

Medford District Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Report

Fiscal Year 2008

Medford District Office

BLM



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.

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**Table S-1. Medford RMP Planning Area
Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments**

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2008 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices (2005-2014)	Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014)
Forest and Timber Resources				
Regeneration harvest (acres offered)	Acres	0	1,080	10,400
Commercial thinning/Density management/Uneven-age harvest acres offered (harvest land base)	Acres	0	11,222	44,900
Salvage acres offered (reserves)	Acres	4,724	4,977	N/A
Timber volume offered (harvest land base)	Million board feet	27.8	117.8	571
Timber volume offered (reserves)	Million board feet	0	7.5	N/A
Precommercial thinning (harvest land base)	Acres	628	3,967	78,000
Precommercial thinning (reserves)	Acres	297	1,697	N/A
Brushfield/Hardwood conversion	Acres	0	0	N/A
Site preparation (prescribed fire)	Acres	0	984	6,000
Site preparation (other methods)	Acres	0	580	1,000
Fuels treatments • Slash and hand pile • Burn (handpile or underburn)	Acres Acres	10,312 10,945	48,412	18,000
Fuels treatments (other methods)	Acres	0	25,282	N/A
Planting – regular stock	Acres	364	2,215	2,700
Planting – genetically selected	Acres	658	2,013	10,300
Fertilization	Acres	0	0	57,000
Pruning	Acres	809	2,446	18,600
Noxious Weeds				
Noxious weed control	Acres	5,176	16,953	N/A
Rangeland Management				
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Annual leases/ 10-year renewals	12	N/A	N/A
Animal unit months (actual)	Animal unit months	7,735	N/A	N/A
Livestock fences constructed or maintained	Units/Miles	65/26	131/55	N/A
Realty Actions				
Land sales	Actions/Acres	0	20	N/A
Land purchases	Actions/Acres	1,132	1,132	N/A
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	8	20	N/A

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RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2008 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices (2005-2014)	Projected Decadal Practices (2005-2014)
Road rights-of-way granted	Actions	57	197	N/A
Utility rights-of-way granted	Actions	0	73	N/A
Utility rights-of-way granted (communication sites)	Actions	4	22	N/A
Special use permits	Actions	3	26	N/A
Withdrawals completed	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Withdrawals revoked	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Energy and Minerals Actions				
Oil and gas leases	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Other leases	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Mining plans approved	Actions/Acres	0	1	N/A
Mining claims patented	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral material sites opened	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral material sites closed	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicles				
Off-highway vehicle trails maintained	Number/Miles	1/3	7/318	N/A
Hiking trails maintained	Number/Miles	26/152	50/494	N/A
Recreation sites maintained	Number/Acres	30/301	54/901	N/A
Cultural Resources				
Inventories	Sites/Acres	8/1,921	81/15,073	N/A
Cultural/historic sites nominated	Sites/Acres	0/0	0/0	N/A
Hazardous Materials				
Sites identified	Sites	2	29	N/A
Sites remediated	Sites	2	15	N/A



ANNUAL PROGRAM SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

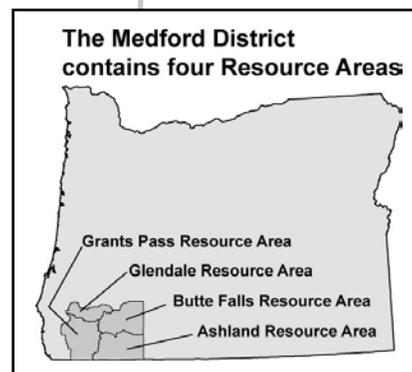
This Annual Program Summary (APS) is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management for the period of October 2007 through September 2008. The program summary is designed to report to the public and to local, state, and Federal agencies a broad overview of activities and accomplishments for fiscal year 2008. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, forestry, recreation, and other programs. Included in the Annual Program Summary is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

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

Both the Northwest Forest Plan and the ROD/RMP embrace the concepts of ecosystem management in a broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land use allocations covering all Federal lands within the range of the northern spotted owl were established in the NWFP. Analyses such as watershed analyses and late-successional reserve assessments are conducted at broader scale and involve landowners in addition to BLM. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been developed for implementation at the regional level.

