 22 percent of the Medford District land base) are managed for timber production.

The Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District ROD/RMP provide for a sustainable timber harvest, known as the allowable sale quantity (ASQ), from Medford District lands of 57.1 MMBF (million board feet) annually. Due to a number of legal challenges affecting western Oregon, the District has not offered its full ASQ for several years.

In fiscal year 2010, Medford was committed to offering 17.5 MMBF, an increase of 2 MMBF from fiscal year 2009. As a result of streamlining consultation with the USFWS and increased collaboration, the District offered approximately 23.5 MMBF of timber for sale in fiscal year 2010.

The Medford District held 12 public timber sale auctions in fiscal year 2010, offering a total volume of 23.5 MMBF. Additional volume from negotiated sales, stewardship contracts, and modifications to ongoing sales brought the total offered volume up to 34.4 MMBF (Table 11). Table data are for all advertised “Offered” timber sales.

On October 14, 2009, the BLM Washington Office issued an Instruction Memorandum directing contracting officers to offer mutual cancellation of timber sale contracts sold on or before September 15, 2009. This action was in response to a request to the Secretary of the Interior by members of the Oregon and Montana congressional delegation seeking to extend existing timber sale contracts due to the significant impact of the economic downturn. The Secretary responded that BLM lacked the regulatory authority to grant across-the-board extensions, but instead, granted direction to allow mutual cancellation of timber sales sold on or before September 15, 2009. Consequently, following negotiations with purchasers, the Medford District mutually cancelled 7 contracts totaling 26.4 MMBF in fiscal year 2010.



**Table 11. Timber Harvest Volume Offered for Sale on Medford District by Land Use Allocation—Fiscal Year 2010**

| Land Use Allocation | Offered Volume | | Total Volume (MBF) 2005 to 2014 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| | MBF | CCF | |
| Adaptive Management Area | 1,610 | 3,029 | 19,708 |
| Northern GFMA | 11,623 | 20,587 | 88,074 |
| Southern GFMA | 9,862 | 17,319 | 23,983 |
| Connectivity/Diversity Block | 0 | 0 | 2,125 |
| Miscellaneous* | 10,907 | 19,189 | 16,758 |
| Total from ASQ Lands | 34,002 | 60,124 | 150,648 |
| Late-Successional Reserve/AMR | 443 | 866 | 6,439 |
| Riparian Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hardwood | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Total District Volume | 34,445 | 60,990 | 157,092 |
| District Target Volume | 57,100 | 102,780 | 285,500 |

*“Miscellaneous” includes volume from timber sale modifications, special forest products sold as saw timber, negotiated sales and stewardship contract saw logs.

In fiscal year 2011, Medford was committed to offering 19 MMBF, an increase of 1.5 MMBF from fiscal year 2010.

The Medford District held 10 public timber sale auctions in fiscal year 2011, offering a total volume of 19.4 MMBF. Additional volume from negotiated sales, stewardship contracts, and modifications to ongoing sales brought the total offered volume up to 20.9 MMBF (Table 12). Table data are for all advertised “Offered” timber sales.

Table 12. Timber Harvest Volume Offered for Sale on Medford District by Land Use Allocation—Fiscal Year 2011

| Land Use Allocation | Offered Volume | | Total Volume (MBF) 2005 to 2014 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| | MBF | CCF | |
| Adaptive Management Area | 1,550 | 3,098 | 21,258 |
| Northern GFMA | 13,043 | 23,713 | 101,117 |
| Southern GFMA | 3,845 | 7,379 | 27,828 |
| Connectivity/Diversity Block | 133 | 242 | 2,258 |
| Miscellaneous* | 819 | 1,457 | 17,577 |
| Total from ASQ Lands | 19,390 | 35,889 | 170,038 |
| Late-Successional Reserve/AMR | 1,546 | 2,926 | 7,985 |
| Riparian Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hardwood | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Total District Volume | 20,936 | 38,815 | 178,028 |
| District Target Volume | 57,100 | 102,780 | 285,500 |

*“Miscellaneous” includes volume from special forest products sold as saw timber, and stewardship contract saw logs.



Special Forest Products

In fiscal year 2011, the Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program. Among these products were boughs, burls, Christmas trees, edibles, medicinal, floral and greenery, mushrooms, and wood products (Table 13).

Table 13. Special Forest Products Sold in Fiscal Year 2011

| Product | Quantity | Value |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Boughs-Coniferous | 19,500 lbs. | \$3,067 |
| Burls-Miscellaneous | 300 lbs. | \$50 |
| Christmas Trees | 1,121 trees | \$5,605 |
| Edibles and Medicinal | 410 lbs. | \$30 |
| Floral and Greenery | 24,201 lbs. | \$4,659 |
| Mushrooms-Fungi | 1,715 lbs. | \$2,040 |
| Seeds and Seed Cones | 72 bushels | \$20 |
| Transplants | 20 each | \$10 |
| Fuel Wood | 1,760 cords | \$8,635 |
| Small Poles | 1,236 linear feet | \$192 |
| Saw Timber | 22,964 board feet | \$15,244 |
| Total Value | | \$39,552 |

In fiscal year 2010, the Medford District incorporated the number of contracts into its accomplishments (Table 14).

Table 14. Special Forest Products Sold in Fiscal Year 2010

| Product | Number of Contracts | Quantity | Value |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Boughs—Coniferous | 76 | 175,350 lbs. | \$5,261 |
| Burls—Miscellaneous | 13 | 5,900 lbs. | \$270 |
| Christmas Trees | 2,500 | 2,500 trees | \$5,000 |
| Edibles and Medicinal | 1 | 500 lbs. | \$10 |
| Floral and Greenery | 77 | 96,375 lbs. | \$2,985 |
| Mosses—Bryophytes | 8 | 200 lbs. | \$280 |
| Mushrooms—Fungi | 128 | 1,715 lbs. | \$5,340 |
| Seeds and Seed Cones | 1 | 100 bushels | \$10 |
| Transplants | 0 | 0 | \$0 |
| Wood Products | 494 | 115,493 cu. ft. | \$30,920 |
| Total Value | | | \$50,075 |



Energy and Minerals

Energy

The Federal energy resources managed nationally by the BLM include oil and gas, helium, coal, and renewable energy sources such as geothermal, wind, and biomass. Rising energy prices have increased interest in alternative, renewable energy sources.

Biomass is energy derived from plants. Biomass, removed from the woods during fuel reduction thinning and forest management activities, is used locally to produce energy. Biomass material is converted to electrical energy through burning in closed systems. Biomass can also be converted into fuels such as methane, ethanol, and hydrogen.

These are the highlights that have kept the geology team busy in addition to the workload accomplished below.

Mineral Materials

The Medford District manages three types of minerals—locatable, salable, and leasable. Locatable minerals include minerals such as gold and silver that are subject to exploration, development, and disposal through staking mining claims. Salable minerals are high volume, low value mineral resources including common varieties of rock, clay, decorative stone, sand, and gravel. Leasable minerals include oil, gas, geothermal, and coal. These may be leased to private interests by the Federal government. The District contains no leasable minerals.

The BLM geologists are responsible for a wide variety of activities within the minerals program. They administer or adjudicate issues on Federal mining claims, validate title evidence, review mineral validity reports, and provide guidance for surface use management and use and occupancy under the mining laws.

Mining

The price of gold in fiscal year 2011 was extraordinarily high (\$1,735 per ounce in October 2011 compared to \$816 in October 2008). This has increased interest in mining claims on the District. Geologists processed 20 new or extended notices of operations for mining claims, completed routine inspections on 142 mining claims, and assisted Solicitors with 3 cases. California recently closed suction dredging state wide, the Jefferson Mining District was created, some individuals contend that a mining claim is equivalent to land ownership, and mining is under additional scrutiny from local environmental groups.



Pending Patents

- Geology team assisted Solicitors with post hearing briefs on a patent case. Decision issued by ALJ to issue patent. BLM did not appeal.
- A mineral exam was completed on a second case and the port is being reviewed by Certified Review Mineral Examiner and Washington Office. Assisted Solicitors with motions, briefs, and declaration.
- On a third case, a potential settlement agreement fell through. Geology assisted Solicitors on status reports and briefs. Case remanded from 9th Circuit Court to Interior Board of Land Appeals.

Surface Management

- The BLM issued an immediate suspension order for illegal mining on Galice Creek; BLM geologists represented BLM as witnesses in the case. The Defendant was convicted of illegal mining and was found not guilty for discharge into the creek (a Clean Water Act violation added to the case by the Environmental Protection Agency).
- Processed 20 new or extended notices of operation.
- Critical habitat designations are causing some notice level activity to be resubmitted as plans of operation (three plans submitted).
- Three nonresidential unauthorized occupancies were removed.
- An unauthorized occupancy case is at Federal Court due to an appeal.

Other Accomplishments

- Processed 36 mineral disposals and 1 permit for quarry rock.
- Fielded 5 to 10 calls or visits per day regarding mining.
- Completed two mineral potential reports for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.
- Continued work renew the free use permit on the Reese Creek Quarry for Jackson County.
- Responded to 12 Freedom of Information Act requests.

Zone Work

- Assisting other BLM District Offices in Oregon with mining and mineral materials policy and regulation.
- Complete over 30 mining claim inspections for Roseburg District BLM.
- Answer calls from the public outside the Medford District regarding minerals.



Land Tenure Adjustments

The BLM purchased parcels of land totaling 1,274 acres for inclusion in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. These parcels helped to block up ownership in and around the monument.

Access and Rights-of-Way

Land ownership within the Medford District is a checkerboard pattern of intermingled public and private lands. In order to access their lands and resources such as timber, a landowner may need to cross the lands of other landowners. Throughout most of the District, this access is accomplished through reciprocal rights-of-way agreements between the BLM and neighboring private landowners. The individual agreements and associated permits (a total of 103 on the District) are subject to the regulations that were in effect when they were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-way have been granted for projects such as driveway construction, residential utility lines, domestic and irrigation water lines, and legal ingress and egress.

Transportation and Roads

During fiscal year 2010, the District continued developing Transportation Management Objectives for all roads controlled by the Bureau. The Medford District controls about 4,700 miles of road. Transportation management objectives are used to support watershed analysis and to determine candidate roads for the decommissioning process. Road inventories, watershed analyses, and individual timber sale projects identified some roads and associated drainage features that posed a risk to aquatic or other resource values. The BLM identified the following activities to reduce the risk:

- Surfacing dirt roads
- Replacing deteriorated culverts
- Replacing log fill culverts
- Replacing undersized culverts in perennial streams to accommodate 100-year flood events
- Other efforts reduced overall road miles by closing or eliminating roads.

