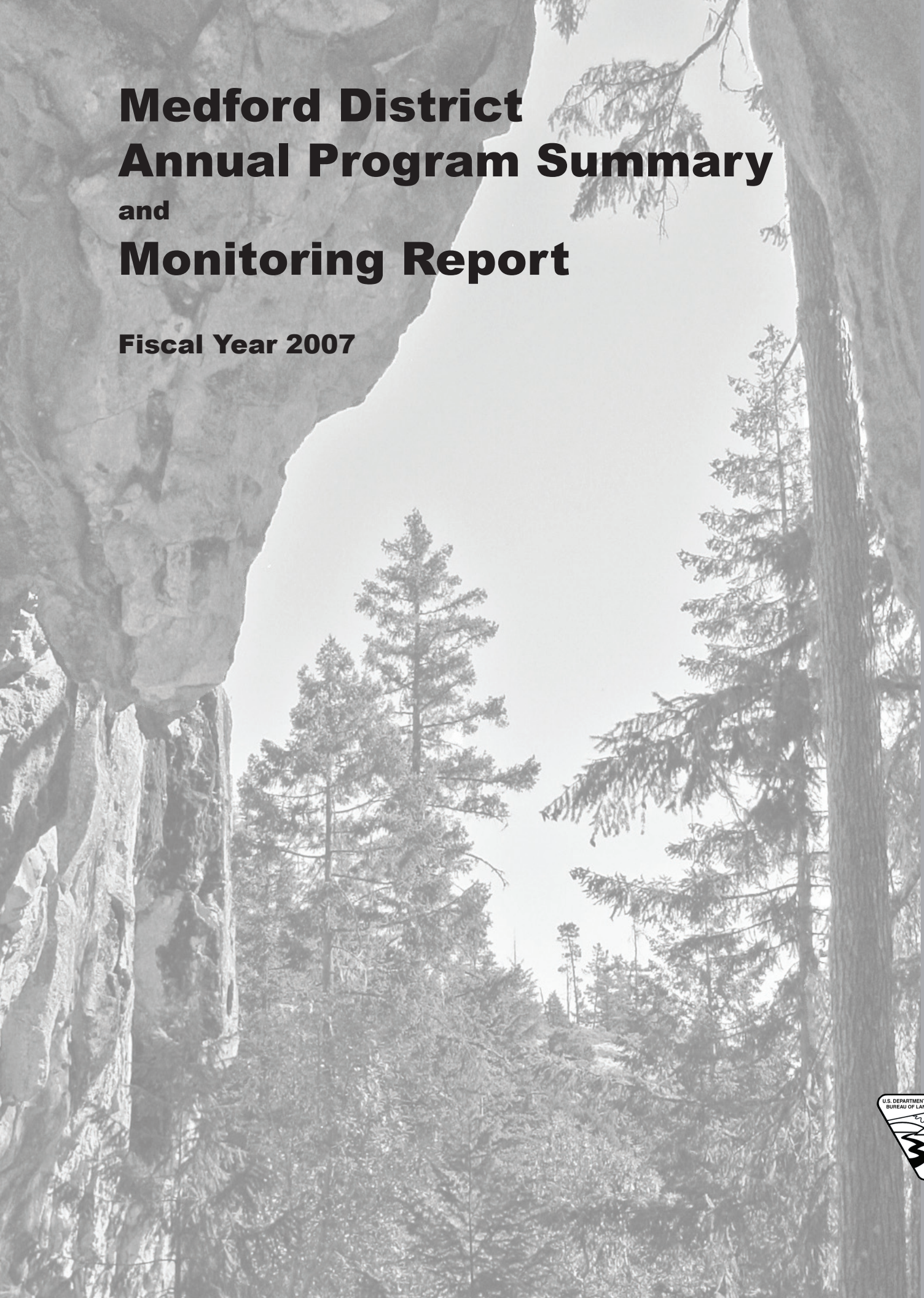
Medford District Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Report

Fiscal Year 2007



BLM
Medford District

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering economic use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

Medford District
Annual Program Summary
Fiscal Year 2007

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Introduction

This Annual Program Summary (APS) is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the period of October 2006 through September 2007. The program summary is designed to report to the public, local, state, and Federal agencies a broad overview of activities and accomplishments for fiscal year 2007. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, forestry, recreation, and other programs. Included in the APS is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

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) was signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior. The *Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (ROD/RMP), approved in June 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 Northwest Forest Plan. Analyses such as watershed analyses and late-successional reserve assessments are conducted at a broader scale and involve landowners in addition to the BLM. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been developed for implementation at the regional level.

Implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan began in April 1994 with the signing of the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision. Subsequently, with the signing of the ROD/RMP in June 1995, the Medford District began implementation of the ROD/RMP which incorporates all aspects of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The Medford District administers approximately 859,000 acres located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, and Curry counties. Under the Northwest Forest Plan 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 Reserves, where providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized; and Riparian Reserves, 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 RMP/ROD and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both of which are available at the Medford District Office.

Table S1. Medford RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2007 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices (2005-2014)	Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014)
Forest and Timber Resources				
Regeneration harvest (acres offered)	Acres	520	1,080	10,400
Commercial thinning/Density management/Uneven-age harvest (acres offered) (HLB)	Acres	1,388	11,222	44,900
Salvage (acres offered) (Reserves)	Acres	13	253	N/A
Timber volume offered (HLB)	Million board feet	19	90	571
Timber volume offered (Reserves)	Million board feet	5	7.5	N/A
Precommercial thinning (HLB)	Acres	1,887	3,339	78,000
Precommercial thinning (Reserves)	Acres	1,142	1,400	N/A
Brushfield/Hardwood conversion	Acres	0	0	N/A
Site preparation (prescribed fire)	Acres	0	984	6,000
Site preparation (other methods)	Acres	310	580	1,000
Fuels treatment (prescribed fire, handpile and underburn)	Acres	19,884	37,467	18,000
Fuels treatment (other methods)	Acres	7,555	25,282	N/A
Planting - regular stock	Acres	795	1,851	2,700
Planting - genetically selected	Acres	419	1,355	10,300
Fertilization	Acres	0	0	57,000
Pruning	Acres	375	1,637	18,600
Noxious Weeds				
Noxious weeds control	Acres	5,176	11,777	N/A
Rangeland Management				
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Annual leases/ 10 year renewals	0	N/A	N/A
Animal unit months (actual)	Animal unit months	8,354	N/A	N/A
Livestock fences constructed or maintained	Units/Miles	33/14	66/29	N/A
Realty Actions				
Land sales	Actions/Acres	0	20	N/A
Land purchase	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A

Table S1. Medford RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments				
RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	**Activity Units**	**Fiscal Year 2007 Accomplishments or Program Status**	**Cumulative Practices (2005-2014)**	**Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014)**
Land exchanges	Actions/ Acres acquired/ Acres disposed	0	0	N/A
R&PP leases/patents	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Road easements acquired for public/ agency use	Actions	2	20	N/A
Road rights-of-way granted	Actions	30	140	N/A
Utility rights-of-way granted	Actions	35	73	N/A
Utility rights-of-way granted (communication sites)	Actions	2	18	N/A
Special use permits	Actions	1	23	N/A
Withdrawals completed	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Withdrawals revoked	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Energy and Minerals Actions				
Total oil and gas leases	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Total other leases	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Mining plans approved	Actions/Acres	1	1	N/A
Mining claims patented	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral materials sites opened	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral material sites closed	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicles				
Maintained off-highway vehicle trails	Number/Miles	2/105	6/315	N/A
Maintained hiking trails	Number/Miles	8/114	24/342	N/A
Recreation sites maintained	Number/Acres	8/200	24/600	N/A
Cultural Resources				
Cultural resource inventories	Sites/Acres	26/6,820	73/13,152	N/A
Cultural/historic sites nominated	Sites/Acres	0/0	0/0	N/A
Hazardous Materials				
Hazardous material sites, identified	Sites	3	27	N/A
Hazardous material sites, remediated	Sites	1	13	N/A

Budget

The Medford District receives its annual operating budget from congressionally appropriated funds and other nonappropriated revenue sources. All BLM appropriated funds are identified in the Interior Appropriations and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill or emergency supplemental appropriations. In fiscal year 2007, the Medford District received a total of $18,936,000 in Oregon and California Land Grant (O&C) appropriations, $2,657,000 in Management of Lands and Resources (MLR) appropriations, and $23,639,000 in special appropriations, fire-related appropriations, and nonappropriated funds.

Special appropriations include those appropriations, excluding MLR and O&C appropriations, and include emergency fire rehabilitation, fuels treatment and hazard reduction, emergency flood repair, and land acquisition funds.

Nonappropriated sources include funding from forest ecosystem health and recovery funds, timber sale pipeline restoration funds, road use fee collections, recreation fee demonstration collections, reimbursements for work performed for other agencies, trust funds, appropriated funds transferred to BLM from other agencies, and other miscellaneous collection accounts.

The total available monetary resources in fiscal year 2007 to the Medford District were $44,232,000.

Table 1. Medford District Budget for FY02 to FY07

Appropriation	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07
Oregon and California Land Grant	22,650,000	21,673,000	22,499,000	20,026,000	19,532,000	18,936,000
Management of Lands and Resources	2,741,000	2,885,000	3,206,000	2,200,000	2,053,000	2,657,000
Special Appropriation and Other Nonappropriated Funds	19,294,000	26,940,000	27,047,000	21,473,000	19,447,000	23,639,000
Total	**44,658,000**	**51,498,000**	**52,752,000**	**43,699,000**	**41,032,000**	**44,232,000**

Tree tops and limbs from Ashland Resource Area's Plateau Thin Timber Sale are removed from the harvest area and hauled to cogeneration plants in the Rogue Valley.

Land Use Allocations

Lands administered by the BLM will be 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: 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. Major Land Use Allocations on the Medford District

Allocation	Acres
Congressional Reserves	14,267
Late-Successional Reserves	178,467
Late-Successional Reserve within AMA	32,937
Marbled Murrelet Reserve	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: Allocations do not have any overlapping designations.
There are approximately 369,200 acres of riparian reserves.

Late-Successional Reserves

Late-successional reserves are areas established by the Northwest Forest Plan 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 designated in the ROD/RMP: Elk Creek, Azalea, Galice Block, Munger Butte, and Jenny Creek.

All of the late-successional reserve areas have had late-successional reserve assessments completed on them.

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 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.

Silvicultural 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 silvicultural practices include tree planting, precommercial thinning, and density management thinning.

Watershed analysis is required by the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision. Watershed analysis includes the following:

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

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

Watershed Council Coordination

The District coordinates 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 during 2007.

Water and Soil

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 is working cooperatively with the Oregon DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMP) for 303(d) listed

streams on BLM-administered lands. Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRP) for BLM-administered lands are prepared by the BLM and incorporated in DEQ's WQMPs. The Medford District has completed and Oregon DEQ has approved 14 WQRPs: Sucker-Grayback Creek (1999), Grave Creek (2001), Lower Sucker Creek (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), and Illinois River-Kerby (2007). These WQRPs may be found on the Medford District website: http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/plans/activityplans.php.

The Medford District implemented the following restoration projects in fiscal year 2007 to improve water quality on 303(d) listed streams.

Table 3. Medford District FY 2007 Water Quality Restoration Projects

Watershed	Stream Name	Water Quality Limited Parameter	Restoration Project
Jenny Creek	Jenny Creek	Summer temperature	Manually treated 105 acres of noxious weeds to benefit riparian vegetation along Jenny Creek.
Middle Cow Creek	Quines Creek	Summer temperature	Placed large woody material and boulders in Tennessee Gulch, a tributary of Quines Creek, from its confluence with Quines Creek to approximately 0.75 miles upstream. Benefits will include improved stream habitat and reduced channel width to depth ratio.
Middle Cow Creek	Quines Creek	Summer temperature	Replaced an undersized culvert with a bridge at a road crossing to improve channel morphology and reduce the risk of road failure.