The Medford District administers approximately 866,000 acres located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, and Curry counties. Under the NWFP and ROD/RMP, management of these lands is included in three primary land use allocations: Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur; Late-Successional Reserve, where providing habitat for late-successional and old growth forest related species is emphasized; and Riparian Reserve, where maintenance of water quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized. The ROD/RMP established objectives for management of 17 resource programs occurring on the District. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in

The Annual Program Summary is a requirement of the 1995 Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan.



a detailed manner in the APS because of the overlap of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource programs is not included in the APS to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in the ROD/RMP and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both available at the Medford District Office.

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 2008, the Medford District received a total of \$18.6 million in Oregon and California Land Grant (O&C) appropriations, \$1.8 million in Management of Lands and Resources appropriations, and \$19.4 million in special appropriations, fire-related appropriations, and nonappropriated funds (Table 1).

Special appropriations 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, work performed for other agencies reimbursements, trust funds, appropriated funds transferred to BLM from other agencies, and other miscellaneous collection accounts.

The total monetary resources available to the Medford District in fiscal year 2008 were \$39.7 million.

Table 1. Medford District Budget for Fiscal Years 2003-2008

Appropriation	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008
Oregon and California Land Grant	21,673,000	22,499,000	20,026,000	19,532,000	18,936,000	18,564,000
Management of Lands and Resources	2,885,000	3,206,000	2,200,000	2,053,000	2,657,000	1,802,378
Special Appropriation and Other Nonappropriated Funds	26,940,000	27,047,000	21,473,000	19,447,000	23,639,000	19,368,574
Total	51,498,000	52,752,000	43,699,000	41,032,000	44,232,000	39,734,952

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

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

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

Table 2. Major Land Use Allocations on the Medford District

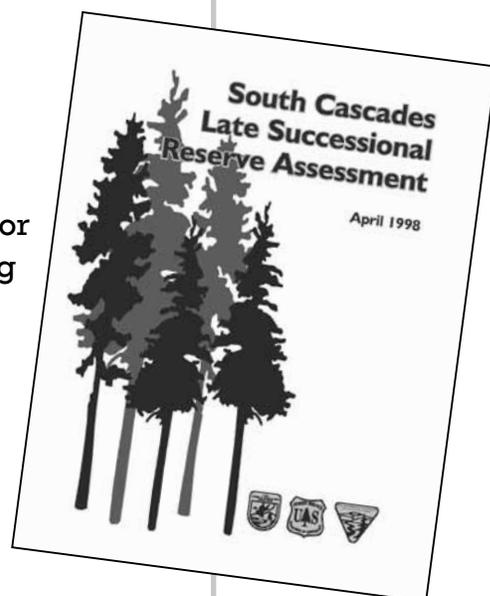
Allocation	Acres
Congressional Reserves	14,267
Late-Successional Reserves	178,467
Late-Successional Reserves within AMA	32,937
Marbled Murrelet Reserves	3,478
District Defined Reserves	1,290
Connectivity/Diversity Blocks	27,237
Applegate Adaptive Management Area	113,912
Reserved Habitat Area	16,732
General Forest Management Area	470,776
Total	859,096
NOTE: 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 NWFP and the Medford District ROD/RMP to maintain functional, interactive late-successional and old growth forest ecosystems. They are designed to serve as habitat for late-successional and old growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

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

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



AQUATIC CONSERVATION STRATEGY

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

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy contains nine objectives the BLM must comply with. That means the BLM must manage riparian-dependent resources to maintain the existing condition or implement actions to restore conditions.

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.

Timber harvest is prohibited in riparian reserves except under certain conditions, such as catastrophic events, that result in degraded riparian conditions. 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 NWFP. Watershed analysis includes:

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

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

WATERSHED COUNCIL COORDINATION

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

AIR QUALITY

All prescribed fire activities conformed to the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. Air quality considerations in prescribed burn plans include burning during high-quality smoke mixing when good dispersal exists and rapid mop-up of burned units to reduce residual smoke. Qualitative and some quantitative monitoring occurred during prescribed burning episodes in 2008.