The District decommissioned 0.3 mile of road, closed 1 mile of road with barricades or a gate, and constructed 0.5 mile of new road. Since the ROD/RMP was signed in 1995, approximately 447 miles of roads have been closed and 190 miles have been decommissioned.



Wildfire and Fuels Management

Wildfire

The 2010 fire season began July 1 and ended October 23, lasting 115 days. The historical fire reports from 1967 show the average fire season lasting for 141 days. Wildland fire potential indicators predicted normal activity for large fires throughout the Pacific Northwest. The 2010 fire season in southwest Oregon resulted in a below average number of starts with a below average number of acres burned.

Oregon Department of Forestry provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District through a cost reimbursable contract. For the 2010 fire season, the District experienced 41 wildfires, which burned a total of 188 acres; this is a 41-acre decrease from last year. Of the 41 fires, 35 were lightning caused and burned 83 acres. Human-caused fire starts totaled 6 and burned 105 acres.

Fuels Management

The Medford District continues as a leader in southwest Oregon in aggressive fuels management with the continued implementation of landscape-scale projects focused on fire hazard reduction under the National Fire Plan, Healthy Forest Initiative, and Healthy Forest and Restoration Act. Most acres of hazardous fuels reduction were completed on BLM lands in the wildland-urban interface around communities at risk.

Since 1996, when landscape-scale projects began showing accomplishments, the Medford District has completed 242,730 acres of hazardous fuels reduction and site preparation by burning or mechanical means. In 2010, 7,576 acres were treated using prescribed fire and 11,865 acres were treated by hand or with mechanical methods.



Using fire to reduce fuels



Rangeland Management

The Medford District rangeland program administers grazing leases for 49 livestock operators on 48 active allotments and 45 vacant allotments. These grazing allotments include approximately 293,051 acres of the Medford District's 863,095 total acres.

Grazing is one of the many uses of the public lands. The primary goal of the grazing program is to provide livestock forage while maintaining or improving upland range conditions and riparian areas. To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Bureau conducts monitoring studies to help the manager determine if resource objectives are being met.

A portion of the grazing fees and operational funding is spent each year to maintain or complete rangeland improvement projects. These projects are designed to benefit wildlife, fisheries, and watershed resources while improving conditions for livestock grazing.

Current grazing regulations direct the BLM to manage livestock grazing in accordance with the August 12, 1997 *Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands in Oregon and Washington*. The fundamental characteristics of rangeland health combine physical function and biological health with elements of law relating to water quality, and plant and animal populations and communities. Assessments of rangeland health are underway and will be completed on grazing allotments over a 10-year period.

Following the evaluation and determination of rangeland health, lease renewals are subject to the appropriate level of environmental analysis as prescribed under the NEPA. Under existing law (Public Law 108-108, Section 325), grazing leases that expire during fiscal years 2004 to 2009 prior to the completion of the lease renewal process would be renewed. The existing terms and conditions of these leases will continue in effect until the lease renewal process can be completed in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

An update of the Medford District Rangeland Program Summary was completed in the year 2001 and summarizes changes which have occurred since the last update. Copies of this document are available by contacting our office. All future updates will be reported annually in this report, the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

Fiscal Year 2010 Accomplishments

Rangeland Health Assessments:

Rangeland Health Assessments are being completed on each allotment prior to consideration of grazing lease renewal. These assessments are conducted by an interdisciplinary team of resource specialists who assess ecological processes, watershed functioning condition, water quality conditions, special status species, and wildlife



habitat conditions on an allotment. Assessments include field visits to the allotments and evaluation of all available data. The following Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations were completed in 2010 (Table 15).

Table 15. Rangeland Health Assessments Completed in Fiscal Year 2010

| Allotment Name | Allotment Number | BLM Acres |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Lower Big Applegate | 20206 | 11,712 |
| Conde Creek | 20117 | 5,346 |
| Lake Creek Spring | 10121 | 4,679 |
| Lake Creek Summer | 10122 | 5,561 |
| Deer Creek-Reno | 10124 | 4,025 |
| Howard Prairie | 10116 | 320 |

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument:

Rangeland Health Assessments were completed on the allotments within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in 2008. The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 was signed into law on March 30, 2009. Passage of the law provides for voluntary grazing lease donations in fifteen allotments both within and adjacent to the CSNM. In 2009, five lessees in the Soda Mountain and Keene Creek Allotments donated their grazing leases. In 2010, one more lessee voluntarily donated his grazing lease. All or portions of three allotments continue to have grazing leases.

Lease Renewals

The following allotment leases were renewed in fiscal year 2010 (Table 16).

Table 16. Medford District Grazing Lease Renewals in Fiscal Year 2010

| Allotment Name | Allotment Number | BLM Acres |
|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| Heppsie | 00126 | 4,076 |

Allotment Monitoring

Monitoring data was not formally collected this year due to staffing shortages; however, allotment compliance inspections and monitoring follow-up was completed on 22 grazing allotments. This information is being used in evaluations to determine if allotments are meeting BLM's Oregon/Washington Standards for Rangeland Health and in completion of the lease renewal process.

Fiscal Year 2011 Planned Work

The following Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations, and NEPA requirements for lease renewals are planned for 2011 (Tables 17 and 18).



Table 17. Rangeland Health Assessments Planned for Fiscal Year 2011

| Allotment Name | Allotment Number | BLM Acres |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Billy Mountain (ongoing) | 20203 | 4,758 |
| Grizzly (ongoing) | 10119 | 378 |
| Bear Mountain | 10037 | 1,008 |
| Vestal Butte | 10035 | 2,240 |
| Crowfoot | 10038 | 7,393 |

Table 18. Lease Renewals Planned for Fiscal Year 2011

| Allotment Name | Allotment Number | BLM Acres |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Deadwood (ongoing) | 20106 | 8,004 |
| Conde (ongoing) | 20117 | 5,346 |
| Lake Creek Spring (ongoing) | 10121 | 4,679 |
| Lake Creek Summer (ongoing) | 10122 | 5,561 |
| Deer Creek Reno (ongoing) | 10124 | 4,025 |
| Cove Creek (ongoing) | 10112 | 1,207 |
| Lower Big Applegate (ongoing) | 20206 | 11,712 |
| Howard Prairie (ongoing) | 10116 | 320 |
| Flat Creek (ongoing) | 10002 | 12,421 |
| Summit Prairie (ongoing) | 10031 | 30,743 |

Wild Horse and Burro Program

A portion of the wild horse program consists of performing compliance checks on wild horses and burros adopted by individuals residing within the Medford District. Adopters are eligible to receive title to the animal after one year of care. The Medford District completed compliance checks on eight adopters for a total of eight horses to ensure proper care of adopted animals. Titles were issued to two adopters for a total of two horses.

Cadastral Survey

Survey crews stationed in Medford are part of the OR/WA Branch of Geographic Sciences that is organizationally located within the BLM’s State Office in Portland. Crews not only completed work for the Medford District this fiscal year, but also performed survey work for the Lakeview District and the Bureau of Reclamation.

In 2010, crews surveyed 41 miles of line and monumented 46 corners to support eight projects for the Medford District timber program. Additional survey



Survey marker



work for the Division of Lands and Resources included 1 mile of surveyed line in support of a land exchange within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. Work for the Lakeview District timber program included 3.5 miles of surveyed line and 4 monuments established. A reimbursable project for the Bureau of Reclamation at Howard Prairie Reservoir added 8 miles of survey line and 14 monuments to the Cadastral Survey program accomplishments for fiscal year 2010.

In 2011, crews surveyed 37.5 miles of line and monumented 64 corners in support of the Medford District timber program and other project work within the District. The other project work included an as-built survey of the Medford District Office parking lot and wareyard, two road easement surveys, an ACEC survey for the Grants Pass Field Office, a survey for a fencing project on the Soda Mountain Wilderness boundary, and surveys to support land exchanges within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. Work for the Lakeview District included 0.5 mile of surveyed line for a communication site. A reimbursable project for the Bureau of Reclamation at Hyatt Lake Reservoir added 7 miles of survey line and 20 monuments to the Cadastral Survey program accomplishments for fiscal year 2011. The total fiscal year accomplishments include 45 miles of line surveyed and 84 corners monumented.

Cadastral survey also responded to numerous questions and inquiries from landowners, timber companies, private land surveyors, and district personnel regarding surveying procedures, status of ongoing surveys, and information about official plats and field notes.

Education and Outreach

In fiscal year 2011 the District accomplished 559,842 outreach contacts! These contacts do not include contacts from media including radio, television, magazines, or newspapers.

This outreach was accomplished within the District on several levels and includes outreach and education accomplishments from 8 different categories: Events and Shows, Volunteer Work Days, Family Events, Environmental Education, School Outreach, Youth Crews, public contacts at the Front Desk and Visitor Centers, and Web sites. District outreach focused on youth engagement, employment, and education across all program areas in fiscal year 2011

Outreach Events and Shows (5 Events)

In 2011, the Medford District participated in fewer outreach events and shows than past years due to budget and staffing deficits. The District continued to create event-related displays and educational exhibits, distributed educational materials, and provided professional staffing for each event. The Friends of Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and BLM Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument staff embarked on building membership



through staffing a booth at the annual Ashland Earth Day Fair and at Ashland First Friday Art Walks. New publications and outreach material were debuted during these events and highlighted the BLM's role in protecting this special area.

Volunteer Work Days (12 Events)

National Public Lands Day

Volunteers with the Pacific Crest Trail Association and the BLM worked together to reroute 1.4 miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. This event was held as a part of a trail skills college; 37 volunteers attended the event and learned trail maintenance and construction skills.

Rogue River Cleanup

More than 250 volunteers attended the 19th Annual Rogue River Cleanup and worked from the mouth of the Applegate River to Grave Creek (27 miles). In addition, students from the University of Oregon cleaned an additional 20 miles of the Rogue River from Grave Creek to Marial.



Josephine County Annual Tree Plant

Each year, the BLM, in partnership with Josephine County, organizes an annual tree seedling planting and education day. Students from all over Josephine County come and learn about forest management and the importance of planting and caring for trees.

Family Events (2 Events)

Free Fishing Events

Along with partners, the Medford District cosponsored two national annual events at Hyatt Lake—Free Fishing Day and CAST Day (focusing on special needs youth)—which encouraged families to experience the outdoors and learn to fish. The participants and volunteers also learned about watershed restoration and forest management.

Environmental Education (9 Events)

Environmental education encompasses interpretive and educational hikes and presentations given by professional environmental education and District resource specialists, and program/project leads throughout the Medford District. The public participants in these programs include students, service organizations, special interest groups, politicians, and interested local residents.