Monitoring

Riparian assessments for functioning condition status were conducted on 98 stream miles in FY 2007. These stream miles plus an additional 73 stream miles were surveyed for stream and channel characteristics. This information is being used for project planning and updating the hydrography dataset.

Water monitoring was conducted for various parameters at sites across the District as shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Medford District FY07 Water Monitoring	
Parameter Monitored	**Number of Monitoring Sites**
Summer stream temperature using recording instruments	29
Streamflow	8
Turbidity	9
Conductivity	5
pH	5
Dissolved oxygen	3
Precipitation	6

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 four resource areas, Ashland, Butte Falls, Glendale, and Grants Pass, 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, conduct appropriate surveys through contracts or in-house personnel, analyze literature, and talk with species experts to determine potential effects of proposed projects. Through the interdisciplinary compromise process, biologists offer recommendations to managers to reduce impacts and minimize effects on species during sensitive periods (generally the reproductive period). When opportunities and funding allow, they also offer suggestions that may improve habitat for key species or restore habitat in the project area.

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 is planned in the ROD/RMP to come 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, specific formulas for green tree retention, snag retention and recruitment, and management of coarse woody debris (CWD). These formulas were designed in the Northwest Forest Plan to meet the needs of most priority wildlife species found in the District.

In 2006, the Medford District wildlife program continued to provide information in response to several wildlife-related lawsuits, including cases on northern spotted owl critical habitat and the Survey and Manage program. Several consultations were reinitiated and completed in response to litigation and other legal concerns. The programmatic consultations are posted on the Medford BLM website.

Wildlife biologists continued to provide information for incorporation into the Western Oregon Planning Revision (WOPR). This settlement-driven planning revision will revise the land use plans of the six western Oregon BLM Districts managed under the O&C Act. The WOPR will reevaluate the following standards and may result in decisions different from those listed below.

Green Tree Retention

Timber sales in the south GFMA maintain 16 to 25 large green trees per acre in regeneration harvest units. Units in the north GFMA maintain 6 to 8 trees per acre.

Snags and Snag Recruitment

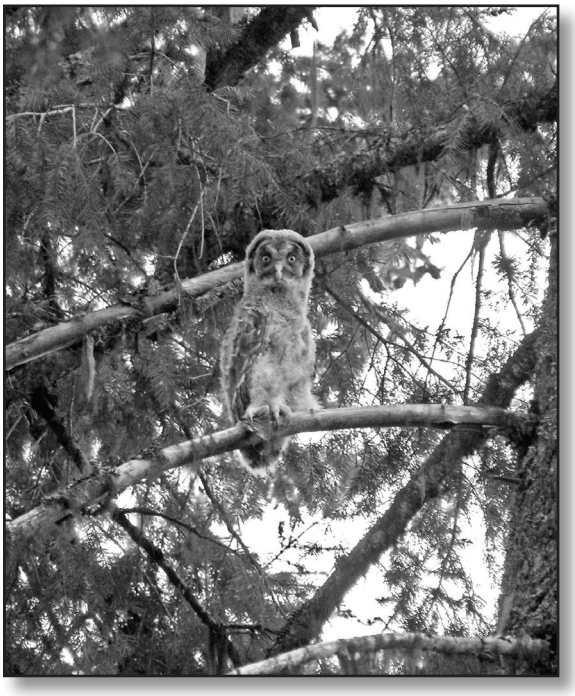
Standing dead trees which meet ROD/RMP requirements are left in units if they do not conflict with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety guidelines and if they do not conflict with prescribed burning.

Connectivity

Designated connectivity blocks are spaced across the District. The BLM manages connectivity blocks on a 150-year rotation and must maintain 25 to 30 percent of each block in late-successional forest. Regeneration harvest areas in connectivity 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, 100-acre northern spotted owl activity centers (which are managed as late-successional reserves).

Wildlife Survey and Manage—Wildlife Special Status Species

In July 2007, the Department of the Interior signed the *Record of Decision to Remove the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines from Bureau of Land Management Resource Management Plans within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl*. This decision removed the Survey and Manage mitigation requirements for nine western Oregon and northern California BLM Districts including the Medford Doistrict. Management of the former survey and manage species follows Bureau Manual Section 6840 and Oregon/Washington Special Status Species Policy.



Juvenile great gray owl

Medford's Ashland Resource Area completed the field work on six great gray owls which were radioed with harness transmitters. Analysis of data collected on great gray owls (*Strix nebulosa*) continues. Home-range size was calculated using the minimum convex polygon method. Analysis of vegetative structure and composition in proximity to great gray owl nest sites is nearly completed. Biologists in other resource areas also identified great gray owl sites when they occurred in project areas.

Work on Mardon Skippers, a rare butterfly, continued through the Interagency Special Status Species Team in Portland. A graduate student is studying the Washington population to determine habitat use by eggs/larvae.

Surveys were conducted for Siskiyou short-horned grasshopper (*Chloealtis aspasma*), a Bureau Sensitive Species,

on the Medford District. Biologists surveyed 17 sites, totaling 600 acres, a minimum of 2 times each for a minimum of 1 person hour(s) per 2.5 acres, using Visual Encounter Survey method. The target species was located at 2 of the 17 sites surveyed. One adult and three developmental stage grasshoppers were found at the Hobart Peak site and one developmental stage grasshopper was found at the Mount Ashland site.

Surveys were conducted for Franklin's Bumblebee (*Bombus franklini*), a Bureau Tracking Species, on the Medford District. Biologists surveyed 17 sites, totaling 600 acres, a minimum of 2 times each for a minimum of 1 person hour(s) per 2.5 acres, using Visual Encounter Survey method. The target species was not located at any of the survey sites. However, one individual of the species was observed during 2006 near Mount Ashland by Robbin Thorp (species expert retained for assistance with this project).

Federally-listed Species Management

Northern spotted owls are federally listed as threatened. The 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 trend. The USFWS was sued on their regulatory language related to critical habitat, which triggered the BLM to reinitiate consultation on many of our projects in northern spotted owl critical habitat.

To the extent time and other budget priorities allowed, monitoring of 12 bald eagles (Federal threatened) and 5 peregrine falcons (recently delisted) was conducted. Although peregrine falcons have been delisted from the Federal Endangered Species list, some post-delisting monitoring is required to track their recovery. Future monitoring is required to confirm occupancy. Medford biologists participate in nationwide winter bald eagle monitoring.

Special Habitats

The District continues to manage special habitats for plants and animals such as meadows, cliffs, caves, and talus slopes, as specified in the ROD/RMP. Biologists are reviewing these areas for consideration in the WOPR. Mud bogging has become a recreational activity for some people and low elevation meadows are especially vulnerable to resource damage from deep ruts and mud holes which diminish wildlife habitat suitability. Resource Areas continue to expend money and time 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. The BLM also continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and associated vernal pool habitat.

Big Game and Furbearers

Big game and mammal habitat objectives were included in fuels treatment prescriptions across much of the District, focusing primarily in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) zones. The District continues to participate with ODFW in road and habitat management for big game. A portion of Medford District lands are included in the Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area. Motor vehicle access is restricted in this area from October 15 to April 30. Only roads marked by a green reflector are open to motor vehicles in order to improve wildlife protection and reduce resource damage.

Protocol surveys for fishers, a candidate species under the Endangered Species Act, occurred in limited areas on the District. The BLM documented two new fisher locations in the "gap" between the native Siskiyou fisher population and the introduced population from the Crater Lake area, but were unable to snag hair for DNA analysis. At this point, no genetic interchange is known to occur between the two populations.

A steering committee, biology team, and science team have been formed to complete a conservation assessment and strategy for the Pacific fisher. A wildlife biologist from the Butte Falls RA continues as a BLM representative on the Fisher Biology Team. The Fisher Biology Team is composed of biologists from the US Fish and Wildlife Service; BLM; states of WA, OR, and CA; Hoopa Tribe, National Park Service; US Forest Service; and British Columbia. The Fisher Biology Team is drafting the Fisher Conservation Assessment and Strategy for the western United States.

Neotropical Migratory Birds

The Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas continued fall and spring Monitoring Population and Avian Productivity in partnership with Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) at a site which provides important spring and fall migration habitat for Willow Flycatchers, a Bureau special status species, and other neotropical migrants.

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 continues to promote 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.

Bats

Biologists through the District continued to collect data on these cryptic, nocturnal species and contribute data for regional species group evaluations. Several biologists from the District are associated with the Bat Working Group—a group of professional biologists from private, state, and federal agencies—who are looking for efficient mechanisms to evaluate bat populations, some of which are on Special Status Species lists. Biologists from Grants Pass and Butte Falls Resource Areas participated in mist net and acoustic monitoring of eight sites in southwest Oregon as part of a long-term, interagency (USFS and BLM) effort to evaluate bat populations. Grants Pass Resource Area wrote a management plan for Townsend's big-eared bats (Bureau sensitive) on the Resource Area.

Aquatic Habitat and Species Management

A variety of activities to maintain or enhance fisheries and fish habitat were conducted in fiscal year 2007. The primary focus of the fisheries program was environmental impact assessments for timber sales and landscape management plans. Other assessments were performed for fish passage projects; road maintenance; fuels treatment activities; and grazing allotment and fish habitat and populations monitoring. Additionally, biological assessments were completed for Endangered Species Act consultations. These activities represent the majority of the workload and include considerable time spent in field visits and meetings. The Western Oregon Plan Revision involved all fishery staff as the multi-year effort continued.

The following activities were performed by fisheries personnel on the Medford District in fiscal year 2007:

Watershed Council Cooperation

The District provided technical assistance to Watershed Councils and Counties in support of the Bureau's commitment to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. The Grants Pass Resource Area maintained cooperative agreements with three watershed councils: Applegate River, Williams Creek, and Illinois Valley. The existing Assistance Agreement with the Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District provides fish passage improvement and habitat enhancement through the removal of irrigation dams. The Ashland Resource Area continued coordination for new fish passage project designs on the Little Applegate River with the Applegate River Watershed Council.

Fish Passage

Fish passage improvement is a high priority and an ongoing need in the Medford District for providing salmon with access to aquatic habitat. The District has a proactive program to replace culverts which impede anadromous fish passage. A design for Yale Creek fish ladder passage was completed in 2007. The Little Hyatt Dam decommission prompted the removal of 13,775 resident fish from Little Hyatt lake.

Leaks and erosion in Little Hyatt Dam led the BLM to conduct an emergency lake drawdown to ease the pressure on the dam and reduce the potential for collapse. Fish traps installed in the lake captured fish for transport and release in Hyatt Lake, about one mile upstream.

Population/Habitat Monitoring

Fisheries biologists conducted juvenile fish surveys on 15 miles of streams in 2007. The following streams were snorkeled in order to estimate fish populations: Evans, Star Gulch, North Fork Deer, Pickett, Crooks, East Fork Williams, Galice, and Sucker creeks. BLM biologists snorkeled pools to monitor the summer time populations of juvenile salmonid populations in given reaches of streams on BLM lands. Evans Creek data showed the numbers of juvenile coho salmon remain relatively stable within the reaches. Presence/absence surveys were conducted in tributaries to Howard Prairie Lake plus helicopter dipping sites on the Rogue River.

Salmon spawning surveys were conducted on approximately 3 miles of streams. Water clarity and flows were problematic for seeing fish during this season. Spawning surveys (coho salmon and steelhead) ocurred in Star Gulch, Ninemile Creek, Yale Creek. BLM biologists conducted spawning surveys on a total of 2.5 miles on the following creeks: North Fork Deer, Pickett, Crooks, East and West Fork Williams, Sucker, Thompson, White, Draper, Waters, and Bear creeks. Monitoring of fall chinook spawning in the "recreational" section of the mainstem Rogue River helped the BLM manage boating activity. Numbers of adult fish counted were low for the 2007 season. However, water clarity and flows made fish viewing a problem during monitoring.