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 sediment. The Medford District is working cooperatively with the Oregon DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) for 303(d) listed streams on BLM-administered lands. Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRPs) for BLM-administered lands are prepared by the BLM and incorporated in DEQ's WQMPs.

The Medford District has completed and the Oregon DEQ has approved 16 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

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River (2007), Illinois River-Kerby (2007), Big Butte Creek (2008), and Althouse Creek (2008). These WQRPs may be found on the Medford District Web site at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/plans/activityplans.php>.

The Medford District implemented the following restoration projects in fiscal year 2008 to improve water quality on 303(d) listed streams (Table 3).

Table 3. Medford District Fiscal Year 2008 Water Quality Restoration Projects

Subbasin	Watershed	Stream	Water Quality Limited Parameter	Restoration Project
Applegate	Upper Applegate River	Star Gulch	Summer Temperature	Placed 24 large wood structures in 5 miles of stream to improve stream habitat complexity primarily through increased cover and deep pools, which will reduce stream temperatures.
Illinois	Illinois River	Althouse Creek	Year-round Temperature	Placed large wood in 1 mile of stream to improve stream habitat and reduce channel width-to-depth ratio.
Middle Rogue	Evans Creek	East Fork Evans Creek	Year-round Temperature (nonspawning)	Replaced 4 damaged cross-drain culverts and 3 undersized stream culverts along approximately 1.4 miles of East Fork Evans Creek Road. Placed riprap in a road fill failure directly adjacent to East Fork Evans Creek to reduce additional erosion.
Middle Rogue	Evans Creek	West Fork Evans Creek	Summer Temperature	Placed large wood structures in 12 sites over 4 miles of stream to improve stream habitat complexity and reduce width-to-depth ratio.
South Umpqua	Middle Cow Creek	Fortune Branch	Summer Temperature	Manually and chemically treated noxious weeds adjacent to 0.7 mile of stream and planted riparian area with various conifer species to improve riparian habitat and future large wood potential.
Upper Klamath	Jenny Creek	Jenny Creek	Summer Temperature	Manually treated 33 acres and chemically treated 80 acres of noxious weeds to benefit riparian vegetation along 1 mile of stream.
Upper Rogue	Elk Creek	Sugar Pine Creek	Year-round Temperature	Placed boulders and large wood at 5 sites in 2.5 miles of stream to improve stream habitat complexity and reduce width-to-depth ratio.
Upper Rogue	Elk Creek	West Branch Elk Creek	Summer Temperature	Placed 65 pieces of large wood in 2.5 miles of stream to improve stream habitat complexity and reduce width-to-depth ratio.
Upper Rogue	Trail Creek	West Fork Trail Creek	Dissolved Oxygen Summer	Placed boulders and large wood at 4 sites over 0.5 mile of stream to improve stream habitat complexity and reduce width-to-depth ratio.

MONITORING

The BLM conducted riparian assessments for functioning condition status on 48 stream miles in fiscal year 2008. These stream miles, plus an additional 56 stream miles, were surveyed for stream and channel characteristics. This information is being used for project planning and updating the hydrography data set. Channel cross sections were surveyed at two sites.

Water monitoring was conducted for various parameters at sites across the District (Table 4).

Table 4. Medford District Fiscal Year 2008 Water Monitoring

Parameter	Number of Sites
Summer stream temperature using recording instruments	65
Streamflow	30
Turbidity	8
Conductivity	72
pH	53
Dissolved oxygen	24
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 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 comes from matrix lands, which includes General Forest Management Areas (GFMA), Adaptive

Management Areas (AMA), and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks. Major habitat components are retained in timber projects through land use allocation, green tree retention, snag retention and recruitment, and coarse woody debris (CWD) management. Specific measures were provided in the Northwest Forest Plan to meet the needs of most priority wildlife species found in the District.

In 2008, the Medford Wildlife program provided 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. Programmatic wildlife consultations are posted on the Medford District Web site.