Table Rocks Environmental Education Program

For more than 20 years, the District's Table Rocks Environmental Education program and The Nature Conservancy have offered a rich, field-based classroom using hands-on programs to present the diverse natural and cultural history of our area and the complexity of public land management. The program provides guided hikes for individuals, schools, and community groups during the spring season. The guided hike program consists of two components: a weekend hike series led by volunteer specialists and weekday school hikes.

Education Outreach Group

Last year the Grants Pass Resource Area conducted education programs at the Deer Creek site for middle-school-aged students from several private schools in Josephine County. Students rotated through stations staffed by BLM specialists on fish, hydrology, recreation, archaeology, silviculture, camouflage, special forest products, and wildlife.

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

In 2011, Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, in partnership with Southern Oregon University, launched its Fall in the Field environmental education program. The program began the last 2 weeks of fiscal year 2011 and continued into fiscal year 2012. The program featured field-based environmental education lessons for students in Kindergarten through 7th grade. In concert with agency staff, programs were taught by Environmental Education graduate students from Southern Oregon University. Over 30 classes were able to explore the Monument's diverse and scenic landscapes.

School Outreach (16 Events)

A very important component of public outreach is providing on-going environmental education for local schools. Many city, county, and private schools throughout the District participated in BLM educational programs, either at the schools or in an outdoor environment on BLM lands.

Youth Crews (7 Crews)

The BLM has employed youth crews over the past several years to get work done and, more importantly, provide education and stewardship to the youth who serve on the crews. Youth participated in projects such as trail maintenance, noxious





weed eradication, facility maintenance, construction projects, tree planting, and watershed restoration, all while learning about the management and stewardship of public lands.

Public Contacts/Visitor Center/Web Site

The largest outreach efforts come from the front desks at the Medford Interagency Office, Grants Pass Interagency Office, and various visitor centers in the communities in which we serve. The internet is also playing a larger role in outreach, with more services being offered every year on the internet.

Table 19. Estimated Number of People Reached through District Outreach Efforts in Fiscal Year 2011

| Outreach Area | Category | Number of people |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| AmeriCorps (ARRA) | Youth | 120 |
| Archaeology Field School | School | 15 |
| Bear Creek Festival | Events | 2,000 |
| Bear Creek Watershed Symposium | Environmental Education | 270 |
| Bellview Forestry Day | School | 40 |
| Boy Scout Rogue River Trail work | Volunteer | 80 |
| Buck Rock Trailhead Work | Volunteer | 9 |
| Career Day with BLM at Grants Pass High School | School | 300 |
| CAST For Kids | Family | 80 |
| Crater High School Business | School | 3 |
| Crater High School FFA Ag Issues Team | School | 10 |
| CSNM Earth Day Booth | Event | 1,700 |
| CSNM Hyatt Lake Tree Planting | Volunteer | 30 |
| CSNM Pinehurst School Class Hike | School | 13 |
| CSNM/SOU Fall in the Field | Youth | 200 |
| CSNM Student Mentorship | School | 2 |
| CSNM Traveling Education Trunk Workshop | Environmental Education | 10 |
| Education Outreach Group Grants Pass | Environmental Education | 53 |
| Forest Studies at Yale Creek | School | 17 |
| Free Fishing Day | Family | 150 |
| Habitat Restoration at Hobart Bluff | Volunteer | 4 |
| History of Grazing on CSNM | School | 11 |
| Jackson County Fair | Event | 4,000 |



Table 19. Estimated Number of People Reached through District Outreach Efforts in Fiscal Year 2011

| Outreach Area | Category | Number of people |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| Jackson County Job Council | Youth | 240 |
| Jackson County Master Gardener Fair | Event | 1,500 |
| Jefferson Youth Corps | Youth | 500 |
| Josephine County Cooperative Weed Pull | Volunteer | 70 |
| Josephine County Fair | Event | 4,000 |
| Josephine County Job Council | Youth | 60 |
| Josephine County Master Gardener Fair | Event | 1,500 |
| Josephine County Schools | School | 400 |
| Josephine County Tree Plant | Volunteer | 750 |
| Junior Ranger Program at Stewart State Park | Environmental Education | 30 |
| Latino Kids and Bugs | Environmental Education | 100 |
| McGregor Park Environmental Education Program | Environmental Education | 1,500 |
| McGregor Park Visitor Center | Public Contact | 1,700 |
| Natural Resource Adventure Tour | Environmental Education | 32 |
| National Public Lands Day—Big Bend Trails Skills College | Volunteer | 37 |
| Northwest Youth Corps (ARRA) | Youth | 40 |
| Northwest Youth Corps (Title II) | Youth | 30 |
| Pacific Crest Trail Maintenance | Volunteer | 3 |
| Rand Visitor Center | Public Contact | 15,000 |
| Rogue River Cleanup | Volunteer | 250 |
| Rogue Valley Earth Day | Environmental Education | 1,400 |
| Student Conservation Association (ARRA) | Youth | 240 |
| Science Fair Judging | School | 44 |
| Southern Oregon Nordic Club Work | Volunteer | 9 |
| SOU Biology Class Capstone | School | 24 |
| SOU Seminar—Education and Interpretation | School | 30 |
| Senior Project Judging at North and South High Schools | School | 80 |
| Table Rocks Environmental Education Program | Environmental Education | 4,000 |
| Wildlife Viewing at Pinehurst School | School | 30 |



Table 19. Estimated Number of People Reached through District Outreach Efforts in Fiscal Year 2011

| Outreach Area | Category | Number of people |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| Willow Wind CSNM Service Learning Project | School | 16 |
| Winter Trails Grooming | Volunteer | 4 |
| Total | | 42,736 |
| Medford District Web | Web | 138,651 |
| Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Web | Web | 31,026 |
| Rogue River Program Web | Web | 176,477 |
| McGregor Visitor Center Web | Web | 1,753 |
| Table Rocks Program Web | Web | 44,199 |
| Total Web-based Hits (best estimate due to change in tool to count internet hits) | | 392,106 |
| MIO/GPIO—Front Desk and Telephone Outreach | | 125,000+ |
| Total | | 559,842 |

Media information and articles were prepared for television, magazines, newspapers, Congressional briefings, and radio. These materials included production of interpretive plans, brochures, informational flyers, educational displays, classroom curricula and educational web sites.

Outreach Partners

The District could not have achieved the extensive outreach we did without our partners who complement BLM’s resource management message and increase the overall effectiveness and success of the many events in which we participated. Our partners include local, state, and Federal agencies; special interest groups and organizations, watershed councils, SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism), public and private schools, private businesses, service organizations, and many others. The Medford District’s Outreach Program continues to be one of the most diverse in the state.

Coordination and Consultation

Consultation and coordination with all levels of government are ongoing and are a standard practice in the Medford District. On the Federal level, the District consults with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service on matters relating to federally listed threatened or endangered species. The District coordinates its activities with the Forest Service on matters pertaining to the Applegate Adaptive Management Area and other land allocations where BLM lands are adjacent to Forest Service lands, and also through development of interagency watershed analyses. State-level consultation



and coordination occurs with the State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. On a local level, the District consults with Native American tribal organizations and with Jackson and Josephine counties.

Resource Advisory Committees (RAC) provide local community collaboration with the BLM and the Forest Service to support projects on Federal or private lands that benefit resources on Federal lands. The Committee members review project proposals and make recommendations on spending county-designated funds to the Secretary of the Interior or Secretary of Agriculture. Project proposals are developed by Federal agencies, participating counties, State and local governments, watershed councils, private and nonprofit entities, and landowners.

The following projects were selected and funded at the listed level for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 (Tables 20 and 21):

Table 20. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2010

| Project Name | Project Number | County | RAC Recommended Funding |
|--|----------------|---------|-------------------------|
| South Cascades Noxious Weed Project | MA 36 | Jackson | \$23,667 |
| Big Butte Springs Watershed Noxious Weed Project | MA 37 | Jackson | \$17,555 |
| Ashland Resource Area Weed Treatments | MA 14 | Jackson | \$40,000 |
| Revegetation of Disturbed Sites | MA 25 | Jackson | \$30,000 |
| Community Justice Fuels Project | MA 30 | Jackson | \$69,138 |
| Juvenile Forestry Work Crew | MA 31 | Jackson | \$31,047 |
| Aquatic Weed Inventory | MA 15 | Jackson | \$12,777 |
| Mine Closure with Bat Grates | MA 05 | Jackson | \$36,110 |
| Clean Forest Products | MA 32 | Jackson | \$40,000 |
| CSNM Beaver Restoration and Monitoring Project | MA 16 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Glendale Roadside Brushing—Jackson County | MA 28 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Stateline Fence and Box-O Fence Reconstruction | MA 17 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Anderson Wagner Fuel Hazard Reduction | MA 18 | Jackson | \$65,000 |
| Applegate Fuels Demonstration | MA 19 | Jackson | \$16,666 |
| Gate and Road Closure Structure Maintenance | MA 20 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Jackson County Maintenance of BLM Roads | MA 21 | Jackson | \$60,000 |
| Ashland Roadside Brushing—Jackson County | MA 22 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Jackson County Culvert Project | MA 27 | Jackson | \$100,000 |
| Bear Fielder Fuel Hazard Reduction | MA 26 | Jackson | \$100,000 |