Instream and Riparian Habitat Improvement

Logs were placed in Sucker Creek to enhance secondary channel pool habitat for coho salmon, steelhead, and resident trout. Design and staging continued on the enjoined Lake Selmac and McMullin Creek projects. Phase 2 of the Tennessee Gulch fish habitat restoration project was designed and implemented using Title 2 funds. That project used the Job Council to fell and place large woody material into Tennessee Gulch.

Placing logs in Sucker Creek

Engineers in the Grants Pass Resource Area completed riparian enhancement projects including East Fork Williams Road drainage improvements located adjacent to a coho salmon reach. The BLM also organized riparian planting with the Job Council at four culvert replacement sites. BLM employees participated in a Grants Pass Resource Area riparian planting day at Tennessee Gulch.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The District submitted six biological assessments to the National Marine Fisheries Service for Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act. These assessments were for timber sale/landscape management projects. Resource Area fish biologists participate on interdisciplinary teams of resource

specialists to analyze possible environmental impacts from proposed projects on BLM lands. Conducting biological and environmental assessments represent the major part of the fisheries program workload.

Public Outreach

Fisheries biologists provided many educational presentations to Watershed Councils, schools, and various other community groups. Fisheries personnel taught schoolchildren about water quality, riparian vegetation, aquatic insects, and salmon life cycles at several of Oregon Trout's Salmon Watch events held around the Rogue Basin. Free Fishing Day and CAST for Kids Day events were held at BLM's Hyatt Lake Campground. The BLM provided loaner fishing gear, boat rides, and educational activities for the public.

Weed Management

Management and treatment of noxious weeds in the Medford District uses all aspects of integrated pest management and continues to be a critical element for all resource programs. Currently, the Medford District is emphasizing control of 15 species of exotic plants – yellow starthistle, purple loosestrife, puncturevine, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, spotted knapweed, dalmatian toadflax, rush skeletonweed, leafy spurge, tansy ragwort, Canada thistle, Scotch broom, Spanish broom, and dyer's woad. The number of sites targeted for treatment each year is subject to change, depending on new infestations, funding, cooperation from adjacent landowners, and effectiveness of control methods. The District also attempts to employ the Early Detection/Rapid Response system to detect and treat new weeds before they gain a foothold.

Education/Awareness

As a member of the Jackson County Weed Management Area group, the BLM made noxious weed presentations at county fairs, to students from elementary to college level, commercial businesses, Federal agencies, contractors, and other interest groups. Television and newspaper ads, as well as talk-radio shows aid in educating the general public. Several new publications are available at the District office to inform the public about noxious weeds.

Prevention

The Medford District institutes specific measures during the implementation of projects to lessen the risk of spreading noxious weeds. These measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Require clean equipment prior to engaging in any soil disturbing activities.
- Create contract stipulations requiring contactors to clean equipment prior to entry onto BLM-administered lands.
- Provide a vehicle wash facility to aid in cleaning BLM and USFS vehicles of weed seeds and parts.
- Test all seed used in restoration efforts for noxious weed content prior to purchase.
- Closely monitor gravel and rock pits for clean aggregate.

Inventory

In conjunction with vascular plant surveys, the District surveyed 43,359 acres in project areas for noxious weeds. In 2007, an additional 139,915 acres were surveyed in grazing allotments (including within the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument) for the Rangeland Health Assessments for grazing allotment renewals. This was the largest survey contract ever let by the District and provided critical information on the weeds within the allotments, documenting hundreds of new sites.

In 2007, botanists located and treated garlic mustard (new to southern Oregon).

Weed Treatment

In 2007, the BLM used cultural, manual, and chemical weed treatment methods on 5,176 acres. This is an increase of 42 percent from the previous year and reflects increasing awareness in the weed program and the District's ability to acquire funding.

Monitoring

Monitoring of previously treated sites continued on most weed treatment projects. In 2007, 1,365 acres were evaluated following herbicide treatments. Monitoring indicates that herbicide treatments using glyphosate (Rodeo and AquaMaster) are effective to meet the goals of the weed program.

Botanical Special Status Species

Botanical Inventories

Districtwide, BLM botanists surveyed 43,359 acres for Threatened and Endangered plants, special status plants, and noxious weeds in support of BLM activities. Some special surveys also occurred this year for grazing allotment renewals and an additional 139,915 acres in a number of allotments were surveyed, including in the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. With few exceptions, all acres were surveyed by local botanical contractors through survey contracts. The average cost of the surveys at approximately $8.00 per acre resulted in an estimated $1,466,102 entering the local economy.

Botany surveys in 2007 documented a total of 1,615 new Bureau Special Status Plant species sites. Most sites are small, occupying less than a few meters. Table 5 summarizes the survey results.

Table 5. New Bureau Special Status Plant Sites Documented in FY07

Mosses and Lichens	Vascular Plants	Total
248	1,367	1,615

Formal and Informal Monitoring

Formal monitoring usually consists of sampling protocols and plots monitored through time to assess trends. Informal monitoring may be just revisiting sites and doing total recounts of a species and may not be connected to a formal sampling methodology or a conservation plan. Most of the monitoring is formal; a number are completed through Challenge Cost Share partnerships with local nonprofit conservation organizations. District botanists, contractors, and partners monitored the following number of populations or sites of rare species (Table 6).

Table 6. Rare Plant Species Populations or Sites Monitored in FY07

Federally Listed	Bureau Special Status Species	Total
75	132	207

Major Monitoring Results for Fiscal Year 2007

Clustered lady's slipper (*Cypripedium fasciculatum*)

Monitoring on 29 populations of clustered lady's slipper orchid, a state listed species, indicates they continue (overall) to be stable (Table 7).

Table 7. Monitoring Results for Clustered Lady's Slipper for FY99-FY07

Year	Tagged Plants	Emergent		Flowering		Flowers	Fruits	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1999	699	673	96	264	39	548 (2.1 per plant)	369	67
2000	881	752	85	229	30	523 (2.3 per plant)	139	27
2001	976	751	80	308	41	715 (2.3 per plant)	155	22
2002	1,097	652	59	128	20	244 (1.9 per plant)	42	17
2003	1,190	615	52	214	26	486 (2.3 per plant)	212	36
2004	1,227	671	55	286	42	687 (2.2 per plant)	286	41
2005	1,246	691	55	304	40	689 (1.9 per plant)	213	35
2006	1,262	675	53	373	55	1,075 (2.9 per plant)	360	34
2007	1,309	675	52	385	55	1,075 (2.8 per plant)	360	33

Because of populations are stable, this will be the last year for clustered lady's slipper monitoring. Depending on funding, additional work on this species will shift from permanent plots to random visits of existing populations.

Gentner's fritillary *(Fritillaria gentneri)*

Monitoring has occurred on select Gentner's fritillary sites since 1998. Monitoring revealed the number of flowering plants in fiscal year 2007 increased slightly (17.7 percent) from fiscal year 2006 (from 555 total flowering plants to 640) on 59 monitored populations of the federally listed Gentner's fritillary (Figure 1). The precipitous drop between 2005 and 2006 is not fully understood but is likely due to climate factors. All sites are located in monitored, protected areas.

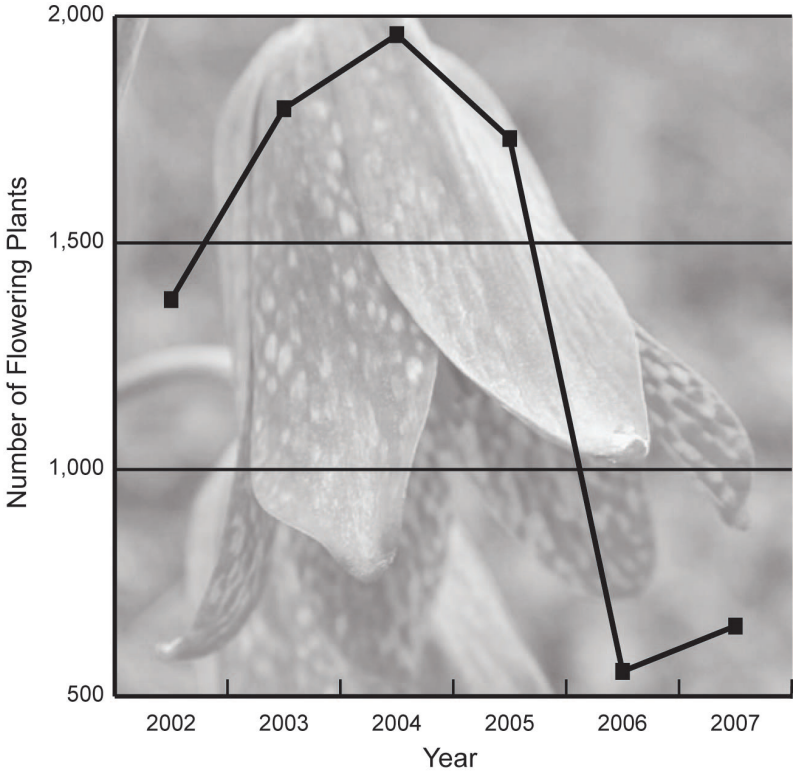


Figure 1. Total Gentner's fritillary flowering plants 2002-2007

Of all the sites monitored since 1998, 46 sites (78 percent) have had at least one year with no flowering plants. Only 8 sites (13.5 percent) have had more than 50 flowering plants (on average) per year. The largest number ever recorded at a site was approximately 600 plants. On 59 BLM sites monitored since 2002, the 6-year average population size is 22.9 flowering plants per site, with a range from 0 to 600 plants. The median population size is 1 plant; the majority of populations are very small, and many populations have no flowering plants some years. The total annual counts at the 59 sites over 6 years have varied from a high of 1,959 plants in 2004 to a low of 555 flowering plants in 2006.

Green's mariposa lily *(Calochortus greenei)*

Monitoring as part of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument grazing study on Green's mariposa lily has been ongoing since 2003. The monitoring was initiated to assess the effects of herbivory (plant eating) on population dynamics of Green's mariposa lily. Five paired (fenced and unfenced) plots are located in three study areas (15 pairs total) that span the range of grazing use in the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. The Colestin area is not grazed, Oregon Gulch experiences low to moderate use, and Agate Flat experiences the highest intensity of use. The main results are as follows:

- At the Colestin sites, trends in size and reproduction were the same inside and outside the enclosures.
- In Oregon Gulch, the fencing did not have an effect on plant size, but had a slight effect on the proportion of plants flowering.
- In Agate Flat, where cattle grazing intensity is highest, fencing had a significant positive effect on trends in *C. greenei* plant size and reproduction.

Further clarification between rodent and insect herbivory is proposed for 2008. A set of new rodent cages (enclosures) were constructed in 2007 and will determine the level of rodent and insect herbivory. While

differences in population trends from cattle grazing are significant in areas of high use, it seems that insect and rodent herbivory may be more significant. Monitoring will continue in 2008.

Siskiyou mariposa lily *(Calochortus persistens)*

Monitoring of the only Federal candidate plant species (*Calochortus persistens*) occurring on the BLM in Oregon found the plant still in existence and several plants flowered this year (the population has less than 10 plants). The rest of the population occurs just south into the mountains surrounding the Shasta River valley in California (near Yreka, California). USFWS has not made a determination on whether to list this species or not. In its range, this species and its habitat are threatened from off-highway vehicle use on ridgelines and by noxious weeds. Annual revisits will continue. A Conservation Assessment for this species that was anticipated in 2007 was not finished by the USFWS.