Wildlife biologists provided 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.



Snags provide habitat for animals such as woodpeckers, flying squirrels, bats, and owls.

SNAGS AND SNAG RECRUITMENT

The BLM leaves as many existing snags in a timber harvest unit as possible. Standing dead trees which meet RMP requirements are left in units if they do not conflict with Occupational Safety and Health Administration safety guidelines and if they do not conflict with prescribed burning.

CONNECTIVITY

Designated connectivity/diversity blocks are spaced across the District. The BLM manages connectivity/diversity blocks on a 150-year harvest rotation and must maintain 25 to 30 percent of each block (640-acre section) in late-successional forest. Regeneration harvest areas in connectivity/diversity blocks maintain a minimum of 12 to 18 green trees per acre. Additional connectivity is provided by the riparian management network (100 to 300 feet on each side of a stream) and by 250, 100-acre northern spotted owl activity centers that 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 District. Management of the former survey and manage species follows BLM Manual 6840-Special Status Species Management.

The Mardon skipper butterfly, a Federal candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act, is a Bureau Sensitive Species. This butterfly is found in four geographical areas in Washington and Oregon, including an area in the Cascade Mountains east of Ashland. A Washington State University graduate student is continuing a study of the habitat features used by the Mardon skipper for egg laying and larval development. The populations found east of Ashland have been included in her study which continues through 2008.

Surveys were conducted on the Medford District for Siskiyou short-horned grasshopper (*Chloealtis aspasma*), a Bureau Sensitive species. Funded through the Interagency Special Status/Sensitive Species Program, these surveys involved visits to 44 survey locations and covered a total of 533 acres. The known range of this grasshopper was significantly expanded (by 30 miles to the west alone). Knowledge of life history and habitat preference was also enhanced.



The Siskiyou short-horned grasshopper is a Federal species of concern due to the limited number of sites from which it is known and lack of knowledge about habitat requirements and trends in its population.

FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES MANAGEMENT

The Medford District contains three species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA): northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and vernal pool fairy shrimp. The District consults under Section 7 of the ESA on all activities proposed within the habitat of federally listed species.

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 trends. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was sued on their regulatory language

related to critical habitat, which triggered the BLM to reinstate consultation on many of our projects in northern spotted owl critical habitat. Critical habitat was redesignated for the northern spotted owl in 2008.

Marbled murrelet are federally listed as threatened. Some marbled murrelet habitat evaluations occurred in preparation for timber sales. No murrelets were located.

Vernal pool fairy shrimp are federally listed as threatened in Oregon and are only found on the Table Rocks in the Medford District. The tops of the Table Rocks are designated as critical habitat for vernal pool fairy shrimp.

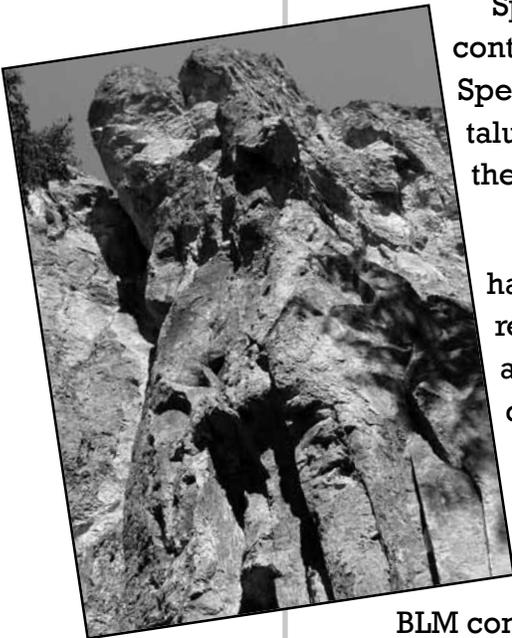
The Medford District conducted monitoring of 19 bald eagles and 6 peregrine falcons in 2008. Although both species are no longer federally listed, some post-delisting monitoring is required to track their recovery. Future monitoring is required to confirm occupancy. In addition, Medford biologists participate in the nationwide Midwinter Bald Eagle survey, which occurs the first 2 weeks of January each year. The purpose of this survey is to monitor the status of bald eagle wintering populations in the lower 48 states.