**Table 20. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2010**

| Project Name | Project Number | County | RAC Recommended Funding |
|---|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| BLM Gate Repair—Butte Falls | MA 06 | Jackson | \$22,222 |
| McGregor Park Education Program | MA 07 | Jackson | \$33,333 |
| Murphy Gulch Damaged Culvert | MA 08 | Jackson | \$50,000 |
| Soda Mountain Road Restoration | MA 24 | Jackson | \$78,889 |
| Dump and Trash Cleanup | MA 23 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Butte Falls Roadside Brushing | MA 09 | Jackson | \$40,000 |
| Round Top RNA Fence Project | MA 10 | Jackson | \$18,645 |
| Right Fork Salt Creek Culvert Replacement | MA 11 | Jackson | \$61,111 |
| Sykes Creek Fuel Hazard Reduction | MA 12 | Jackson | \$55,000 |
| Table Rocks Environmental Education Program | MA 13 | Jackson | \$66,5000 |
| Cantrall Buckley Park Campground Water Supply | MA 33 | Jackson | \$28,642 |
| Apserkaha Group Facility Road Project | MA 34 | Jackson | \$32,222 |
| CSNM Ginger Springs Wildland Project | MA 35 | Jackson | \$40,811 |
| ODF Firefighter Retention | MO05 | Josephine | \$90,777 |
| Jillana Fuels Reduction | MO06 | Josephine | \$50,000 |
| Abandoned Vehicle and Illegal Dump Cleanup | MO07 | Josephine | \$11,111 |
| Education Outreach Program—Josephine County | MO08 | Josephine | \$16,667 |
| Aquatic Weed Inventory | MO09 | Josephine | \$12,778 |
| Release/Precommercial Thinning | MO10 | Josephine | \$ 30,000 |
| Cheney Creek Large Wood Placement | MO11 | Josephine | \$5,555 |
| Draper Creek Culvert Replacement | MO12 | Josephine | \$45,695 |
| GPRA Riparian Restoration | MO14 | Josephine | \$75,000 |
| Draper Creek Large Wood Placement | MO13 | Josephine | \$5,556 |
| Youth Education Forestry Stewardship | MO15 | Josephine | \$55,861 |
| Josephine County Cooperative Deputy Patrol | MO16 | Josephine | \$105,555 |
| Rogue River Cleanup | MO17 | Josephine | \$14,444 |
| GPRA Noxious Weed Treatment | MO18 | Josephine | \$73,333 |
| Japanese Knotweed Eradication and Education Project | MO19 | Josephine | \$27,778 |
| Bunker Creek Trail Bridge Replacement | MO20 | Josephine | \$144,444 |
| Clean Forest Project—Josephine County | MO27 | Josephine | \$30,000 |
| Josephine County Water Availability | MO26 | Josephine | \$60,000 |
| Roadside Brushing—Josephine County | MO25 | Josephine | \$32,000 |

**Table 20. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2010**

| Project Name | Project Number | County | RAC Recommended Funding |
|---|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Josephine County Culvert Replacement Project—Glendale Resource Area | MO24 | Josephine | \$200,000 |
| Native Plant Revegetation | MO21 | Josephine | \$30,000 |
| Noxious Weed Removal—Josephine County | MO23 | Josephine | \$22,222 |
| Granite Joe Large Wood Placement Stream Restoration | MO22 | Josephine | \$16,667 |
| Weed Control and Management | | Douglas | \$60,000 |
| Aquatic Weed Inventory | | Douglas | \$6,333 |
| Clean Forest Project—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$20,000 |
| Glendale Roadside Brushing—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$31,111 |
| Douglas County Culvert Replacement | | Douglas | \$87,777 |
| Noxious Weed Removal—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$22,000 |
| Young Stand Management—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$46,300 |
| Roadside Brushing—Curry County | MR23 | Curry | \$20,000 |
| Curry County Culvert Project | MR24 | Curry | \$66,000 |
| Noxious Weed Removal—Curry County | MR25 | Curry | \$20,000 |
| Rogue River Trail Maintenance | MR20 | Curry | \$10,000 |
| Reroofing Stabilization of 3 National Register Historic Buildings | MR21 | Curry | \$10,000 |
| Northwest Youth Corps | MR26 | Curry | \$25,603 |

Table 21. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2011

| Project Name | Project Number | County | RAC Recommended Funding |
|--|----------------|---------|-------------------------|
| South Cascades Noxious Weed Project | MA 36 | Jackson | \$23,667 |
| Big Butte Springs Watershed Noxious Weed Project | MA 37 | Jackson | \$17,555 |
| Ashland Resource Area Weed Treatments | MA 14 | Jackson | \$40,000 |
| Revegetation of Disturbed Sites | MA 25 | Jackson | \$30,000 |
| Community Justice Fuels Project | MA 30 | Jackson | \$69,138 |
| Juvenile Forestry Work Crew | MA 31 | Jackson | \$31,047 |
| Aquatic Weed Inventory | MA 15 | Jackson | \$12,777 |
| Mine Closure with Bat Grates | MA 05 | Jackson | \$36,110 |
| Clean Forest Products | MA 32 | Jackson | \$40,000 |

**Table 21. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2011**

| Project Name | Project Number | County | RAC Recommended Funding |
|--|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| CSNM Beaver Restoration and Monitoring Project | MA 16 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Glendale Roadside Brushing—Jackson County | MA 28 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Stateline Fence and Box-O Fence Reconstruction | MA 17 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Anderson Wagner Fuel Hazard Reduction | MA 18 | Jackson | \$65,000 |
| Applegate Fuels Demonstration | MA 19 | Jackson | \$16,666 |
| Gate and Road Closure Structure Maintenance | MA 20 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Jackson County Maintenance of BLM Roads | MA 21 | Jackson | \$60,000 |
| Ashland Roadside Brushing—Jackson County | MA 22 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Jackson County Culvert Project | MA 27 | Jackson | \$100,000 |
| Bear Fielder Fuel Hazard Reduction | MA 26 | Jackson | \$100,000 |
| BLM Gate Repair—Butte Falls | MA 06 | Jackson | \$22,222 |
| McGregor Park Education Program | MA 07 | Jackson | \$33,333 |
| Murphy Gulch Damaged Culvert | MA 08 | Jackson | \$50,000 |
| Soda Mountain Road Restoration | MA 24 | Jackson | \$78,889 |
| Dump and Trash Cleanup | MA 23 | Jackson | \$25,000 |
| Butte Falls Roadside Brushing | MA 09 | Jackson | \$40,000 |
| Round Top RNA Fence Project | MA 10 | Jackson | \$18,645 |
| Right Fork Salt Creek Culvert Replacement | MA 11 | Jackson | \$61,111 |
| Sykes Creek Fuel Hazard Reduction | MA 12 | Jackson | \$55,000 |
| Table Rocks Environmental Education Program | MA 13 | Jackson | \$66,5000 |
| Cantrall Buckley Park Campground Water Supply | MA 33 | Jackson | \$28,642 |
| Apserkaha Group Facility Road Project | MA 34 | Jackson | \$32,222 |
| CSNM Ginger Springs Wildland Project | MA 35 | Jackson | \$40,811 |
| ODF Firefighter Retention | MO05 | Josephine | \$90,777 |
| Jillana Fuels Reduction | MO06 | Josephine | \$50,000 |
| Abandoned Vehicle and Illegal Dump Cleanup | MO07 | Josephine | \$11,111 |
| Education Outreach Program—Josephine County | MO08 | Josephine | \$16,667 |
| Aquatic Weed Inventory | MO09 | Josephine | \$12,778 |
| Release/Precommercial thinning | MO10 | Josephine | \$ 30,000 |
| Cheney Creek Large Wood Placement | MO11 | Josephine | \$5,555 |
| Draper Creek Culvert Replacement | MO12 | Josephine | \$45,695 |
| GPRA Riparian Restoration | MO14 | Josephine | \$75,000 |
| Draper Creek Large Wood Placement | MO13 | Josephine | \$5,556 |
| Youth Education Forestry Stewardship | MO15 | Josephine | \$55,861 |

**Table 21. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2011**

| Project Name | Project Number | County | RAC Recommended Funding |
|---|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Josephine County Cooperative Deputy Patrol | MO16 | Josephine | \$105,555 |
| Rogue River Cleanup | MO17 | Josephine | \$14,444 |
| Grants Pass Noxious Weed Treatment | MO18 | Josephine | \$73,333 |
| Japanese Knotweed Eradication and Education Project | MO19 | Josephine | \$27,778 |
| Bunker Creek Trail Bridge Replacement | MO20 | Josephine | \$144,444 |
| Clean Forest Project—Josephine County | MO27 | Josephine | \$30,000 |
| Josephine County Water Availability | MO26 | Josephine | \$60,000 |
| Roadside Brushing—Josephine County | MO25 | Josephine | \$32,000 |
| Josephine County Culvert Replacement Project—Glendale | MO24 | Josephine | \$200,000 |
| Native Plant Revegetation | MO21 | Josephine | \$30,000 |
| Noxious Weed Removal—Josephine County. | MO23 | Josephine | \$22,222 |
| Granite Joe Large Wood Stream Restoration | MO22 | Josephine | \$16,667 |
| Weed Control and Management | | Douglas | \$60,000 |
| Aquatic Weed Inventory | | Douglas | \$6,333 |
| Clean Forest Project—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$20,000 |
| GLRA Roadside Brushing—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$31,111 |
| Douglas Co. Culvert Replacement | | Douglas | \$87,777 |
| Noxious Weed Removal—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$22,000 |
| Young Stand Management—Douglas County | | Douglas | \$46,300 |
| Roadside Brushing—Curry County | MR23 | Curry | \$20,000 |
| Curry County Culvert Project | MR24 | Curry | \$66,000 |
| Noxious Weed Removal—Curry County | MR25 | Curry | \$20,000 |
| Rogue River Trail Maintenance | MR20 | Curry | \$10,000 |
| Reroofing Stabilization of 3 National Register Historic Buildings | MR21 | Curry | \$10,000 |
| Northwest Youth Corps | MR26 | Curry | \$25,603 |



Planning and NEPA Documents

Plan Maintenance

The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) was approved in April 1995. Since then, the District has implemented the plan across the entire spectrum of resources and land use allocations. During the life of a plan, both minor changes or refinements and possibly major changes brought about by new information or policy may occur. The plan establishes mechanisms to respond to these situations. Maintenance actions respond to minor data changes and incorporation of activity plans. This maintenance is limited to further refining or documenting a previously approved decision incorporated in the plan. Plan maintenance will not result in expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved resource management plan. Maintenance actions are not considered a plan amendment and do not require the formal public involvement and interagency coordination process undertaken for plan amendments.

Plan Maintenance for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011

Previous plan maintenance has been published in past Medford District Annual Program Summaries. No additional items were implemented on the Medford District as part of the plan maintenance during fiscal years 2010 or 2011.

In 1993, the ROD/RMP deferred 12 watersheds from management activities for 10 years (1995 RMP, pp. 42-44) because of high watershed cumulative effects. The RMP states that the deferred watersheds would be reevaluated during the next planning cycle or by January 2003. In fiscal year 2011, analyses were completed for removal of two watersheds, Little Butte Creek and Evans Creek analytical watersheds, from deferral status. The BLM determined that these watersheds were eligible for removal from deferral status. Deferred watersheds were not identified in the 2008 RMP, which provides our current management direction; therefore, they are not an issue as of the time of writing this APS. If the courts determine management will revert back to the 1995 RMP, plan maintenance will be completed to remove these watersheds from deferral status.

Plan Amendment

Amendment actions respond to major changes such as the need to change land use allocations or changes in the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved resource management plan. Amendment actions usually require formal public involvement and interagency coordination, and additional NEPA analysis prior to making these changes.



Plan Amendment for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011

No plan amendments were undertaken in fiscal years 2010 or 2011.