Listed Plant Recovery Actions

In 2007, the BLM planted Gentner's fritillary bulbs under a partnership project with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Oregon State University (OSU). The ODA developed the protocol for cultivating the rare lily. Small Gentner's fritillary bulblets were collected from six listed plant sites in 2007 and taken to OSU greenhouses for propagation. Over 1,600 bulblets were collected and will be cultivated before being outplanted in later years when they are big enough. Monitoring of the 2004 and 2006 outplanting at five sites continued in 2007. Bulbs have persisted at all sites, and monitoring is showing that larger bulbs have better survival than small bulbs. In general, following outplanting, there is an initial decline in the number of emergence plants (year 1), but by year 2, this mortality falls off and populations either level off or increase, presumably from the surviving planted bulbs and from new rice grain bulblets that are already being produced by the bulbs. Monitoring is demonstrating that this method is a viable way to increase and create populations of this federally-listed endangered lily, and recover the species. Additional collections and out lantings are scheduled in 2008 per the USFWS recovery plan, if funding is available.

In 2006 and 2007, the ODA and Institute for Applied Ecology developed a protocol for collecting and germinating seed, and outplanting Cook's lomatium (*Lomatium cookii*). Cook's lomatium is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Like the listed Gentner's fritillary, the recovery plan for Cook's lomatium calls for augmentation and outplanting to recovery the species. Seed was collected and plants were grown in 2006 in greenhouses, then outplanted in spring 2007 into replicated plots back in the collection sites. Survival was good with 78 percent of the plants initiating fruit set that year. This demonstrates that augmentation and outplanting is a viable means of recovery. Additional collections and continued monitoring will occur in 2008 depending on funding.

Special Management Areas

In 2007, the Draft Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR) evaluated Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) on BLM lands across western Oregon. New ACEC nominations and previously received ACEC proposals were included in the draft WOPR for analysis. The BLM Executive Steering Committee gave guidance on the interpretation of the Oregon & California railroad grant lands (O&C) and ACECs. The Steering Committee provided further guidance that Research Natural Areas, a type of ACEC,

designated on O&C lands would be consistent with the O&C Act as these areas provide a baseline for research on timberlands and would further the purposes of the O&C Act.

ACECs included in the Draft WOPR

The Medford BLM received 31 new nominations for ACECs from the public and internally.

Four nominations were at a landscape scale and were addressed by the Oregon State Office. None of these landscape scale nominations were found to meet the relevance and important criteria for ACECs. These ACEC nominations were

- Corridors over and under Interstate 5,
- Best of Oregon ACEC,
- Integrated Dynamic Landscape ACEC, and
- Interface ACEC.

The BLM received one nomination for all existing ACECs. This nomination was moot as the WOPR was automatically evaluating all existing ACECs.

The remaining 26 nominations encompassed 155,435 acres and were evaluated for relevance and importance as an ACEC to be included in the Draft WOPR. Following the guidance from the Executive Steering Committee and the ACEC nomination process outlined in the ACEC manual, seven nominated ACECs met the relevance and importance criteria to be included in the draft WOPR as potential ACECs (Table 8).

Table 8. Potential ACECs evaluated in the Draft WOPR

ACEC Name	Relevant and Important Value	Area (acres)
Cobliegh Road	Fish and Wildlife; Natural Processes	261
Dakubetede Wildland	Natural Processes	1,796
Long Gulch	Fish and Wildlife; Natural Processes	1,020
East Fork Whiskey Creek	Fish and Wildlife; Natural Processes	3,188
Pickett Creek	Natural Processes	32
Reeves Creek	Natural Processes	117
Waldo-Takilma	Historic; Natural Processes	1,760
	Total	**8,174**

The remaining 19 nominated ACECs did not meet the relevance or important criteria outlined in the ACEC evaluation process and were dropped from consideration.

The 1995 Medford RMP designated 28 ACECs (17,417 acres), including 12 Research Natural Areas. All 12 of the RNAs (10,400 acres) were found to meet the relevance and importance criteria for ACECs and were moved forward in the Draft WOPR (Table 9). The BLM felt the RNAs furthered the O&C Act by providing baseline information on timbered (and nontimbered) plant communities.

Table 9. Existing Research Natural Areas evaluated in the Draft WOPR	
RNA Name	**Area (acres)**
Woodcock Bog	265
Oregon Gulch	1,051
Scotch Creek	1,799
Round Top Butte	605
Brewer Spruce	1,707
Grayback Glades	1,022
North Fork Silver Creek	499
Pipe Fork	516
Holton Creek	421
Lost Lake	387
Old Baldy*	166
Bobby Creek	1,915
Total	**10,353**
* In conjunction with Klamath Falls Resource Area.	

The following three existing ACECs (2,522 acres) that did not contain O&C commercial timberlands were found to meet the relevance and importance criteria for ACECs and were included in the Draft WOPR:

- Eight Dollar Mountain ACEC (1,249 acres)
- Poverty Flat ACEC (29 acres)
- Table Rocks ACEC and Outstanding Natural Area (1,244 acres)

Three existing ACECs (1,907 acres) contain small amounts O&C commercial timberlands within their boundaries and met the relevance and importance criteria for ACECs (Table 10). It was found that these ACECs would still provide for the values for which they were nominated even without those O&C commercial timberlands. These ACECs were proposed to move forward, with a reduction in acres (reduced 174 acres to 1,733 acres).

Table 10. Existing ACECs evaluated in the Draft WOPR with O&C Timber Harvest Base Acres Removed			
ACEC Name	**Existing Area (acres)**	**O&C Timber Harvest Base (acres)**	**Proposed Area (acres)**
French Flat	651	146	505
Rough and Ready	1,188	11	1,177
King Mountain Rock Garden	68	17	51
Totals	**1,907**	**174**	**1,733**

Ten existing ACECs (2,590 acres) met the criteria for relevance and importance but either no longer needed special protection or contained large amounts of O&C commercial timberlands such that designation would not further the purposes of the O&C Act. These ACECs were not proposed to move forward in the Draft WOPR (Table 11).

Table 11. Existing ACECs not included in the Draft WOPR

ACEC Name	Area (acres)	Reason Dropped
Baker Cypress	11	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Crook's Creek	147	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Hole-in-the-Rock	63	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Hoxie Creek	255	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Iron Creek	286	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Jenny Creek	966	Included in Cascade Siskiyou National Monument.
Moon Prairie	92	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Pilot Rock	544	Included in Cascade Siskiyou National Monument.
Sterling Mine Ditch	143	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Tin Cup	83	Does not meet purpose of O&C Act.
Total	**2,590**	

Summary of Medford BLM ACECs Proposed in the Draft WOPR

- 7 new proposed ACECs — 8,174 acres
- 28 existing ACECs — 17,591 acres
  - 10 eliminated — -2,590 acres
  - 18 retained — 14,608 acres
- 25 total proposed (new and existing) — 22,782 acres, an increase of 5,191 acres

Cultural Resources

The District's cultural resources program provided cultural and historic input into the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project, the Western Oregon Plan Revision, and other planning documents as requested.

The program continues to solicit tribal input for important projects and to keep an updated list of interested tribes. The Glendale Resource Area held quarterly information sharing meetings with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians to further our relationship.

The District received a forensic report on human skeletal fragments found at the Gold Nugget Recreation site in 2006. The forensic anthropologist determined these bone fragments to be of Native American origin. The skeletal fragments were repatriated to the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

The cultural resources program conducted an Intensive Level Survey for Mitigation for the Little Hyatt Dam. This survey generated a report which provided a physical description of the dam itself as well as a history of the dam and its construction. Because of the general dearth of historical information on this small diversion dam, this report was shared with the local university and historical societies.

A graduate student from the Western Washington University has undertaken an in-depth analysis of artifacts recovered from the Stratton Creek site during the 1993 field school. The study will result in a Masters Thesis on this prehistoric site.

The program entered into an Assistance Agreement with Southern Oregon University (SOU) for the re-study of the artifacts recovered from the Marial site, the oldest archeological site in southwestern Oregon. This project will not only clean up the various collections from the multitude of excavations but will make the information available to researchers and the public in several ways including the internet. The Medford District also facilitated the transfer to SOU of several boxes of artifacts and data from the Marial site that had recently been discovered at Oregon State University.

Rural Interface Areas

Rural interface areas are areas where BLM lands are adjacent to or intermingled with private property zoned for 1- to 20-acre lots or already contain residential development. The Medford District manages rural interface areas encompassing approximately 136,000 acres within 0.25 miles of private land zoned for 1- to 5-acre or 5- to 20-acre lots.

The objective of the Medford District 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 occurs in close proximity to private residences.
Gates and other barricades are used to stop unauthorized use of public roads and dust abatement measures to mitigate impacts to neighbors. The BLM is also working to reduce fuels hazards on public lands located adjacent to private properties.

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 the sale of commercial timber; silvicultural treatment projects such as thinning and planting trees;

repair of storm damaged roads; and collection of fees for special forest products including ferns, mushrooms, and firewood. The District also provides developed and undeveloped recreational facilities (e.g., 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 way is through financial payments including Payments in Lieu of Taxes and O&C Payments. Payments of each type were made in fiscal year 2007 as directed in current legislation. Each type of payment program is described below. The specific amounts paid to the counties in fiscal year 2007 are displayed in Table 12.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (or PILT) are Federal payments made annually to local governments to help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands 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 as Chapter 69, Title 31 of the United States Code. 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 fund such vital services as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and Search and Rescue operations. These payments are one of the ways that 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.

Table 12. BLM Payments to Counties for FY 2007

County	Payment	Total Acres
Baker County	$355,110	1,020,867
Benton County	$4,072	20,301
Clackamas County	$104,925	523,091
Clatsop County	$9,406	1,430
Columbia County	$0	1
Coos County	$13,550	67,553
Crook County	$188,514	939,816
Curry County	$118,634	591,437
Deschutes County	$287,422	1,432,636
Douglas County	$190,405	949,242
Gilliam County	$48,275	34,616
Grant County	$351,438	1,752,233
Harney County	$597,514	4,465,166
Hood River County	$41,275	205,773
Jackson County	$92,395	460,631
Jefferson County	$59,592	297,088
Josephine County	$70,216	350,063
Klamath County	$432,959	2,159,510
Lake County	$597,514	3,703,245
Lane County	$274,787	1,369,828
Lincoln County	$37,030	184,609
Linn County	$95,484	476,021
Malheur County	$1,468,477	4,298,133
Marion County	$41,000	204,378
Morrow County	$55,097	149,960
Multnomah County	$15,260	76,077
Polk County	$0	435
Sherman County	$76,650	53,672
Tillamook County	$18,637	92,913
Umatilla County	$148,031	419,206
Union County	$433,900	624,346
Wallowa County	$234,333	1,168,165
Wasco County	$44,462	221,611
Washington County	$3,757	2,604
Wheeler County	$60,562	301,926
Yamhill County	$5,173	25,790
Total	**$6,575,856**	**28,643,504**

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 for the benefit of public schools, roads and other purposes." The "public domain lands managed by the BLM" refers only to Oregon and California Revested Grantlands (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 Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands in the Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM Districts.

Fiscal year 2007 was the seventh year payments were made to western Oregon counties under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (P.L. 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 P.L. 106-393. All counties in the Medford District elected to receive payments under the new legislation. From fiscal year 2001 through fiscal year 2006 payments were made based on historic O&C payments to the counties. Although the legislation expired in 2006, Congress extended payments through 2007. New legislation has been introduced to extend the Act. Table 13 displays the statewide payments made under each Title of P.L. 106-393 as well as the grand total.

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 special accounts in the United States Treasury for funding projects providing protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resource objectives as outlined in P.L. 106-393. 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 P.L. 106-393. These include 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.

Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898, *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 on minority populations and low-income populations."

New projects with possible effects on minority or low-income populations 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.