SPECIAL HABITATS

Special habitat is forested or nonforested habitat that contributes to overall biological diversity within the District. Special habitats may include meadows, cliffs, caves, and talus slopes for plants and animals. Biologists are reviewing these areas for inclusion in the WOPR.

Resource damage is occurring in some special habitats such as meadows. Mud bogging has become a recreational activity for some and low elevation meadows are especially vulnerable to resource damage from deep ruts and mud holes which diminish wildlife habitat suitability. The BLM expends time and money to protect sensitive areas, replace vandalized road closures and gates, and educate the public on the importance of wise stewardship and prudent use of public lands. The

BLM continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and associated vernal pool habitat.



BIG GAME AND FURBEARERS

The District manages deer and elk winter range in order to provide forage and thermal cover and to minimize disturbance. Fuels reduction projects across much of the District improve forage by removing decadent vegetation. The fresh regrowth of vegetation is preferred by deer and elk for forage.

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

The District conducted protocol surveys for Pacific fisher, a candidate furbearer of the weasel family, which is warranted but precluded for Federal listing under the ESA. The University of Washington Center for Conservation Biology Lab conducted scat surveys using scat-detection dogs and collected 32 potential scats. Samples with adequate DNA will be analyzed to confirm species, source population, and sex.

A wildlife biologist from the Butte Falls Resource Area represents the BLM on the Fisher Biology Team, which is composed of biologists from the BLM; US Fish and Wildlife Service; US Forest Service; National Park Service; British Columbia; Hoopa Tribe; and states of Washington, Oregon, and California. The Team was tasked with compiling and interpreting research on fishers. The Fisher Biology Team continued work on a conservation assessment and will use that information to complete a conservation strategy.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas conducted fall and spring population and avian productivity monitoring in partnership with Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) at a two sites. The mark-recapture data provides important spring and fall migration information for willow flycatchers, a Bureau special status species, and other Neotropical migratory birds. This data is being analyzed for long-term trends in abundance, reproduction, and survivorship and is being compared with other similar stations from within the Klamath Demographic Monitoring Network. As part of this partnership, KBO, in cooperation with Southern Oregon University, trains college-level interns. KBO promotes



Scat detection dogs are trained using scenting techniques similar to those for narcotics, bomb, and arson detection, as well as search and rescue work.

Neotropical migratory birds breed in Canada and the United States during our summer and spend our winter in Mexico, Central America, South America, or the Caribbean islands.

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 throughout the District collected data on these cryptic, nocturnal species and contributed data for regional species group evaluations. Medford BLM participated in the bat grid program, which is a systematic sampling method used across Oregon and Washington. The bat grid information is compiled by the US Forest Service to establish baseline information. 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 the 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 effort between the BLM and US Forest Service to evaluate bat populations.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

Steve Godwin, a Wildlife Biologist from the Medford District's Ashland Resource Area, presented a paper entitled "Great Gray Owl Diet in Southwestern Oregon" at the 2008 Oregon Wildlife Society meeting. This presentation summarized the results of diet analysis conducted in the Cascade and Siskiyou mountains of southwestern Oregon.

The Rogue River Pilot Ecological Monitoring Project, initiated in 2008, uses wildlife to measure the ecological response of fuels management projects in the Recreation Section of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River corridor. This project is a partnership between the BLM's Grants Pass Resource Area and KBO. KBO has documented that bird useage more effectively and efficiently reflects the ecological response following a fuels treatment than vegetation measurements alone. The Rogue River Pilot Ecological Monitoring Project is a 2-year study that uses a before and after control and impact study design to monitor the ecological effects of fuels reduction. Paired riparian and upland monitoring stations in treated and untreated sites were established. Standard bird and habitat survey techniques were used to determine the ecological effects of treatments, with a specific objective of the responses of riparian and upland associated habitats and bird communities.