Monitoring Report for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011

Introduction

This document represents the fifteenth monitoring report of the 1995 Medford District ROD/RMP. This monitoring report compiles the results of implementation monitoring of the fifteenth and sixteenth years of implementation of the RMP. It meets the requirements for monitoring and evaluation of resource management plans at appropriate intervals within BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9). This monitoring plan does not identify all the monitoring conducted on the Medford District as activity and project plans may identify monitoring needs of their own. Included in this report are the projects that occurred from October 2009 through September 2011. Effectiveness and validation monitoring will be conducted in subsequent years when projects mature or proceed long enough for the questions asked under these categories of monitoring to be answered.

Background

The BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9) call for the monitoring and evaluation of resource management plans at appropriate intervals.

Monitoring is an essential component of natural resource management because it provides information on the relative success of management strategies. The implementation of the RMP is being monitored to ensure management actions:

- follow prescribed management direction (implementation monitoring),
- meet desired objectives (effectiveness monitoring), and
- are based on accurate assumptions (validation monitoring) (see Appendix L, 1995 Medford District ROD/RMP).

Some effectiveness monitoring and most validation monitoring will be accomplished by formal research. The nature of the questions concerning effectiveness monitoring requires some maturation of implemented projects in order to discern results. This and validation monitoring will be conducted as appropriate in subsequent years.

Province Level Implementation Monitoring

No Provincial level monitoring was performed this past year or are planned for the next year.



Effectiveness Monitoring

The Interagency Regional Monitoring Program continues to conduct effectiveness monitoring of the Northwest Forest Plan. Monitoring results have been evaluated and reported in 1- and 5-year intervals. The first comprehensive analysis of 10 years of NWFP monitoring data was published in a series of monitoring reports in 2005 and 2006. Since then, monitoring has continued, and a new set of reports analyzes 15 years of monitoring data (1994–2008), with a focus on the last 5 years.

This collection of reports on the 15-year anniversary of the Northwest Forest Plan (the Plan) provides an analysis of monitoring data since the 1994 Record of Decision. The reports attempt to answer questions about the effectiveness of the Plan from new monitoring and research results. The set includes a series of status and trends reports, and a summary report. These reports can be found online at <http://reo.gov/monitoring/reports/15yr-report/index.shtml>

Monitoring Overview

This monitoring report focuses on the implementation questions contained in the RMP. Questions were separated into two lists, those that are project related and those that are more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary, such as accomplishment reports. Both lists are included in Appendix B. The monitoring plan for the RMP incorporates the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan.

Monitoring at multiple levels and scales and coordination with other BLM and Forest Service units has been initiated through the Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC). At the request of the RIEC, the Regional Ecosystem Office started a regional-scale implementation monitoring program. This province-level monitoring was completed for the fifteenth year.

Monitoring during fiscal year 2011 concentrated on projects in process of implementation or that had been completed in 2010.

Monitoring Results and Findings

Implementation monitoring was based on a process developed by the Medford District Research and Monitoring Committee. Projects were randomly selected for implementation monitoring for the period from October 2009 to September 2011.



The following process was used for selecting individual projects to meet the ROD/RMP implementation monitoring standards for 2010:

1. The list of projects occurring in fiscal year 2010 was based on the following stratification:
 - All advertised timber sales
 - All silvicultural projects
 - Riparian restoration projects
 - Fish habitat enhancement projects
 - Wildlife habitat restoration projects
 - Fuels reduction projects
 - Road restoration projects
 - Miscellaneous projects
2. A random number was selected, with every fifth project from the list selected to be monitored (the monitoring plan in the ROD required 20 percent of projects within each area to be monitored.)
3. The NEPA documents, watershed analysis files, and Late-Successional Reserve Assessments applicable to each of the selected projects were reviewed and compared to answer the first part of the implementation monitoring question:

Were the projects prepared in accord with the underlying ROD requirements, NEPA or watershed analysis documentation, or Late-Successional Reserve Assessment documentation?

Summary of District Monitoring

Table 22. Types and Number of Projects by Resource Area for Fiscal Year 2010

| Project Type | Resource Area | | | | District Total |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| | Ashland | Butte Falls | Glendale | Grants Pass | |
| Timber Sale | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 10 |
| Silviculture | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Riparian | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Fish Habitat | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Wildlife Habitat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Prescribed Burns | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Road Restoration | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 4 | 7 | 2 | 16 | 29 |
| Total | 11 | 17 | 7 | 22 | 57 |



Table 23. Types and Numbers of Projects Selected for Monitoring by Resource Area for Fiscal Year 2010

| Project Type | Resource Area | | | | District Total |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| | Ashland | Butte Falls | Glendale | Grants Pass | |
| Timber Sales | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Silviculture | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Riparian | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fish Habitat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Wildlife Habitat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Prescribed Burns | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Road Restoration | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Total | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 11 |

Note: Appendix A contains lists of all projects considered and projects selected for monitoring.

The Medford District started or completed 57 projects from October 2009 through September 2010. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, special forest products collection, and trail renovation. The projects were sorted into the following categories:

- Timber Sales
- Fish Habitat work
- Silviculture Projects
- Wildlife Habitat
- Prescribed Burns
- Road Restorations
- Other

Projects that required environmental assessments or categorical exclusions were randomly selected for office and field review. Appendix L generally requires a 20 percent sample to be evaluated.

For each project selected, we answered the project-specific questions included in Appendix B. Questions of a general nature (Appendix B, second list of questions) are addressed in the specific program articles found in the beginning of this document.

The Medford District is separated into four resource areas. Projects were selected from all resource areas and answers to the monitoring questions for the individual actions were based on a review of the files and NEPA documentation. Some questions asked for information that required field review of projects before they were started and



other questions required information gathered after projects were completed. Necessary monitoring field trips were conducted over the entire Medford District.

Findings for Fiscal Year 2010 Monitoring

The Medford District found a high level of compliance with the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) contained in the Medford District ROD/RMP and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our fifteenth year of monitoring evaluation continues to support our earlier observations that overall the District is doing a good job of implementing the Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District RMP. The District has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

Field review of the timber sales and projects indicated that the intent and requirements of the S&Gs were met for the sampled and completed projects.

Projects received field visits so the selected monitoring questions could be answered or required measurements taken. The projects were reviewed in the field for the following factors:

- SEIS Special Attention Species
- Riparian Reserves
- Snag Retention
- Coarse Woody Debris
- Wildlife Habitat
- Special Status Species
- Fish Habitat
- Structures in Riparian Reserves
- Special Areas

Riparian reserves were measured and found to have the correct size buffers for the different types of streams. All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the Northwest Forest Plan ROD. The project results and information on the monitoring process is available at the Medford District Office. As a result of the observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past 15 years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.

A portion of the questions asked in the monitoring appendix concern projects that have not been completed and which deal with pretreatment conditions. Measurements of riparian reserves and surveys of green tree and snag retention, coarse woody debris levels, and special status species were completed on projects and will be reviewed again when the project has been completed. Some projects may take up to 3 years to be completed.



Fiscal Year 2011 Monitoring Report

Monitoring Overview

In previous years, selecting projects for implementation monitoring was conducted by identifying 20 percent of projects approved in that fiscal year and supplementing that selection with additional individual projects needed to fulfill the 20 percent requirement. In contrast, this year, monitoring focuses on projects that had been implemented or were in process of implementation in fiscal year 2011. Implementation of projects is of interest to both external and internal audiences. To that end, this and future field monitoring efforts will focus primarily on project implementation. Monitoring during the past 15 years of silviculture and restoration projects have demonstrated consistent compliance with RMP monitoring requirements with most projects being continuations of previously monitored projects and, in most instances, contain very similar contractual requirements.

Projects selected in previous years, but not completed during that year, were carried forward into the current monitoring cycle. These projects have already been monitored for documentation and are only being monitored for actual on-the-ground implementation.

Monitoring Results and Findings

As stated above, monitoring concentrated on projects in process of implementation or that had been completed in 2011. Projects that were monitored in fiscal year 2011 focused on timber sales, stewardship projects, salvage, and hazard tree falling.

The Medford District initiated 56 projects that required Environmental Assessments or Categorical Exclusions from October 2010 through September 2011. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, special forest products collection, and trail renovation (Table 24). The projects were sorted into the following categories:

- Timber Sales
- Silvicultural Projects
- Riparian Treatments
- Fish Habitat Work
- Wildlife Habitat
- Prescribed Burns and Fuel Hazard Reduction
- Road Restoration and Decommissioning
- Hazard Tree Removal
- Timber Salvage
- Other



Table 24. Types and Numbers of Projects Initiated by Resource Area for Fiscal Year 2011

| Project Type | Resource Area | | | | District Total |
|--|---------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| | Ashland | Butte Falls | Glendale | Grants Pass | |
| Timber Sale | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Silviculture | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Riparian | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Fish Habitat | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| Wildlife Habitat | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Prescribed Burns/ Fuel Hazard Reduction | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Road Restoration/ Decommission | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Hazard Tree | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Salvage | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 5 | 7 | 3 | 15 | 30 |
| Total | 17 | 14 | 7 | 19 | 56 |

Several projects selected for monitoring are being implemented under stewardship contracts. These projects include a combination of extraction of commercial timber, silviculture treatments, road decommissioning, and fuel hazard reduction; therefore the number of projects is less than shown in Table 25. See Appendix A for details of what each project encompassed.

Table 25. Types and Numbers of Projects Selected for Monitoring by Resource Area for Fiscal Year 2011

| Project Type | Resource Area | | | | District Total |
|--|---------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| | Ashland | Butte Falls | Glendale | Grants Pass | |
| Timber Sale | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| Silviculture | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Riparian | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Fish Habitat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wildlife Habitat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Prescribed Burns/ Fuel Hazard Reduction | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Road Restoration/ Decommission | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hazard Tree | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Salvage | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 15 |



Findings for Fiscal Year 2011 Monitoring

The Medford District found a high level of compliance with the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) contained in the Medford District ROD/RMP and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our sixteenth year of monitoring evaluation continues to support our earlier observations that overall the District is doing a good job of implementing the Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District RMP. The District has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

Field review of the timber sales and projects indicated that the intent and requirements of the S&Gs were met for the sampled and completed projects.

All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the Northwest Forest Plan ROD and, with the exception of pile burning where lop-and-scatter was prescribed, all projects were found to be consistent with the NEPA documentation for each project. Effects appeared to fall within what was analyzed in the respective Environmental Assessments; based on project monitoring, no indirect effects beyond what were analyzed are expected. As a result of the observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past 16 years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.