Table 13. FY 2007 Secure Rural Schools Payments to Counties*

County	Title I Paid to County	Title III Paid to County	Total Paid to County	Title II Retained by BLM	Grand Total
Benton	$2,767,181.83	$390,660.96	$3,157,842.79	$97,665.24	$3,255,508.03
Clackamas	$5,465,430.31	$675,141.39	$6,140,571.70	$289,346.31	$6,429,918.01
Columbia	$2,028,610.15	$239,853.32	$2,268,463.47	$118,136.71	$2,386,600.18
Coos	$5,810,097.09	$1,025,311.25	$6,835,408.34	$0.00	$6,835,408.34
Coos (CBWR)	$727,382.13	$128,361.55	$855,743.68	$0.00	$855,743.68
Curry	$3,594,382.10	$437,668.88	$4,032,050.98	$196,633.84	$4,228,684.82
Douglas	$24,668,293.56	$1,523,629.90	$26,191,923.46	$2,829,598.38	$29,021,521.84
Douglas (CBWR)	$131,493.92	$8,121.68	$139,615.60	$15,083.13	$154,698.73
Jackson	$15,431,223.96	$2,723,157.17	$18,154,381.13	$0.00	$18,154,381.13
Josephine	$11,895,927.59	$2,099,281.34	$13,995,208.93	$0.00	$13,995,208.93
Klamath	$2,304,343.59	$325,319.10	$2,629,662.69	$81,329.77	$2,710,992.46
Lane	$15,037,319.07	$1,724,868.95	$16,762,188.02	$928,775.59	$17,690,963.61
Lincoln	$354,514.40	$56,305.23	$410,819.63	$6,256.14	$417,075.77
Linn	$2,599,772.25	$229,391.67	$2,829,163.92	$229,391.67	$3,058,555.59
Marion	$1,437,752.84	$190,290.82	$1,628,043.66	$63,430.27	$1,691,473.93
Multnomah	$1,073,390.82	$169,421.91	$1,242,812.73	$20,000.00	$1,262,812.73
Polk	$2,127,086.39	$319,062.96	$2,446,149.35	$56,305.23	$2,502,454.58
Tillamook	$551,466.84	$32,601.42	$584,068.26	$64,716.26	$648,784.52
Washington	$620,400.20	$109,482,39	$729,882.59	$0.00	$729,882.59
Yamhill	$709,028.80	$125,122.73	$834,151.53	$0.00	$834,151.53
Total	**$99,335,097.84**	**$12,533,054.62**	**$111,868,152.46**	**$4,996,668.54**	**$116,864,821.00**

* Payments made October 24, 2007.
CBWR - Coos Bay Wagon Road lands.

Recreation

The Medford District's Recreation Management program continues to be one of the most diverse in the state. The District provides opportunities for recreation activities such as camping, hiking, white water rafting, hang gliding, fishing, skiing, and picnicking, just to name a few.

Developed sites include campgrounds at Hyatt Lake, Tucker Flat, Elderberry Flat, and Skull Creek. Day-use sites are maintained at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, Hyatt Lake, and along the Recreation Section of the Rogue River. The District provides interpretive trails and sites at Eight Dollar Mountain, Upper and Lower Table Rock, Hyatt Lake, Gold Nugget, Rand Administrative Site, and three sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places: Whisky Creek Cabin, Rogue River Ranch, and Smullin Visitor Center at Rand. The District maintains a hang-gliding site at Woodrat Mountain near Ruch and a winter tubing hill and system of cross country and snowmobile trails near Hyatt Lake.

The Butte Fall Resource Area's Environmental Education specialists provided guided interpretive hikes on the Table Rocks with over 3,500 school children and 2,500 adults participating in this ever popular activity.

In addition, portions of two nationally designated trails, the Rogue River National Recreation Trail and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, are maintained by the Medford District.

The BLM Rogue River Program manages 47 miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, including 27 miles in the recreational section and 20 miles in the wild section. This program administers scenic easements and commercial permits in the recreational section and commercial and private permits in the wild section. The Rogue River offers access for rafting, boat and bank fishing, motorized tour boat travel, hiking, and wildlife viewing opportunities.

For users who enjoy driving for pleasure, the Medford District manages three Back Country Byways and three designated Off-Highway Vehicle areas. For nonmotorized cyclists, the 74-mile Glendale to Powers Bicycle Recreation Area is maintained.

The District also contains the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. Established in 2000, this was the first monument set aside for biologic diversity. The 52,947-acre monument was designated in recognition of its remarkable ecology and to protect a diverse range of biological, geological, aquatic, archeological, and historic objects. In fiscal year 2007, the BLM continued work toward finalizing a management plan for the monument. The 5,867-acre Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA) as well as the developments at Hyatt Lake are encompassed by the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. The Soda Mountain WSA continues to be managed under the nonimpairment criteria of the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review, pending Congressional action.

Winter recreation use continues to increase with over 20 miles of cross-country ski trails and 60 miles of snowmobile trails maintained.

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 uses increase every year as does the amount of use. As the outdoor recreation equipment industry continues to develop newer and more effective equipment, new unanticipated recreation activities emerge.

In addition to these activities, the district issues approximately 150 Special Recreation Permits for commercial, group events, and competitive activities. The majority of these permits are issued to commercial outfitters and guides on the Rogue River. Additional permits are issued for coonhound trials, paintball wars, archery events, hunting guides, equestrian events, bicycle events, automobile road races, and OHV events.

Forest Management

The Medford District manages 859,096 acres of land located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos counties. Under the Northwest Forest Plan, 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 RMP provide for a sustainable timber harvest, known as the Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ), of 57.1 MMBF (million board feet) annually from Medford District administered public lands.

Because of a number of legal challenges affecting western Oregon, the District has not been required to offer its full ASQ for several years. In fiscal year 2007, Medford was committed to offering 57.1 MMBF, an increase of 3.7 MMBF from fiscal year 2006, as a step toward reaching the full ASQ. As a result of the settlement agreement in the *American Forest Resources Council* v. *Clarke (BLM)* lawsuit, it became necessary to offer volume in support of the ASQ from Matrix and AMA lands and additional volume from Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) lands. To satisfy the LSR volume requirement of the settlement agreement, Medford District was given an LSR target volume of 2.0 MMBF in fiscal year 2007. As a result of continuing litigation on Survey and Manage requirements and Biological Opinions from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the District was only able to offer 23.8 MMBF for fiscal year 2007.

The Medford District held five public timber sale auctions in fiscal year 2007, offering a total volume of 23.8 MMBF. Additional fiscal year 2007 volume resulting from negotiated sales, stewardship contracting, and modifications to ongoing sales brought the total offered volume up to 25.5 MMBF (Table 14). The District is planning to offer the shortfall in our target ASQ volume in fiscal year 2008. Typically, a variety of harvest methods are employed in the Medford District including regeneration harvest, density management, selective harvest, commercial thinning, and salvage harvest.

The Camp Stew Stewardship Project allowed the BLM to thin pine plantations using stewardship contracting. Through stewardship contracting, the BLM worked with local contractors to improve conditions on public lands.

Table 14. Medford District Timber Harvest Volume by Land Use Allocation[1]			
Land Use Allocation	Volume Offered in FY07		Total Volume for FY05 to FY14 (MBF)
	MBF[2]	CCF[3]	
AMA	2,716	226	20,771
Matrix			
Northern GFMA	10,684	890	52,937
South GFMA	5,531	490	68,224
Connectivity	0	0	234
Miscellaneous[4]	1,693	141	5,130
Total from ASQ Lands	**20,624**	**1,747**	**94,359**
LSR	4,925	410	8,396
Riparian Reserve	-	-	0
Hardwood	-	-	5
Total District Volume	**25,549**	**2,157**	**102,760**
District FY Target Volume	**57,100**	**4,758**	**157,547**

[1]Data shown is for all advertised "Offered" timber sales.
[2]MBF - thousand board feet
[3]CCF - thousand cubic feet
[4]Miscellaneous volume includes timber sale modifications, special forest products sold as saw timber, and stewardship contract saw log volume.

Harvest Land Base (HLB)

The following lands are available for harvest under the District RMP land use allocations: Matrix, including General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity/Diversity Block, Adaptive Management Areas (AMA), and within the designated Key Watersheds which overlay the other land use allocations. The harvest land base is composed of the net available acres of suitable commercial forest land on which the ASQ calculation, using the TRIM-PLUS model, is based. Volume from the harvest land base is called "chargeable volume" as it is charged towards or against (a credit) the ASQ level declared in the RMP.

1) Summary of Volume Sold

Table 15. ASQ and Non-ASQ Volume Sold			
	FY 07	FY 05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
ASQ Volume - Harvest Land Base	19.0	67.2	570.2
Non ASQ Volume - Reserves	4.9	5.0	n/a
Total	**24.0**	**72.2**	**n/a**

Table 16. ASQ and Non-ASQ Volume Sold and Unawarded (as of 09/30/07)		
ASQ/Non ASQ Volume	FY 07	FY 05-14
ASQ Volume - Harvest Land Base	16.2	49.1
Non ASQ Volume - Reserves	0.0	0.4
Total	**16.2**	**49.5**

2) Volume and Acres Sold by Land Use Allocation

Table 17. ASQ Volume and Acres Sold by Land Use Allocation						
	FY 07		FY 05-14		Decadal Projection FY 05-14	
Land Use Allocation	Volume	Acres	Volume	Acres	Volume	Acres
Matrix	16.3	1,307	64.4	5,607	492.0	23,299
AMA	2.7	614	9.1	675	171.0	6,686
Total	**19.0**	**1,921**	**73.5**	**6,282**	**663.0**	**29,985**

Table 18. ASQ Volume Sold in Key Watersheds			
Land Use Allocation	FY 07	FY 05-14	Decadal Projection FY 05-14
Key Watershed	0.0	7.7	90.0

Table 19. Non-ASQ Acres in Reserves		
Land Use Allocation	FY07	FY 05-14
Late-Successional Reserve	467	794
Riparian Reserve	0	0
Total	**467**	**794**

3) Volume and Acres Sold by Harvest Type

Table 20. ASQ Volume and Acres Sold by Harvest Type						
	FY07		FY05-14		Decadal Projection FY 05-14	
Harvest Type	Volume	Acres	Volume	Acres	Volume	Acres
Regeneration Harvest	10.6	514	23.2	1,092	344.0	11,277
Commercial Thinning and Density Management	8.2	1,387	38.7	5,507	222.5	18,584
Other	0.1	20	3.7	264	4.3	548
Total	**18.9**	**1,921**	**65.6**	**6,863**	**570.8**	**29,985**

Special Forest Products

The Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program in fiscal year 2007. These sales included mushrooms, boughs, Christmas trees, wood burls, plant transplants, edibles and medicinals, floral greenery, and wood products such as poles and fence posts.

The ROD/RMP does not have any commitments for the sale of special forest products. Table 21 shows the special forest product sales for fiscal year 2007 on the Medford District.

Table 21. Special Forest Product Sales in FY07 for Medford District

Product	Number of Contracts	Quantity	Sold Value
Boughs-Coniferous	53	175,601 lbs	$3,888
Burls and Miscellaneous	5	3,800 lbs	$279
Christmas Trees	2	4 items	$19
Ornamentals	0	0 items	0
Edibles and Medicinals	7	5,645 lbs	$256
Floral and Greenery	102	115,113 lbs	$3,430
Mosses-Bryophytes	1	508 lbs	$510
Mushrooms-Fungi	41	3,698 lbs	$1,965
Seed and Seed Cones	5	1,780 bushels	$160
Transplants	1	12 items	$94
Wood Products	427	1,639,973 cu ft	$54,325
Total	**644**		**$64,926**

Energy and Minerals

Mining

The Medford District processed 30 mining notices and authorized 1 plan of operation in 2007. In addition, the BLM conducted 67 site inspections on mining claims, reclaimed 4 sites related to mining, and continued mitigation on 1 abandoned mine environmental hazard site in 2007.

Mineral Materials

The Medford District uses existing rock quarries as resources to provide mineral materials for BLM management activities and to the public.

In fiscal year 2007, the BLM issued 57 permits for private use of rock (many of these permits were for decorative rock) and 1 exploration permit. The District has two long-term leases for quarry sites. One long-term free use permit was issued to Jackson County. In 2007, two mineral material trespasses were resolved and no quarries were opened or closed.

Land Tenure Adjustments

No land tenure adjustments occurred within the District in 2007.