AQUATIC HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

The Medford District conducted a variety of activities to maintain or enhance fisheries and fish habitat in fiscal year 2008. 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, and fuels treatment activities. Fisheries staff completed fish habitat and population monitoring on grazing allotments. Additionally, biological assessments were completed for ESA consultations. These activities represent the majority of the workload, and also involve considerable time spent in field visits and meetings. The WOPR is a continued multi-year effort for all fishery staff. The following are other activities performed by fisheries personnel on the Medford District.

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 continued cooperative agreements with three watershed councils: Applegate, Williams, and Illinois. BLM funded the design for irrigation dam removal to improve fish passage and enhance fish habitat. The Ashland Resource Area coordinated with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the Little Butte Creek Watershed Council for a historic channel restoration on Little Butte Creek. The Butte Falls Resource Area provided outreach and education to the Seven Basins Watershed Council about off-highway vehicle impacts on fisheries near Elderberry Flat.

FISH PASSAGE

Fish passage is a high priority for extending the range of salmon and is an ongoing need in the Medford District. The District has a proactive program to replace and maintain culverts which impede anadromous fish passage. Design for future replacements continued in 2008.

POPULATION/HABITAT MONITORING

The Ashland Resource Area conducted fish population and instream and riparian habitat monitoring. Monitoring results in 2008 indicate juvenile coho salmon numbers were one-third of average in Star Gulch. Presence/absence surveys were conducted in the

Wagner Creek Watershed. The final year of a 3-year Joint Fire Science Program project was completed to demonstrate fire effects in the riparian on 10 perennial first-order tributaries to Beaver Creek, Star Gulch, and Footh Creek.

Snorkel surveys in the Butte Falls Resource Area indicate moderate numbers of coho salmon continue to occupy reaches in Sugar Pine Creek, Hawk Creek, and West Evans Creek. Monitoring continued to determine whether any impacts to salmon were occurring on several grazing allotments in the Butte Falls and Ashland Resource Areas. Spawning surveys, primarily for coho and winter steelhead, were conducted on eight streams throughout the District. Annual surveys indicate fewer spawners than in previous years although spawning is highly dependent on stream conditions.

The Grants Pass Resource Area conducted annual monitoring for fall chinook spawning in the Recreation Section of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River to determine potential boat impacts to fall chinook. Additionally, juvenile fish populations were monitored on Williams Creek using a screw trap in conjunction with the ODFW.

INSTREAM AND RIPARIAN HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

The Ashland and Butte Falls Resource Areas installed large logs in streams to improve coho salmon and trout instream habitat. The



Ashland Resource Area placed 130 logs in 5 miles of Star Gulch and 45 logs in Ninemile Creek. The Butte Falls Resource Area placed logs in 11 miles of stream and boulders in 0.5 mile of stream on the following streams: West Evans Creek - 50 logs, Flat Creek - 8 logs, West Branch Elk Creek - 65 logs, Sugar Pine Creek and Hawk Creek - 15 logs and 25 boulders, and West Trail Creek - 10 logs and 20 boulders. The Grants Pass Resource Area continued a multi-year project to place large logs in Sucker and Crooks

creeks to benefit coho salmon habitat.

The BLM placed boulder weirs in West Fork Trail Creek to improve instream fish habitat.

The Medford District performed enhancement work on riparian fish habitat, which is generally the first 160 feet from a stream. Willows and aspens were planted on Soda Creek to restore shade from cattle grazing. Enclosures will be constructed to protect the plants from cattle browsing. Conifers were planted along 1 mile of Fortune Branch to provide shade for coho salmon and trout.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA) AND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

The District submitted two biological assessments to the NOAA Fisheries Service for ESA Section 7 consultation. These assessments were for timber sale/landscape management projects.