Appendix A. Monitoring

Fiscal Year 2010

Projects Available for Monitoring

Timber Sales

- Twin Ranch
- Mini Mule
- Wagner Anderson
- MC Thin Forest Restoration
- Shale City Salvage
- Sampson Cove
- Plateau Thin

Silviculture Projects

- Grants Pass Planting
- Butte Falls Resource Area Planting, Mulching, Scalping
- Butte Falls Resource Area Hand Scalping
- BFRA PCT and Brush Control
- Ranch Stew II
- Progeny Stew
- Ashland Silviculture Treatments
- Tree Planting and Scalping

Riparian Restoration Projects

- Beaver Dam and Jackass Creek Riparian Planting

Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects

- Jump Off Joe and Louse Creek LWD
- Big Butte Creek Watershed LWD Restoration Project
- Middle Cow Creek Instream Restoration

Prescribed Burn Projects

- Pleasant Fry Underburning
- Home Run Fuels Treatment



- Flounce Around Fuels Treatment
- Revised Rueben Hazardous Fuel Reduction
- Fire Resiliency

Other Projects

- Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Trail Maintenance & Reconstruction Project
- Tracy Sucker Creek Plan of Operations
- Althouse Culvert
- McMullin Creek ROW/Road Construction
- Rough and Ready ACEC Roadside Boulder Placement
- Sports Life Filming
- Hellgate Jet Boat Aerial Filming
- Espey Road Trailhead
- Jump Off Joe School Bus Turnaround
- Gayle Wilson Filming
- Meadow Knapweed Mowing
- Emergency Mule Creek Bridge Replacement / Trail Reroute
- ODF Manzanita Tower
- French Flat Meadow Restoration
- Pine to Pine Endurance Run
- Middle Rogue Steelheaders Salmon Derby
- Cable ROW
- Flounce Rock Building Removal
- Table Rocks Renovation
- Indian Creek Bridge Replacement
- Beaver Dam Creek Livestock Exclosure
- PacifiCorp Electrical Line Maintenance/Repair OR 9190
- Ranch Stew II Road Decommissioning
- Mule Creek Bridge Replacement
- Elk Valley Road Maintenance
- R/W Amendment Application
- Hyatt Lake Septic System Repair



- Little Hyatt Dam
- Forest Creek Rehab. Project
- Sterling Mine Ditch Trail Maintenance

Fiscal Year 2010 Monitored Projects (by category)

Timber Sales

- Mini Mule
- Plateau Thin

Silviculture Projects

- Ranch Stew II

Prescribed Burn Projects

- Flounce Around Fuels Treatment

Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects

- Jump Off Joe and Louse Creek LWD

Other Projects

- Althouse Culvert Replacement
- Espey Road Trailhead
- ODF Manzanita Tower
- Flounce Rock Building Removal
- Ranch Stew II Road Decommissioning
- Little Hyatt Dam

Fiscal Year 2011 Projects Initiated

The following projects were initiated in FY 2011 on the Medford District:

Table A-1. Projects Initiated on the Medford District in Fiscal Year 2011

| Project | NEPA # | Project Type |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| District-wide | | |
| Christmas Tree Cutting: 2010–2013 | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0001-CX | Special Forest Products |
| District Trail Maintenance 2011–2012 | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0002-CX | Recreation |
| Vehicle and Structure Removal 2011-2015 | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0003-CX | Vehicle/Structure removal |

**Table A-1. Projects Initiated on the Medford District in Fiscal Year 2011**

| Project | NEPA # | Project Type |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hazard Tree Removal_ 2011-2013 | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0004-CX | Hazard Tree |
| Cycle Oregon Medford, Eugene, and Roseburg Districts 2011 | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0005-CX | Recreation |
| Elk Foraging Study | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0006-CX | Wildlife |
| <i>Fritillaria gentneri</i> outplanting | DOI-BLM-OR-M000-2011-0008-CX | Botany |
| Butte Falls Resource Area | | |
| Lower Big Butte Underburning | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0001-DNA | Fuels |
| Progeny Site Fence Removal | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0002-CX | Silviculture |
| BFRA PCT, Hardwood Clump Removal, Brushing | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0003-CX | Silviculture |
| BFRA Photography | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0004-CX | Recreation |
| OR 036663 Fritz RW | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0005-CX | Right-of-Way (ROW) |
| O&C ROW Permit M-5041 | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0006-CX | ROW |
| O&C ROW Permit M-5040 | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0007-CX | ROW |
| Butte Falls Insect and Blowdown Salvage | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0008-DNA | Salvage |
| Baker Hazard Tree Removal | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0009-CX | Hazard Tree |
| Brushy Battle Fuel Hazard Reduction | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0010-DNA | Fuels |
| Table Rocks Management Plan | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0011-EA | Recreation |
| Perry Road Fence | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0012-CX | Restoration |
| BFRA PCT, Brush Removal | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0013-CX | Silviculture |
| Flat Creek Road Relocation | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0014-EA | Restoration |

**Table A-1. Projects Initiated on the Medford District in Fiscal Year 2011**

| Project | NEPA # | Project Type |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Friese Camp Forest Management | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0015-EA | Timber |
| Bear Mountain, Crowfoot, Vestal Butte, Neil Tarbell, and Moser Mountain Allotment Lease Authorizations | DOI-BLM-OR-M050-2011-0016-EA | Grazing |
| Ashland Resource Area | | |
| MRA Fall Ghost & Goblin Run | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0002-CX | Recreation |
| Cottonwood Forest Management Project | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0003-EA | Timber |
| Tree Planting/Scalping Treatments | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0004-CX | Silviculture |
| Gopher Trapping in the Cascade Range | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0008-CX | Silviculture |
| Kawasaki Filming Permit | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0011-CX | Recreation |
| Little Applegate Fish Screen Project DNA | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0012-DNA | Fish/Aquatic |
| Ninemile Creek Restoration Project | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0014-DNA | Fish/Aquatic |
| Star Gulch Large Wood Restoration Project | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0015-DNA | Fish/Aquatic |
| Pilot Joe Demonstration Project | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0016-EA | Timber |
| MRA Poker Run and Hare Scramble SRP | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0017-CX | Recreation |
| Lake Creek Road/Trail Decommissioning DNA | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0018-DNA | Hydrology |
| Lick and Max Gulch Road Decommissioning Project DNA | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0019-DNA | Hydrology |
| Mardon Skipper Habitat Restoration | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0020-CX | Wildlife |
| Table Mountain Ground Ring and Vegetation Maintenance | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0023-CX | Lands/Realty |
| Yale Creek Fish Screen Project | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0024-DNA | Fish/Aquatic |
| Silviculture Treatments (PCT and Brushing) | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0025-CX | Silviculture |



Table A-1. Projects Initiated on the Medford District in Fiscal Year 2011

| Project | NEPA # | Project Type |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wolf Hazard Tree Removal | DOI-BLM-OR-M060-2011-0026-DNA | Hazard Tree |
| Grants Pass Resource Area | | |
| Deer Creek LWD | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2010-0048-DNA | Restoration |
| BLM's Deer Creek Education Site | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2010-0045-CX | Recreation |
| Carroll Water ROW OR66515 | letter to the file (no formal CX) | ROW |
| SOU Field School | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0004-CX | Archaeological Field School |
| Walk-in LLC | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0004-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Double Rum Timber Sale | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0005-DNA | Timber Sale |
| Draper Creek and South Fork Deer Creek Restoration | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0006-DNA | Restoration |
| Pistis Short Track Mountain Bicycle Race Series | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0007-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Southern Oregon and Crater Lake Classic Plus (BLM portion) | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0008-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Plastic Dam–East Fork Williams Creek | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0009-DNA | Restoration |
| PacifiCorp ROW (OR66634) | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0010-CX | ROW |
| Pine to Palm Endurance Run | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0011-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Cathedral Hills Park Trail | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0012-DNA | Trail Work |
| Artbeats Filming on the Rogue River | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0013-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Green Highlander Filming | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0014-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Extreme Makeover Home Edition | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0015-CX | Special Recreation Permit |
| Limestone Challenge Equestrian Endurance Ride | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0016-CX | Special Recreation Permit |

**Table A-1. Projects Initiated on the Medford District in Fiscal Year 2011**

| Project | NEPA # | Project Type |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dennis ROW Grant OR 66714 | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2011-0017-CX | Ingress/Egress ROW |
| Rosenthal ROW OR 43960 | DOI-BLM-OR-M070-2010-0034-CX | ROW |
| Glendale Resource Area | | |
| Cedar Springs Communication Site | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2011-001-CX | ROW Lease |
| Winters ROW permit | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2011-002-CX | ROW Permit |
| Slim Timber Sale DNA | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2011-004-DNA | Timber Sale |
| Middle Cow Creek Instream Restoration | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2011-005-DNA | Restoration |
| Skeele and Son ROW | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2011-006-DNA | ROW |
| Regor Thin CX | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2011-002-CX | Timber Sale |
| Fire Resiliency Project | DOI-BLM-OR-M080-2010-003-EA | Fuels/Timber/Silviculture |

Fiscal Year 2011 Monitored Projects (by category)

Some of the listed projects were implemented under stewardship contracts that included multiple activities; therefore, they are listed under multiple headings.

Timber Sales

- Tennessee Lime (Stewardship)
- Ranch Stew (Stewardship)
- Dead Stew (Stewardship)
- East Star (Timber Sale)
- Twin Ranch (Timber Sale)
- Small Fortune (Timber Sale)
- Fortune Branch (Timber Sale)
- Starving Cow (Late-successional Reserve)



Silviculture

- Tennessee Lime (Stewardship)
- Ranch Stew (Stewardship)

Riparian

- Ranch Stew (Stewardship)

Prescribed Fire/Fuel Hazard Reduction

- Tennessee Lime (Stewardship)
- Ranch Stew (Stewardship)

Hazard Tree

- Wolf Hazard

Salvage

- Shale City Salvage



Appendix B. Monitoring Questions

Implementation Monitoring for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011

The following two lists of questions were used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for fiscal years 2010 and 2011. The first list Project-Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, was used for monitoring specific projects. The second list, APS-Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, was addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

Medford District Project-Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Listed below are the Implementation Monitoring Requirements and Questions as described in Appendix L of the ROD for the Medford District RMP.

All Land Use Allocations

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

Protection of SEIS special attention species so as not to elevate their status to any higher level of concern.

Implementation Monitoring

1. Are surveys for Special Status Species (Sensitive and Survey and Manage Species) conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur as per current guidance (S&M Settlement Agreement; IM-2012-018)?

Finding: Surveys were completed for all projects in Appendix A as appropriate.

2. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other Special Status Species in habitats identified in the upland forest matrix?