The BLM uses rock quarry materials for road repair and surfacing for timber sales and rip rap for fish weir projects and culvert replacement.

Access and Rights-of-Way

Because public and private lands are intermingled within the District boundary, each owner must cross the lands of the other in order to gain access to their lands and resources such as timber. Throughout most of the District, this has been accomplished through the use of reciprocal rights-of-way agreements with neighboring private landowners. The individual agreements and associated permits (a total of 103 on the District) are subject to the regulations which were in effect when they were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-way have been granted for projects such as driveway construction, residence utility lines, domestic and irrigation water pipelines, and legal ingress and egress.

Transportation and Roads

During 2007, the District continued developing transportation management objectives for all roads controlled by the BLM. Transportation management objectives have been 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. Those activities identified included

- surfacing dirt roads,
- replacing deteriorated culverts,
- replacing log fill culverts, and
- replacing undersized culverts in perennial streams to meet 100-year flood events

Other efforts were made to reduce overall road miles by closure or elimination of roads.

The District decommissioned approximately 2 miles of road through timber sale projects. Another 1.9 miles of road were closed by gates or barricades. Since the ROD/RMP was initiated, approximately 435 miles of roads have been closed and 183 miles have been decommissioned.

Hazardous Materials

Due to a vacancy in the District's hazardous materials coordinator position and a decrease in funding for collateral personnel, fewer actions occurred on the Medford District than in previous years. The following actions occurred in fiscal year 2007:

- Began actions to correct a Compliance Assessment - Safety, Health, and the Environment report finding involving ventilation on the District's HazMat storage building.
- Completed one environmental site assessment and approved two more for easement acquisitions and land exchanges. Completed one Phase One assessment for Winkle Bar. Reviewed and approved cleanup contractor work at Winkle Bar.
- Activated and administered the emergency response contract for removal of hazardous waste from the HazMat storage building resulting from vehicles dumped in the Rogue River and methamphetamine manufacturing waste. Performed local removal of asbestos pipe from a project at Hyatt Lake.
- Administered the aerosol paint can puncturing contract.
- Continued water quality monitoring at Almeda Mine. Released $20,000 to the BLM Oregon State Office for use in the Poorman project on the Vail District. Reviewed Engineering Report for corrective measures for the Almeda Mine.
- Recycled 200 junk tires recovered from illegal dumps on public lands including tires collected during the BLM's Rogue River Cleanup Day.
- Assisted the District's Lands and Realty program in the cleanup and restoration of illegal occupancy mining sites.

Wildfire and Fuels Management

The 2007 fire season begin on June 11 and ended October 1, lasting 113 days. Wildland fire potential indicators predicted normal activity for large fires throughout the Pacific Northwest. The southwest Oregon fire season resulted in an average year.

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District through a cost reimbursable contract. This contract gives the responsibility for fire protection of all BLM lands within the Medford District to the ODF. The contract directs the ODF to take immediate action to control and suppress all fires. The contract requires ODF to control 94 percent of all fires before they exceed 10 acres.

For the 2007 fire season, the District experienced 52 wildfires which burned a total of 422 acres. Of the 52 fires, 37 were lightning caused, burning a total of 11 acres, and 15 were human caused, burning a total of 411 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 a primary goal of fire hazard reduction under the National Fire Plan, Healthy Forest Initiative, and Healthy Forests Restoration Act. Most acres of hazardous fuels reduction have been accomplished on BLM lands in the wildland-urban interface around communities at risk.

In 2007, the BLM treated 19,884 acres with prescribed fire and 7,555 acres using hand or mechanical methods. Since 1996, the year landscape scale projects began showing accomplishments; the Medford District has completed 183,421 acres of hazardous fuels reduction and site preparation by burning or mechanical means.

Rangeland Management

The Medford District rangeland program administers grazing leases for 51 livestock operators on 52 active allotments and 43 vacant allotments. These grazing allotments include 352,313 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 BLM 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 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 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Under existing Law (Public Law 108-108, Section 325), grazing leases that expire during fiscal years 2004-2008 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 at the Medford District BLM office. All future updates will be reported annually in the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

Fiscal Year 2007 Accomplishments

Rangeland Health Assessments

Rangeland Health Assessments are required 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 2007.

Table 22. Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations for FY07

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Poole Hill	20113	1,760
Heppsie	10126	4,076

Allotment Monitoring

Monitoring data was collected on nine grazing allotments. This information is being used in evaluations to determine whether or not allotments are meeting BLM's Oregon/Washington Standards for Rangeland Health and for completion of the lease renewal process.

Fiscal Year 2008 Planned Work

The following Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations, and NEPA requirements for lease renewals are planned for fiscal year 2008.

Rangeland Health Assessments

Table 23. Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations Planned for FY08

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Soda Mountain*	10110	35,619
Keene Creek*	10115	23,643
Jenny Creek*	10108	1,417
Deadwood*	20106	8,004
Box R*	10137	88
Conde	20117	5,346
Buck Point	10114	3,385
Lake Creek Spring	10121	4,679
Lake Creek Summer	10122	5,561
Deer Creek Reno	10124	4,025

*All or a portion of the allotment is located within the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument

Lease Renewals

Table 24. Lease Renewals requiring NEPA Analysis in FY08		
Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Antelope Road	10132	200
Yankee Reservoir	10134	120
Canal	10136	440
Brownsboro	10133	80
Poole Hill	20113	1,760
Heppsie	10126	4,076
Flat Creek	10002	12,421
Summit Prairie	10031	30,743

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument

The 2001 CSNM Presidential proclamation directed the Secretary of the Interior to ". . . study the impacts of livestock grazing on the objects of biological interest in the monument with specific attention to sustaining the natural ecosystem dynamics." The BLM has been conducting studies, monitoring projects, and literature review designed to determine the impacts of livestock grazing in the CSNM as directed by the presidential proclamation. The results of the Livestock Impacts Studies are scheduled to be completed in the late fall of 2007 and will be used in an evaluation to determine whether or not the allotments are meeting the Oregon Standards for Rangeland Health (1997) and to help determine if livestock grazing is "incompatible with protecting the objects of biological interest." Completion of the Rangeland Health Assessments, evaluation of current livestock grazing practices, and determination of rangeland health and impacts to objects is scheduled to be completed in the late spring/early summer of 2008. The formal NEPA process is scheduled to begin at that time.

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 28 adopters for a total of 34 horses and 5 burros to ensure proper care of adopted animals. Titles for a total of 18 horses were issued to 15 adopters.

The Litchfield Corrals held a Wild Horse Adoption on April 27-28, 2007 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Individuals adopted 14 wild horses and 6 burros with successful adopters coming from Josephine, Jackson, and Curry counties.

Volunteers contributed their time to the wild horse program in the following ways:

- Provided foster care and training for 4 wild horses until new adopters could be found. The length of time ranged from 6 weeks to 3 months. During this time, the volunteers provided gentling practices

such as touching and grooming, and training exercises such as haltering, leading, and tolerance of hoof care/handling.

- Conducted compliance inspections.
- Supported the 2007 Wild Horse Adoption by distributing flyers and providing information to the public regarding experiences with the wild horse program.

Cadastral Survey

The Cadastral Survey Program on the Medford District was centralized at the beginning of fiscal year 2007. While land survey crews remain on District, employees are now a part of the Oregon/Washington Branch of Geographic Sciences which is organizationally located within the State Office in Portland. As a result of this reorganization, survey crews stationed in Medford not only completed work for the Medford District this fiscal year, but also performed survey work for the Lakeview District and the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

Crews surveyed 39 miles of line and monumented 93 corners in support of the Medford District timber program in fiscal year 2007. In addition, 2 miles of line were surveyed and 2 corners were monumented in support of the Lakeview District timber program. Survey crews also began work this fiscal year on a reimbursable project for the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and had completed 4 miles of survey line, and established/reestablished 3 corners by the end of the fiscal year.

Cadastral survey also responded to numerous questions and inquiries from private 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

Community Outreach and Action Plan

In 2007, the Medford District continued to implement its "Community Outreach and Action Plan." The goal of the plan is to provide an effective public education and outreach program that demonstrates the BLM's and the public's roles in the management and use of natural resources. The objectives are to improve communication between the BLM and the general public; to increase the public's understanding of and support for BLM's mission, programs, and activities; and to improve public stewardship of public lands. This plan focuses on five key messages:

- Forest management
- Fire and fuels
- Off-highway vehicle (OHV) use
- Management of special areas (Rogue National Wild and Scenic River and Cascade Siskiyou National Monument)
- Watershed restoration

This year, the District's Outreach and Public Education Network committee, environmental education coordinators and resource specialists successfully presented the District's key messages to more than 25,000 people through the events discussed below.

Outreach Events and Shows

For these events and shows we created large educational exhibits, distributed educational materials, and provided professional staffing for each event. We met with approximately 15,000 participants at these events:

- Master Gardeners' Show
- Safe Kids Safety Fair
- KTVL Kids Day
- Josephine County Fair
- Shady Cove Harvest Fair
- Salmon Festival
- Sportsmen's Show
- Shady Cove Wildflower Show
- Earth Day

BLM employees provided staffing for community events including the Safe Kids Safety Fair.

National Public Lands Day Events

These events brought BLM employees and local volunteers together to accomplish maintenance and restoration activities on public lands. Some of these events involved mutliple agencies. The events included forest management and watershed restoration education opportunities for the volunteers. Approximately 300 volunteers participated in the following events in 2007:

- Rogue River Greenway Restoration Projects (Gold Hill and Gold Nugget area)
- Cathedral Hills Trail Maintenance
- Annual Rogue River Cleanup

Free Fishing Events

Along with our partners, the Medford District cosponsored two 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. During these local events of two national programs, the 300 participants and volunteers also learned about watershed restoration and forest management.

Environmental Education

Environmental education encompasses interpretive and educational hikes and presentations given by professional environmental education specialists, District resource specialists, and program/project leads throughout the Medford District. The public participants in these programs include kindergarten through college students, service organizations, special interest groups, politicians, and interested local residents. The District provided environmental education outreach to more than 10,000 participants in 2007.

Table Rocks Environmental Education Program

For more than 20 years, the Butte Falls Resource Area'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 schools and community groups during the spring season.

In 2007, Table Rocks hike leads organized a weekend hike series that offered an opportunity to hike the Table Rocks with volunteer specialists from the community. The program reached more than 4,200 school children, teachers, parents, and individuals.

The program also offered in-classroom and PowerPoint presentations, regional natural history information for public events, and an educational website with accompanying curriculum. During the 2007 season, 2,600 students took part in classroom presentations.

McGregor Park Environmental Education Program

The McGregor Park facilities, along the Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway (Highway 62) just below Lost Creek Dam, are made available through a unique partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the BLM. The Army Corps of Engineers makes the park and visitor center at McGregor Park available for educational programs and the BLM provides the staff.

BLM environmental education specialists provided outdoor education at the US Army Corps of Engineers' McGregor Park facility.

The environmental education programs at McGregor Park used a combination of outdoor and indoor settings to expose the public and school groups to natural and cultural history, and regional resource management challenges. Participants in the program were led through hands-on, interactive, educational stations with activities and illustrative kits, interpretive hikes, and subject-specific presentations. During the 2007 season, the visitor center featured displays developed by BLM environmental education specialists on fire ecology and fire management, noxious weeds, watershed health and the riparian zone, and Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. In the last two years, the visitor center has averaged 38 visitors per day. The program at McGregor Park, open seasonally, provided outreach to 2,800 participants in 2007.

Other Outreach Programs

In 2007, more than 600 people participated in the diverse programs presented throughout the District.

- Girl Scouts-Women in Science Program
- Oregon State Park Campfire Programs
- Bear Creek Watershed Education Partners Symposium
- Native American Education Day at the Veteran Administration
- Kids Unlimited
- Latino Kids and Bugs education day

Public School Outreach

A very important component of public outreach is providing on-going environmental education within kindergarten through college school classrooms. Many city, county, and private schools throughout the District participated in Medford District educational programs. Specialists introduced the District's 5 outreach themes to approximately 300 students in 2007.