The Medford District wrote more than 30 environmental assessments for timber harvest and timber blowdown salvage harvest and road construction, National Fire Plan projects, mining plans of operation, fish habitat enhancement projects, off road vehicle use, and Wild and Scenic River projects. Rangeland grazing allotment assessments continued in the Butte Falls and Ashland Resource Areas and six Rangeland Health Assessments were conducted.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

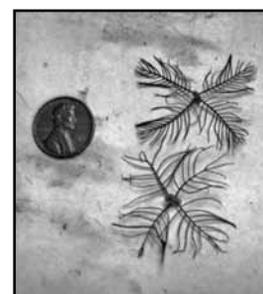
Educational presentations were conducted to Watershed Councils, schools, and various other community groups. Fisheries personnel taught schoolchildren about water quality, riparian vegetation, aquatic insects, and salmon life cycles at several of Oregon Trout's Salmon Watch events held around the Rogue River Basin.

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. The Medford BLM is committed to working with local Jackson and Josephine Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs), focusing on education, information exchange, and weed strategy development for the entire subbasin.

Currently, the Medford District is emphasizing containment and control of 15 exotic plant species: yellow starthistle, purple loosestrife, puncturevine, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, spotted knapweed, Dalmatian toadflax, rush skeleton weed, leafy spurge, tansy ragwort, Canada thistle, Scotch broom, Spanish broom, Japanese knotweed, and Dyer's woad. The District employs the Rapid Detection Rapid Response methodology to detect and treat new weeds before they gain a foothold.

Surveys for weeds within project areas are completed in conjunction with the endangered and sensitive plant surveys. Surveys



This year an aggressive aquatic weed, water milfoil, was discovered in several areas and is likely spreading.

Noxious Weeds
are Pretty,
But...

BLM

Medford District Office



document the areas needing treatment. 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.

EDUCATION/AWARENESS

In coordination with the Jackson County Weed Management Area, noxious weed presentations were made to students from elementary school to college level, Federal agencies, contractors, and other interest groups and at county fairs and commercial businesses. Television and newspaper ads, as well as talk-radio shows, aided in educating the general public. Several new publications informing the public about noxious weeds were produced in 2008 and are available at the District Office.

PREVENTION

The Medford District implemented various techniques designed to prevent the spread of noxious weeds on Federal lands:

- Required clean equipment prior to engaging in any soil-disturbing activities.
- Created contract stipulations requiring contractors to clean equipment before entry to BLM-administered lands.
- Funded a BLM/US Forest Service vehicle wash facility to aid in cleaning agency vehicles of weed seeds and parts.
- Used seed in restoration efforts that was tested for noxious weed content prior to purchase.
- Monitored gravel and rock pits closely for clean aggregate.

INVENTORY

The District surveyed 40,251 acres in project areas for noxious weeds in conjunction with vascular plant surveys, documenting nearly 500 new noxious weed sites.

WEED TREATMENT

In 2008, the BLM treated 5,176 acres for weeds using cultural, manual, and chemical methods. This is an increase of 24% from the previous year and reflects the increasing awareness of the weed program and the ability to acquire funding for weed treatment.

BOTANICAL SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

A number of actions were undertaken by the Medford BLM that contributed to the recovery of two listed plant species, Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*) and Cook's desert parsley (*Lomatium cookii*) and to meeting Bureau policy preventing the need to list.

VASCULAR PLANT INVENTORIES

In 2008, botanists surveyed 38,518 acres District-wide for federally listed plants, bureau sensitive plants, and noxious weeds in support of BLM activities. Surveys for the federally-listed plants are a requirement of the existing Biological Opinion with the USFWS. Surveys for 105 Bureau sensitive plants (including the listed species) and noxious weeds are conducted following national and Oregon/Washington BLM policy. Surveys for listed plants, sensitive plants, and weed species are completed at the same time, documenting the flora and plant communities. This figure is consistent with previous year's survey levels (25,000 to 35,000 acres per year).

In 2008, 4 Gentner's fritillary sites and 2 Cook's desert parsley sites, as well as 162 Bureau Special Status Species locations, were found. All the sites are small, usually occupying between .001 and .01 acre. Very few populations are larger than 1 acre.

MONITORING POPULATIONS/SITES (FORMAL AND INFORMAL)

Formal monitoring usually consists of sampling protocols and plots monitored through time to assess trends. Informal monitoring may include revisiting sites and doing total recounts of a species and may not be connected to a formal sampling methodology or a specific conservation plan. Many of the monitoring projects are partnerships with the Institute for Applied Ecology, a local nonprofit conservation organization, and the State of Oregon Plant Conservation Program.