Finding: Appropriate protection buffers were provided for species on all projects in Appendix A.

Conclusion: RMP requirements have been met.

Riparian Reserves

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

See Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.



Implementation Monitoring

1. Are watershed analyses being completed before on-the-ground actions are initiated?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Watershed analyses were completed for all projects prior to implementation. For most projects, the watershed analysis is of an older vintage and concerns specific to the current activity are not often identified. However, the watershed analysis process is of marginal utility as a source of 'new' information. Watershed analysis was intended to form the basis for understanding ecological functions, processes, and their interactions on a watershed scale. These first iteration analyses have been completed for most watersheds. Watershed analysis was not intended to analyze information at the project scale for a proposed activity; that is the role of NEPA. Analytical questions necessary for the Decision process are being addressed in the accompanying NEPA documentation and; the NEPA addresses cumulative effects at an appropriate scale commensurate with the project.

2. Is the width and integrity of the Riparian Reserves being maintained?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew; East Star; Starving Cow) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Riparian Reserve widths were based on the established guidelines from the RMP and site-specific assessment.

3. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) ROD Standards and Guidelines?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Management activities in Riparian Reserves were consistent with NWFP ROD Standards and Guidelines.

4. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with RMP management direction?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Management activities in Riparian Reserves were consistent with RMP management direction.

5. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.



Finding: Management activities in Riparian Reserves were consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. Appropriate assessment of ACS objectives was included in project-specific Environmental Assessments or in the project record.

6. Are new structures and improvements in Riparian Reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths, reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream, protect fish and wildlife populations, and accommodate the 100-year flood?

Monitoring Performed: No monitoring was performed on instream structural improvements.

7. A) Are all mining structures, support facilities, and roads located outside the Riparian Reserves?
B) Are those located within the Riparian Reserves meeting the objectives of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy?
C) Are all solid and sanitary waste facilities excluded from Riparian Reserves or located, monitored, and reclaimed in accordance with the Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines and Medford District RMP management direction?

Monitoring Performed: Appropriate guidelines are followed in all projects for mining structures, support facilities and road locations.

Late-Successional Reserves

1. Were activities performed within Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) compatible with objectives of LSR plans, the NWFP ROD Standards and Guidelines, RMP management direction, and LSR Assessments?

Monitoring Performed: The Starving Cow timber sale was located in a Late-Successional Reserve.

Finding: Management activities in LSR were consistent with RMP management direction, LSR Assessments, NWFP Standards and Guidelines and LSR plans. Yarding was one-end or full suspension. Appropriate canopy (60%) was maintained and standing hardwoods were maintained at to enhance forest structural diversity.

Matrix

1. Are suitable numbers of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left following timber harvest as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew; East Star) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Snags were retained where they were available except where felled for safety reasons. Felled snags were retained as coarse woody debris. Green trees



were retained at appropriate levels. Existing coarse woody debris was retained in all projects. Coarse woody debris levels met or exceeded RMP standards in all projects.

2. Are timber sales being designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew; East Star) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: All projects were designed to meet ecosystem goals for wildlife, soils, hydrology, plants, cultural resource, and other objectives. Environmental analysis addresses relevant issues for these resources at relevant temporal and spatial scales, and as applicable for each project.

3. Are late-successional stands being retained in fifth-field watersheds in which Federal forest lands have 15 percent or less late-successional forest?

Monitoring Performed: Relevant projects in Appendix A (Ranch Stew; Dead Stew; East Star, Starving Cow) of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: No regeneration harvests were planned in any watersheds that had 15% or less late-successional forest in them. RMP objectives were met.

Air Quality

1. Were efforts made to minimize the amount of particulate emissions from prescribed burns?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A that included treatment of activity generated slash were reviewed.

Finding: Prescribed burns were primarily pile burning, but not all of the projects were complete. In observed pile burns, not all of the piled material was burned. In some areas, some coarse wood was consumed, but still remained at acceptable levels. Burn plans were prepared for all projects. The piles that have been burned were done so in prescription and according to their individual burn plans when prescribed conditions were available. Overall particulate emissions from prescribed burning can be minimized through ignition timing, aggressive mop-up, and reducing large heavy fuels consumed by fire.

2. Are dust abatement measures used during construction activities and on roads during BLM timber harvest operations and other BLM commodity hauling activities?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: The timber sales contain abatement specifications as part of the contract.



Water, lignin, or other appropriate dust abatement treatment is required to abate dust during all phases of the contract.

Compliance/Monitoring Results -

Soil and Water

1. Are site-specific Best Management Practices identified as applicable during interdisciplinary review carried forward into project design and execution?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: In ground-based operations (e.g., Ranch Stew, Twin Ranch, Small Fortune), skid trails were less than 12% of the area and existing skid roads were used when available. Tractor and cable yarding, and timber hauling were seasonally limited appropriate to site-specific conditions. In Stewardship projects (Ranch Stew), cut-to-length equipment traveled over a thick layer of slash to prevent soil damage and erosion. Cable yarding corridors were an appropriate width for safe operations.

2. Are watershed analyses being performed prior to management activities in key watersheds?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Watershed analyses were completed for all projects prior to implementation. For most projects, the watershed analysis is of an older vintage and concerns specific to the current activity are not often identified. However, the watershed analysis process is of marginal utility as a source of 'new' information. Watershed analysis was intended to form the basis for understanding ecological functions, processes, and their interactions on a watershed scale. These first iteration analyses have been completed for most watersheds. Watershed analysis was not intended to analyze information at the project scale for a proposed activity; that is the role of NEPA. Analytical questions necessary for the Decision process are being addressed in the accompanying NEPA documentation and; the NEPA addresses cumulative effects at an appropriate scale commensurate with the project.

Wildlife Habitat

1. Are suitable (diameter, length, and numbers) of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left in a manner that meets the needs of species and provides for ecological functions in harvested areas as called for in the Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines and ROD/RMP management direction?



Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Snags were retained where they were available except where felled for safety reasons. Felled snags were retained as coarse woody debris. Green trees were retained at appropriate levels. Existing coarse woody debris was retained in all projects. Coarse woody debris levels met or exceeded RMP standards in all projects.

2. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Seasonal restrictions are in place for spotted owl sites consistent with consultation requirements. Activities in spotted owl habitat are being implemented consistent with USFWS consultation Project Design Criteria; target canopy retention is being met. Buffers on Riparian Reserves and for special status plants have been implemented.

Fish Habitat

1. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: All projects considered at-risk fish species and incorporated appropriate Project Design Features to avoid adverse effects on fish and fish habitat including Essential Fish Habitat.

2. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: All projects considered at-risk fish species and incorporated appropriate Project Design Features to avoid adverse effects on fish and fish habitat including Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). All projects were designed to be “no-effect” on fish or EFH.

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

1. Are special status species being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions? During forest management and other actions that may disturb special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances?



Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: The Medford District consulted with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the USFWS on various management projects. All major ground-disturbing activities involve discussion with USFWS concerning Threatened and Endangered species. This ranges from a verbal discussion up to and including a formal biological assessment.

Compliance/Monitoring Results -

2. Are the actions identified in plans to recover species and the requirements and recommendations in the biological opinion being implemented in a timely manner?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: The Medford District works closely with the USFWS during project development and appropriate consultation was completed for each project. The District is also working closely with the USFWS to reach a common understanding and consistent implementation of the new recovery plan (2011)

Special Areas (e.g., ACECs, RNAs)

1. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions/uses near or within special areas consistent with RMP objectives and management direction for special areas?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: No projects monitored were implemented in special areas. NEPA analysis for projects in special areas was consistent with management direction for the specific area to maintain or improve values or resources for which they were designated.

Compliance/Monitoring Results - N/A

2. If mitigation was required, was it incorporated in the authorization document?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: No projects monitored were implemented in special areas. NEPA analysis for projects in special areas was consistent with management direction for the specific area to maintain or improve values or resources for which they were designated.



3. If mitigation was required, was it carried out as planned?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: No projects monitored were implemented in special areas. NEPA analysis for projects in special areas was consistent with management direction for the specific area to maintain or improve values or resources for which they were designated.

Cultural Resources (Including American Indian Values)

1. Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Cultural resource surveys were completed and effects analyzed as appropriate in the context of proposed activities for all projects.

2. During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately mitigate?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: All cultural resources were buffered from project activities.

Visual Resources

1. Are visual resource design features and mitigation methods being followed during timber sales and other substantial actions in Class II and III areas?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Timber harvest and other activities for all projects met VRM requirements.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

1. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions consistent with protection of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values of designated, suitable, and eligible, but not studied, rivers?

Monitoring Performed: No monitored projects occurred within eligible or designated Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Finding: N/A



Rural Interface Areas

1. Are design features and mitigation measures developed and implemented to avoid/minimize impacts to health, life, property, and quality of life and to minimize the possibility of conflicts between private and federal land management?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: All projects that were in close proximity to private land contained design features that minimized impacts.

Noxious Weeds

1. Are noxious weed control methods compatible with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Monitoring Performed: All projects in Appendix A of this Annual Program Summary were reviewed.

Finding: Noxious weed control measures are compatible with ACS objectives for all projects occurring on the Medford District BLM

Medford District APS-Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

This list of questions is addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

All Land Use Allocations

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 225)

1. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being surveyed as directed in the SEIS ROD?
2. Are high priority sites for species management being identified?
3. Are general regional surveys being conducted to acquire additional information and to determine necessary levels of protection for arthropods and fungi species that were not classed as rare and endemic, bryophytes, and lichens?

Riparian Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 226)

- 9A. What silvicultural practices are being applied to control stocking, re establish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?



- 9B. Are management actions creating a situation where riparian reserves are made more susceptible to fire?
- 13A. Are new recreation facilities within the Riparian Reserves designed to meet, and where practicable, contribute to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 13B. Are mitigation measures initiated where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Late-Successional Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 228)

- 14. What is the status of the preparation of assessments and fire plans for Late-Successional Reserves?
- 15A. What activities were conducted or authorized within Late-Successional Reserves and how were they compatible with the objectives of the Late-Successional Reserve Assessment?
- 15B. Were the activities consistent with Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines, RMP management direction, Regional Ecosystem Office review requirements, and Late-Successional Reserve Assessment?
- 16. What is the status of development and implementation of plans to eliminate or control non native species which adversely impact late successional objectives?
- 17. What land acquisitions occurred, or are under way, to improve the area, distribution, and quality of late-successional reserves?

Adaptive Management Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 229)

- 18A. Are the adaptive management area (AMA) plans being developed?
- 18B. Do the AMA plans establish future desired conditions?

Matrix

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 230)

- 22. What is the age and type of the harvested stands?