Outreach Media and Materials

The District was involved in the production of numerous outreach materials and media information focusing on the District's five key themes. Media information and articles were prepared for television, magazines, newspapers, Congressional briefings, and radio. These materials included production of interpretive panels, 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 are too numerous to list but include local, state, and Federal agencies; special interest groups and organizations; watershed councils; SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism); public and private schools, colleges, and universities; private businesses; and service organizations.

Coordination and Consultation

Coordination and consultation with all levels of government has been ongoing and is a standard practice in the Medford District. On the Federal level, the District consults with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service on matters relating to federally listed threatened or endangered species. The District coordinates its activities with the U.S. Forest Service on matters pertaining to the Applegate Adaptive Management Area and also through development of interagency watershed analyses. State level consultation and coordination occurs with the State Historic Preservation Office for Section 106 compliance, and with Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. On a local level, the District consults with Native American tribal organizations and Jackson and Josephine counties.

Resource Advisory Committees (RAC) have been meeting and selecting projects to fund and complete. The following projects were selected and funded at the listed level:

Table 25. RAC Selected Projects for FY07

Project Name	Project Number	County	RAC Recommended Funding (dollars)
Young Stand Management	118-701	Curry	177,775
Noxious Weed Removal	118-702	Curry	26,670
Medford Air Tanker Base	110-703	4 counties	12,826
Quines Creek Culvert #4	118-703	Douglas	236,890
Roadside Brushing	118-704	Douglas	41,335
Water Sources Inventory and Maintenance	118-705	Douglas	25,000
Youth Education and Stewardship Crew	118-708	Douglas	58,913
Noxious Weed Control and Management (county)	118-709	Douglas	23,960
Noxious Weed Control and Management (BLM)	118-710	Douglas	17,602
Revegetation of Disturbed Sites using Native Plants	110-711	Douglas	25,000
Elk Creek Road Repair	115-701	Jackson	90,000
East Evans Creek Culvert	115-704	Jackson	50,000
Upper/Lower Table Rock Trail	115-705	Jackson	35,000
Roadside Brushing	116-706	Jackson	33,778
Lower Grizzly Fencing and Road Maintenance	116-708	Jackson	81,367
Jacksonville Strategic Roadside Fuel Break	116-709	Jackson	48,056
Roadside Brushing	115-710	Jackson	55,555
BLM Road Maintenance	116-712	Jackson	50,000
Star Gulch Wood Placement Project	116-714	Jackson	38,889
Fuels Reduction Project – Jacksonville Reservoir Area	116-715	Jackson	28,167
Dump and Trash Cleanup	116-717	Jackson	26,750
Applegate Biomass Project	116-718	Jackson	33,333
Wagner Creek Fuels Reduction	116-719	Jackson	100,953
Sterling Creek Fuels Project	116-721	Jackson	74,175
Galls Creek Fuels Reduction	116-722	Jackson	150,000
Foots Creek Fuels Reduction	116-723	Jackson	70,000
Applegate Fuels Project	116-724	Jackson	70,000
Ashland RA Weed Treatments	116-725	Jackson	80,000
Youth to Work	116-726	Jackson	11,555
Revegetation of Disturbed Sites using Native Plants	110-727	Jackson	25,000
Yale Creek Fish Passage	116-728	Jackson	36,111
West Fork Evans Creek Habitat Restoration	115-729	Jackson	40,555
Trail Creek Salmon Restoration Project	115-730	Jackson	46,111
Butte Falls RA Environmental Education Program Support	115-731	Jackson	5,556

Table 25. RAC Selected Projects for FY07			
Project Name	Project Number	County	RAC Recommended Funding (dollars)
Table Rock Environmental Education Program Support	115-732	Jackson	16,667
Educational Outreach Program Support	115-733	Jackson	11,112

Planning and Nepa Documents

Plan Maintenance

The Medford District ROD/RMP 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.

Previous plan maintenance has been published in past Medford District Annual Program Summaries. The following additional items have been implemented on the Medford District as part of the plan maintenance during fiscal year 2007. These plan maintenance items represent minor changes, refinements, or clarifications that do not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved resource management plan.

Plan Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2007

No plan maintenance was undertaken in fiscal year 2007.

Plan Revision

In August 2003, the U.S. Department of Justice, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture signed a Settlement Agreement which settles litigation with the American Forest Resource Council and the Association of O&C Counties, hereafter referred to as the Settlement Agreement (*AFRC v. Clarke*, Civil No. 94-1031-TPJ [D.D.C.]). Among other items in the Settlement Agreement, the BLM is required to revise the six existing Resource Management Plans in western Oregon consistent with the O&C Act, as interpreted by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, by December 2008. Under the Settlement Agreement, the BLM is required to consider an alternative in the land use plan revisions which will not create any reserves on O&C lands, except as required to avoid jeopardy under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or meet other legal obligations. In fiscal year 2004, the BLM in western Oregon began making preparations in order to comply with Resource Management Plan revision section of the Settlement Agreement. In 2005, the BLM began the large and long task of revising the western Oregon land use plans. Public scoping meetings were attended in the summer and fall and many comments were received on what was

important and how alternatives should be assembled. Alternatives are being created and public feedback has been received. A draft plan was completed in August 2007 and the final plan is expected in November 2008.

RMP Amendments for Fiscal Year 2007

2007 Survey and Manage Amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan

The Survey and Manage standards and guidelines were removed in July 2007 through the signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the *Final Supplemental to the 2004 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement To Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines*. This Decision discontinues the Survey and Manage program and transfers selected Survey and Manage taxa to Agency Special Status Species Programs (SSSP). This supplemental was written in response to a U.S. District Court ruling that deemed the 2004 Supplemental EIS pertaining to survey and manage inadequate.

Copies of the ROD and Final SEIS may be obtained by writing the Bureau of Land Management at PO Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208, or they can be accessed online at http://www.reo.gov/.

Monitoring Report for Fiscal Year 2007

Introduction

This document represents the twelfth monitoring report for the Medford District Resource Management Plan for which the Record of Decision was signed in April 1995. This monitoring report compiles the results of implementation monitoring for the twelfth year of implementation of the Resource Management Plan. Included in this report are the projects that occurred from October 2006 through September 2007. 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, Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan).

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

Monitoring Overview

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

Monitoring at multiple levels and scales along with 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 twelfth year.

Monitoring Results and Findings

Implementation monitoring was based on a process developed by the Medford District Research and Monitoring Committee. Projects were selected for monitoring based on the guidelines contained in Appendix L of the ROD/RMP. Projects were randomly selected for monitoring for the period from October 2006 to September 2007.

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

1. The list of projects occurring in fiscal year 2007 were based on the following stratification:
   - All advertised timber sales
   - All silvicultural projects
   - Riparian Restoration Projects
   - Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects
   - Wildlife Habitat Restoration Projects
   - Fuel 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 requires 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 and/or watershed analysis documentation, and/or Late-Successional Reserve Assessment documentation?"

Monitoring Results

Table 26. Numbers and Types of Projects by Resource Area for FY07					
	Resource Area				
Project Type	Ashland	Butte Falls	Glendale	Grants Pass	District Total
Timber Sale	0	0	0	3	3
Silviculture	2	9	1	1	13
Riparian	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat	1	0	0	0	1
Wildlife Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	4	2	7	14	27
Road Restoration	0	0	0	1	1
Other	5	15	0	9	29
Total	12	26	8	28	74

Table 27. Numbers and Types of Projects Selected for Monitoring by Resource Area for FY07					
	Resource Area				
Project Type	Ashland	Butte Falls	Glendale	Grants Pass	District Total
Timber Sale	0	0	0	1	1
Silviculture	0	2	0	0	2
Riparian	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burn	0	1	2	3	6
Road Restoration	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	3	0	2	6
Total	1	6	2	6	15

Note: See Appendix A for all projects considered and projects selected for monitoring.

The Medford District started or completed 74 projects from October 2006 through September 2007. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, collection of special forest products, and trail renovation. The projects were sorted into the following categories:

Timber Sale	Riparian
Silviculture	Fish Habitat
Wildlife Habitat	Prescribed Burn
Road Restoration	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

The Medford District found a high level of compliance with the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) contained in the Medford Resource Management Plan and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our twelfth 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 for the S&Gs have been met for the sampled and completed projects.

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

- 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 type of streams. All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the ROD. The project results and information on the monitoring process is available at the Medford District Office. As a result of observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past twelve years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.

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

Appendix A. Monitoring

Projects Subjected to Sampling (by category)

Timber Sales

- East Fork Illinois
- Anderson West
- Tennessee Lime

Silviculture Projects

- Young Stand Management (Grants Pass)
- Young Stand Mgmt (Glendale)
- Tree Planting and Scalping
- Silviculture Treatments
- Tree Planting, Scalping, Seeding, etc (Butte Falls)
- Brush Cutting, and Hardwood Cutting and Girdling
- Esmond Progeny Site Sanitation
- Gopher Trapping
- Silviculture Brush and Hardwood Cutting
- Silviculture Brushing, Hardwood, Precommercial Thinning
- Embarq ROW Sawyer Road
- Gambee ROW (OR 64611)

Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects

- Star Gulch Fish Project

Prescribed Burn Projects

- Finley Bend West Fuels Reduction
- Quail Ferry Fuels Reduction
- Hog Creek Fuels Reduction
- Cooper Drive Fuels
- Fish Hatchery Fuels
- Selma Fuels
- Cathedral Hills Fuels
- Jaynes Drive Fuels
- Williams Fuels
- Dollar Mountain Fuels
- Wonder Fuels

- Williams Fuels and Biomass
- Joe Hill Fuels
- Bobby Pond
- Boney Skull Hazardous Fuels Reduction
- Forest Creek Fuels
- Sterling Creek Fuels
- Box O Fuels
- Foots Creek Fuels
- Gold Hill and Sardine Creek Fuels Hazard Reduction
- Right Fork Sardine Creek Fuels Hazard Reduction

Road Restoration Projects

- Elliott Creek Road Flood Repair and Culvert

Other Projects

- Carson Helicopter Training
- Wolf Mining Plan of Operations
- Iron Creek ROW
- Hellgate Viewpoints Renovation Project
- Sexton Mountain Lookout Tower
- Avista Utilities Gas Regulator Station
- Grayback Outfitters Special Recreation Use Permit
- Vandehey Road Maintenance
- Whitehorse Park Vault Toilet Replacement
- Pacific Corp ROW 63969
- MRA Ghost and Goblin
- US Cellular ROW (OR 49604)
- Maka Oyate Special Use Permit
- ROW Request (OR 63650)
- Longbrake Trust Assignment
- Friends of Green Top Kiosk Installation
- Pollman ROW Permit
- Sanctuary Hazard Removal
- Rock Salt Hazard Removal
- Renewal for Communication Site (Day Wireless)
- Lippincott Road ROW (OR 64076)

- Pick up Sticks Pole Removal
- ROW Grant Assignment, McElroy
- Stockard Waterline ROW (OR 64116)
- Embarq ROW (OR 8570)
- Embarq ROW (OR 63968)
- Kinyon ROW (OR 61184)
- Bird Rock Pit Exploration
- Josephine County O&C ROW (OR 55608)
- Citizens Telecommunications ROW
- Holmes ROW Permit
- Josephine County ROW
- Swanson-House Timber Deed

FY 2007 Sampled Project List (by category)

Timber Sales

- Tennessee Lime

Silviculture Projects

- Tree Planting, Scalping, Seeding
- Silviculture Conifer Limb Pruning

Prescribed Burn Projects

- Finley Bend West Fuels Reduction
- Selma Fuels
- Wonder Fuels
- Gold Hill and Sardine Creek Fuels Hazard Reduction

Other Projects

- Iron Creek ROW
- Vandehey Road Maintenance
- Maka Oyate Special Use Permit
- Sanctuary Hazard Removal
- ROW Grant Assignment, McElroy
- Bird Rock Pit Exploration
- Swanson-House Timber Deed
- Holmes ROW Permit

Appendix B: Monitoring Questions

Implementation Monitoring for Fiscal Year 2007

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for fiscal year 2007. The first list, 2007 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, has been used for specific projects for monitoring.