Air Quality

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 231)

- 25A. Are conformity determinations being prepared prior to activities which may contribute to a new violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards,



increase the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay the timely attainment of a standard?

25B. Has an interagency monitoring grid been established in southwestern Oregon?

Soil and Water

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 232)

27A. What watershed analyses have been or are being performed?

28. In watersheds where municipal providers have agreements, have the agreements been checked to determine if the terms and conditions have been met?

29. What is the status of identification of instream flow needs for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat, and riparian resources?

30. What watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented?

31. What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

32. What is the status of development of road or transportation management plans to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

33. What is the status of preparation of criteria and standards which govern the operation, maintenance, and design for the construction and reconstruction of roads?

34A. What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk?

34B. What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within Key Watersheds?

34C. If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in Key Watersheds?

35. What is the status of reviews of ongoing research in Key Watersheds to ensure that significant risk to the watershed does not exist?

36A. What is the status of evaluation of recreation, interpretive, and user enhancement activities/facilities to determine their effects on the watershed?



36B. What is the status of eliminating or relocating these activities/facilities when found to be in conflict with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

37A. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies in the development of watershed based Research Management Plans and other cooperative agreements to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

37B. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies to identify and eliminate wild ungulate impacts which are inconsistent with attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Wildlife Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 234)

40. What is the status of designing and implementing wildlife habitat restoration projects?

41. What is the status of designing and constructing wildlife interpretive and other user enhancement facilities?

Fish Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 235)

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?

43. Are fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities being designed and implemented which contribute to attainment of aquatic conservation strategy objectives?

44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 236)

48. What coordination with other agencies has occurred in the management of special status species?

49. What land acquisitions occurred or are underway to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species?

50. What site-specific plans for the recovery of special status species were, or are being, developed?

51. What is the status of analysis which ascertains species requirements or enhances the recovery or survival of a species?



52. What is the status of efforts to maintain or restore the community structure, species composition, and ecological processes of special status plant and animal habitat?

Special Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 238)

54. What is the status of the preparation, revision, and implementation of ACEC management plans?
- 55A. Are interpretive programs and recreation uses being developed and encouraged in ONAs?
- 55B. Are the outstanding values of the Outstanding Natural Areas being protected from damage?
56. What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the Research Natural Areas and Environmental Education Areas?
57. Are existing BLM actions and BLM-authorized actions and uses not consistent with management direction for special areas being eliminated or relocated?
- 58A. Are actions being identified which are needed to maintain or restore the important values of the special areas?
- 58B. Are the actions being implemented?
59. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the Northwest Forest Plan ROD?

Cultural Resources (Including American Indian Values)

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 239)

61. What mechanisms have been developed to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes?
62. What efforts are being made to work with American Indian groups to accomplish cultural resource objectives and achieve goals outlined in existing memoranda of understanding and to develop additional memoranda as needs arise?
63. What public education and interpretive programs were developed to promote the appreciation of cultural resources?



Wild and Scenic Rivers

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 241)

66A. Are existing plans being revised to conform to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

66B. Are revised plans being implemented?

Socioeconomic Conditions

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 243)

68. What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities?

69. Are RMP implementation strategies being identified that support local economies?

70. What is the status of planning and developing amenities (such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities) that enhance local communities?

Recreation

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 244)

71. What is the status of the development and implementation of recreation plans?

Timber Resources

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 245)

72. By land use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management objectives?

73. Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the calculation of the expected sale quantity implemented?

Special Forest Products

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 246)

74. Is the sustainability and protection of special forest product resources ensured prior to selling special forest products?

75. What is the status of the development and implementation of specific guidelines for the management of individual special forest products?



Fire/Fuels Management

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 247)

77. What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves and Adaptive Management Areas?
78. Have additional analysis and planning been completed to allow some natural fires to burn under prescribed conditions?
79. Do wildfire suppression plans emphasize maintaining late-successional habitat?
80. Have fire management plans been completed for all at risk late-successional areas?
81. What is the status of the interdisciplinary team preparation and implementation of regional fire management plans which include fuel hazard reduction plans?



Appendix C. Summary of Ongoing Plans and Analyses

NEPA Documentation

The review of the environmental effects of a proposed management action can occur in any of four ways: Categorical exclusion (CX), administrative determination, environmental assessment (EA), or environmental impact statement (EIS).

A CX is used when the BLM determines the type of proposed activity does not individually or cumulatively have significant environmental effects and is exempt from requirements to prepare an environmental analysis. CXs are covered specifically by Department of the Interior and BLM guidelines.

An administrative determination is a conclusion by the BLM that previously prepared NEPA documentation fully covers a proposed action and no additional analysis is needed. This procedure is used in conjunction with a Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA) form. If an action is fully in conformance with actions specifically described in the RMP and analyzed in a subsequent NEPA document, a plan conformance and NEPA adequacy determination may be made and no additional analysis is needed.

An EA is prepared to assess the effects of actions that are not exempt from NEPA, categorically excluded, or covered by an existing environmental document. An EA is prepared to determine if a proposed action or alternative will significantly affect the quality of the human environment and, therefore, will require the preparation of an EIS.

Major proposals that will significantly affect the environment and were not previously analyzed in an EIS, require that an EIS be prepared.

Timber Mountain/John's Peak OHV Plan

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Timber Mountain Recreation Management Area is available and the public comment period has been concluded. This site-specific analysis is available on the Medford District BLM Web site. The comment period was extended until May 13, 2009. A Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision should be available in 2012.

The District has initiated a collaborative process with stakeholders to develop a modified alternative that the BLM would analyze as part of the final EIS, an alternative that would be acceptable to the broader community. This would be considered in final decision making for the plan. The management plan will offer an alternative that will provide for a recreational opportunity in a forest, mountain, and trail environment. The



area offers a quality riding experience for users of Class I (all-terrain vehicles), Class II (four-wheel drive vehicles), and Class III (motorcycles) vehicles. Visitor information would be provided to ensure proper use of public lands. Law enforcement measures would be employed, as appropriate. The BLM will cooperate with county and private landowners to preserve and maintain the character of the area.

Soda Mountain Wilderness: Stewardship Plan and Environmental Assessment

The Environmental Assessment and Stewardship Plan for the Soda Mountain Wilderness has been published and was available for public comment from September 22 through November 8, 2011. A decision is expected in early spring of 2012.



Appendix D. Acronyms and Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|--|
| ACEC | Area of Critical Environmental Concern |
| ACS | Aquatic Conservation Strategy |
| AMA | Adaptive Management Area |
| ASQ | Allowable Sale Quantity |
| BLM | Bureau of Land Management |
| CBWR | Coos Bay Wagon Road |
| CCF | Hundred Cubic Feet |
| CSNM | Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument |
| CWD | Coarse Woody Debris |
| CX | Categorical Exclusion |
| DEQ | Department of Environmental Quality |
| EA | Environmental Assessment |
| EEA | Environmental Education Area |
| EIS | Environmental Impact Statement |
| ESA | Endangered Species Act |
| FAA | Federal Aviation Administration |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| GeoBOB | Geographic Biotic Observations |
| GFMA | General Forest Management Area |
| KBO | Klamath Bird Observatory |
| LSR | Late-Successional Reserve |
| MBF | Thousand Board Feet |
| MMBF | Million Board Feet |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NWFP | Northwest Forest Plan |
| O&C | Oregon and California Revested Lands |
| ODA | Oregon Department of Agriculture |
| ODEQ | Oregon Department of Environmental Quality |
| ODFW | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife |



OR/WA Oregon/Washington BLM
PD..... Public Domain Lands
PILT Payment in Lieu of Taxes
REO..... Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP..... Resource Management Plan
RNA..... Research Natural Area
ROD..... Record of Decision
ROD/RMP..... Medford District ROD and RMP
R&PP..... Recreation and Public Purposes
S&G Standards and Guidelines
USFS US Forest Service
USFWS US Fish and Wildlife Service
WOPR Western Oregon Plan Revisions
WQMP..... Water Quality Management Plan
WQRP Water Quality Restoration Plan



Appendix E. Definitions

Adaptive Management Area—The Medford District’s Applegate AMA is managed to restore and maintain late-successional forest habitat while developing and testing management approaches to achieve the desired economic and other social objectives.

Anadromous fish—Fish that are born and reared in fresh water, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to fresh water to reproduce, e.g., salmon, steelhead, and shad.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern—An area of BLM-administered lands where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values; fish and wildlife resources; or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

Candidate species—Plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. These are taxa for which the US Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to support issuance of a proposal to list, but issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions.

Fifth field watershed—A watershed designation of approximately 20 to 200 square miles in size.

Fiscal year—The Federal financial year. A period of time from October 1 of one year to September 31 of the following year.

Hazardous materials—Anything that poses a substantive present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

Late-successional reserve—A forest in its mature or old-growth stages that has been reserved.

Matrix land—Federal land outside of reserves and special management areas which will be available for timber harvest at varying levels.

Noxious plant or weed—A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.

Precommercial thinning—The practice of removing some of the trees less than merchantable size from a stand so that remaining trees will grow faster.

Prescribed fire—A fire burning under specified conditions that will accomplish certain planned objectives.

Refugia—Locations and habitats that support populations of organisms that are limited to small fragments of their previous geographic ranges.

Regional Interagency Executive Council—A senior regional interagency entity which assures the prompt, coordinated, successful implementation at the regional level of the Northwest Forest Plan standards and guidelines.

Research natural area—An area that contains natural resource values of scientific interest and is managed primarily for research and educational purposes.

Resource management plan—A land-use plan prepared by the BLM under current regulations in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Riparian reserves—Designated riparian areas found outside late-successional reserves.

SEIS Special Attention Species—Species identified in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Northwest Forest Plan as needing special management attention. A term which incorporates the *Survey and Manage* and *Protection Buffer* species from the Northwest Forest Plan.

Silvicultural prescription—A detailed plan, usually written by a forest silviculturist, for controlling the establishment, composition, constitution, and growth of forest stands.

Site index—A measure of forest productivity expressed as the height of the tallest trees in a stand at an index age.

Site preparation—Any action taken in conjunction with a reforestation effort (natural or artificial) to create an environment that is favorable for survival of suitable trees during the first growing season. This environment can be created by altering groundcover, soil, or microsite conditions, using biological, mechanical, or manual clearing, prescribed burns, herbicides, or a combination of methods.

Special Status Species—Plant or animal species in any of the following categories:

- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species
- Candidate Species
- State-listed Species
- Bureau Sensitive Species
- Bureau Assessment Species

Stream mile—A linear mile of stream.



BLM/OR/WA/PL-12/035+1632