The second list, APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, was addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

Medford District 2007 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Listed below are the Implementation Monitoring Requirements and Questions as described in Appendix L of the Medford District ROD/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 the species listed in Appendix C conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes; projects sampled: Tennessee Lime Timber Sale, Tree Planting, Scalping, and Seeding, Conifer Limb Pruning, Finley Bend West Fuels Reduction, Selma Fuels, Wonder Fuels, Gold Hill and Sardine Creek Fuels Hazardous Reduction, Iron Creek ROW, Maka Oyate Permit, Sanctuary Hazard Removal, and Bird Rock Pit Exploration.

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

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes; projects sampled: Tennessee Lime Timber Sale, Tree Planting, Scalping, and Seeding, Conifer Limb Pruning, Finley Bend West Fuels Reduction, Selma Fuels, Wonder Fuels, Fuels Hazardous Reduction Gold Hill & Sardine Creek, Iron Creek ROW, Maka Oyate Permit, Sanctuary Hazard Removal, and Bird Rock Pit Exploration.

3. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being protected?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes; projects sampled: Tennessee Lime Timber Sale, Tree Planting, Scalping, and Seeding, Conifer Limb Pruning, Finley Bend West Fuels Reduction, Selma Fuels, Wonder Fuels, Fuels Hazardous Reduction Gold Hill & Sardine Creek, Iron Creek ROW, Maka Oyate Permit, Sanctuary Hazard Removal, and Bird Rock Pit Exploration.

Riparian Reserves

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

See Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.

Implementation Monitoring

7. Are watershed analyses being completed before on-the-ground actions are initiated in Riparian Reserves?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes, lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2007 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

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

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes, Riparian Reserve widths were based on the established guidelines. Project sampled: Tennessee Lime Timber Sale. Areas inside the riparian zones were to be treated to expedite large tree development for wildlife habitat and future instream large wood recruitment. On all units, a minimum 25-foot no-treatment buffer, from bankfull width, would be used to protect streambank stability and a 50-foot no-treatment buffer would be applied to perennial streams.

Riparian Reserve Width (165 feet)	# 1 = 172 feet
(No cut for 25 or 50 feet)	# 2 = 163 feet
	# 3 = 181 feet
	# 4 = 178 feet
	# 5 = 205 feet

10A. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Project sampled: Tennessee Lime.

10B. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with RMP management direction?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Project sampled: Tennessee Lime.

10C. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Project sampled: Tennessee Lime.

11. 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?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results – N/A

12. 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 SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - N/A

Matrix

19. 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?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - One timber sale (Tennessee Lime) was reviewed and had no regeneration harvests in it. In the timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris is available.

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes, all timber sales are designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix. Resources such as wildlife, soils, hydrology, plants, social, cultural, and others are analyzed for impacts.

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - No regeneration harvests were planned in any watersheds that had 15% or less late-successional forest in them. RMP objectives were met.

Air Quality

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - Prescribed burns were all in the form of burn piles rather than broadcast burning. Not all of the piled material was burned. The piles that wereburned were done so in prescription and according to their individual burn plans when prescribed conditions were available. Overall particulate emissions can be minimized from prescribed burning through ignition timing, aggressive mop-up, and the reduction of large heavy fuels consumed by fire.

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - The timber sales contain abatement specifications as part of the contract. Timber sale purchasers are required to abate dust with water during the construction phase of the contract.

Soil and Water

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

    The Tennessee Lime Timber Sale was the timber sale selected but has not been offered for sale yet. Best management practices were examined based on contract specifications. Skid trail locations are to be approved ahead of time, the maximum area for skid trails is to be less than 12 percent of the area, existing skid roads are to be used when available, and tractor yarding will be limited seasonally.

27B. Are watershed analyses being performed prior to management activities in key watersheds?
Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes, lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2007 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

Wildlife Habitat

38. 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 SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. In the timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris are available. The Tennessee Lime Timber Sale contains no regeneration harvest units.

39. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Project sampled: Tennessee Lime Timber Sale. Seasonal restrictions for northern spotted owl habitat and buffers for riparian reserves and special status plants have been implemented.

Fish Habitat

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - The Tennessee Lime Timber Sale and Iron Creek ROW identified at-risk fish species and designed project features to avoid adverse impacts to them.

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - The Tennessee Lime Timber Sale identified at-risk fish species and designed features to avoid adverse impacts to them.

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

46. 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?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - The Medford District consulted with the Oregon Department

of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on various management projects. All major ground-disturbing activities involve discussion with USFWS concerning special status species. This may consist of a verbal discussion, or it may range up to and include a formal biological assessment.

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

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Recovery Plans were met or exceeded.

Special Areas

53A. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions/uses near or within special areas consistent with RMP objectives and management direction for special areas?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - N/A

53B. If mitigation was required, was it incorporated in the authorization document?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - No mitigation was required, projects were not close to any special areas.

53C. If mitigation was required, was it carried out as planned?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - No mitigation required.

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

60A. Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Cultural surveys were completed.

60B. During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately mitigate?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - No mitigation required.

Visual Resources

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

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes; All of the units in the Tennessee Lime Timber Sale were partial harvests and met Visual Class II and III guidelines.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

65. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions consistent with protection of the ORVs of designated, suitable, and eligible, but not studied, rivers?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - N/A

Rural Interface Areas

67. 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?

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes; All projects that were in close proximity to private land contained design features that avoided/minimized impacts.

Noxious Weeds

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

    Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes.

Medford District APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

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

All Land Use Allocations

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 225)

4. 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?
5. Are high priority sites for species management being identified?
6. 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, reestablish 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 SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines, with RMP management direction, and Regional Ecosystem Office review requirements, and the 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 and 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 ONAs being protected from damage?

56. What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the RNAs and EEAs?
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 SEIS 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 SEIS 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

Western Oregon Plan Revision

In August 2003, the U.S. Department of Justice, on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, signed an agreement which settles litigation with the American Forest Resource Council and the Association of O&C Counties, hereafter referred to as the Settlement Agreement (*AFRC* v. *Clarke*, Civil No. 94-1031-TPJ [D.D.C.]). Among other items in the Settlement Agreement, the BLM is required to revise the six existing Resource Management Plans in western Oregon by December 2008, consistent with the O&C Act as interpreted by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Under the Settlement Agreement, the BLM must consider an alternative in the land use plan revisions which will not create any reserves on O&C lands, except as required to avoid jeopardy under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or meet other legal obligations. In fiscal year 2004, the BLM in western Oregon began making preparations in order to comply with Resource Management Plan revision section of the Settlement Agreement. In 2005, the BLM began the long, extensive task of revising the western Oregon land use plans. Public scoping meetings were attended in the summer and fall of 2005 and many comments were received on what was important and how alternatives should be assembled. In August 2007, the draft plan was released for public review. Completion of the final plan is expected in October 2008 with a Record of Decision following in December 2008.

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument Management Plan

The Cascade Siskiyou National Monument was set aside by Presidential Proclamation in June 2000 in order to preserve its biodiversity. The BLM began the management plan process when it initiated scoping in July 2000. A draft management plan was released in June 2002. The Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement was made available for public review in February 2005. The BLM expects to sign a Record of Decision for the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument Resource Management Plan in fall 2008.

A grazing study was completed for the monument and the BLM anticipates the Rangeland Health Assessments will be completed in 2008.

Timber Mountain/John's Peak OHV Plan

The BLM has conducted numerous public meetings during the scoping process for this management plan. The scoping process seeks ideas, issues, and comments from the public to be able to capture all the concerns that may exist. The draft plan is expected to be completed in the winter of 2008/2009.

Survey and Manage Program

The Survey and Manage Standards and Guidelines were added to the resource management plans for BLM districts in Washington, Oregon, and California within the range of the northern spotted owl as part of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan. The 2001 Survey and Manage Record of Decision adopted new Survey and Manage standards and guidelines and established an annual species review process. The annual species

review process for 2001, 2002, and 2003 changed the management categories for 32 species, removed 42 species from Survey and Manage in all of their range, and removed 16 species in part of their range.

In order to settle litigation related to the 2001 Survey and Manage ROD, a Record of Decision in 2004 removed Survey and Manage from the BLM resource management plans. On January 9, 2006, a U.S. District Court order in *Northwest Ecosystem Alliance et al.* v. *Rey et al.* set aside the 2004 Record of Decision that removed Survey and Manage and reinstated the 2001 Survey and Manage Record of Decision, including any amendments or modifications in effect as of March 21, 2004. The U.S. District Court subsequently modified this order to exempt four types of activities from the injunction such that the decision to eliminate the survey and manage provision is effective as to these activities. In general, these activities are described as thinning in stands of timber less than 80 years in age, stream improvement or restoration projects, road decommissioning, and fuel hazard reduction projects other than those that would involve harvest in timber stands greater than 80 years old. Also, subsequent to this court order in *Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center et al.* v. *Boody et al.*, the Ninth Circuit held that the changes in survey and manage protection regarding the red tree vole resulting from the 2001 and 2003 Annual Species Reviews are invalid under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

In June 2007, the Final Supplement to the 2004 *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines* was issued and updates the 2004 analysis to respond to both court decisions. The corresponding Record of Decision was signed in July 2007.

Appendix D. Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACEC	-	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
AMA	-	Adaptive Management Area
ASQ	-	Allowable Sale Quantity
BLM	-	Bureau of Land Management
CBWR	-	Coos Bay Wagon Road
CCF	-	Hundred cubic feet
CFR	-	Code of Federal Regulations
DEQ	-	Department of Environmental Quality
EEA	-	Environmental Education Area
FY	-	Fiscal Year
GCDB	-	Geographic Coordinates Data Base
GFMA	-	General Forest Management Area
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
GPS	-	Global Positioning System
LSF	-	Late Successional Forest
LSR	-	Late-Successional Reserve
MBF	-	Thousand board feet
MMBF	-	Million board feet
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
NFP	-	Northwest Forest Plan
O&C	-	Oregon and California Revested Lands
ODEQ	-	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODFW	-	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OSHA	-	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSU	-	Oregon State University
PD	-	Public Domain Lands
PILT	-	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PL	-	Public Law
REO	-	Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC	-	Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP	-	Resource Management Plan
RMP/ROD	-	Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision
RNA	-	Research Natural Area
ROD	-	Record of Decision
SA	-	Special Attention Species
S&G	-	Standards and Guidelines
SS	-	Special Status Species
USFS	-	U.S. Forest Service

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 threat(s) 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 size designation of approximately 20 to 200 square miles in size.

Fiscal Year – The Federal financial year. It is 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 land use allocation in the ROD/RMP that reserves Federal forest in its mature and/or old-growth stages.

Matrix Land – A land use allocation in the ROD/RMP for Federal land outside of reserves and special management areas which will be available for timber harvest at varying levels.

Noxious Plant/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 the remaining trees will grow faster.

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

Regional Interagency Executive Council – A senior regional interagency entity which assures the prompt, coordinated, successful implementation at the regional level of the forest management 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 – A land use allocation in the ROD/RMP for designated riparian areas found outside late-successional reserves.

SEIS Special Attention Species – A term which incorporates the "Survey and Manage" and "Protection Buffer" species from the Northwest Forest Plan.

Site Preparation – Any action taken in conjunction with a reforestation effort (natural or artificial) to create an environment favorable for the survival of suitable trees during the first growing season. This environment can be created by altering ground cover, soil, or microsite conditions or 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.

Wildland-Urban Interface – The area where undeveloped forestland meets and transitions into structures and other human developments.

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