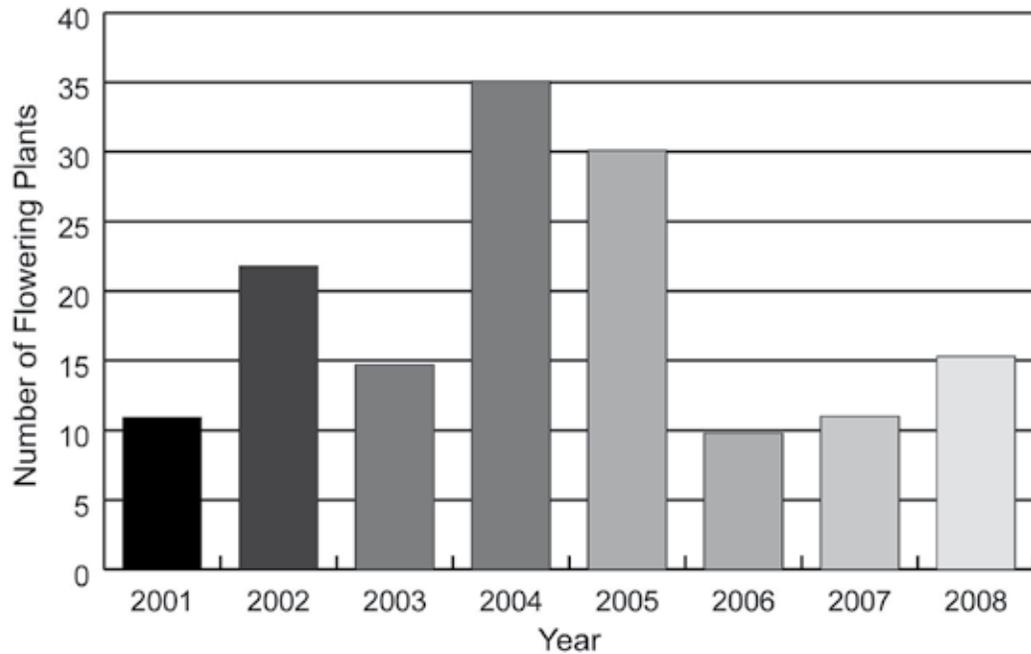
District botanists, contractors, and partners monitored the following number of sites/populations of Gentner's fritillary and Cook's desert parsley:

Annual revisits of Gentner's fritillary

In 2008, the BLM continued monitoring of 59 Gentner's fritillary sites. Monitoring started in 1998 (on 15 sites) and has continued annually since, adding new sites in different years. In 2008, 12 sites

were merged following new reporting standards from Geographic Biotic Observations (GeoBOB) (i.e., sites within 300 feet of each other will be counted as a single population). The BLM added 10 new sites in the Ashland Resource Area so that 57 sites are now monitored every year. The average number of plants for the last 8 years is 18.6 reproductive plants per site, with a median of 1.75. Most populations of this rare lily are small.

Figure 1. Average number of flowering *Fritillaria gentneri* plants per site per year.



Gentner’s fritillary population monitoring (Pickett Creek)

Monitoring occurred in 2008 in the Pickett Creek population of Gentner’s fritillary. Both census data and density data were collected by the Institute for Applied Ecology working with the BLM. Census monitoring has been ongoing since 1999 and has documented a wide variation in flowering of this species (Figure 2). Density monitoring has been ongoing since 2002 and represents the only in-depth population study for this species that tracks age and size classes, reproduction, and dormancy. Annual reports through 2008 are available at the Institute of Applied Ecology Web site at <http://www.appliedeco.org>.

The following is a summary of the population monitoring:

1. The number of *F. gentneri* at Pickett Creek increased substantially compared to 2006, determined both by the

Figure 2. Total number of flowering *Fritillaria gentneri* plants per year in the Pickett Creek site.

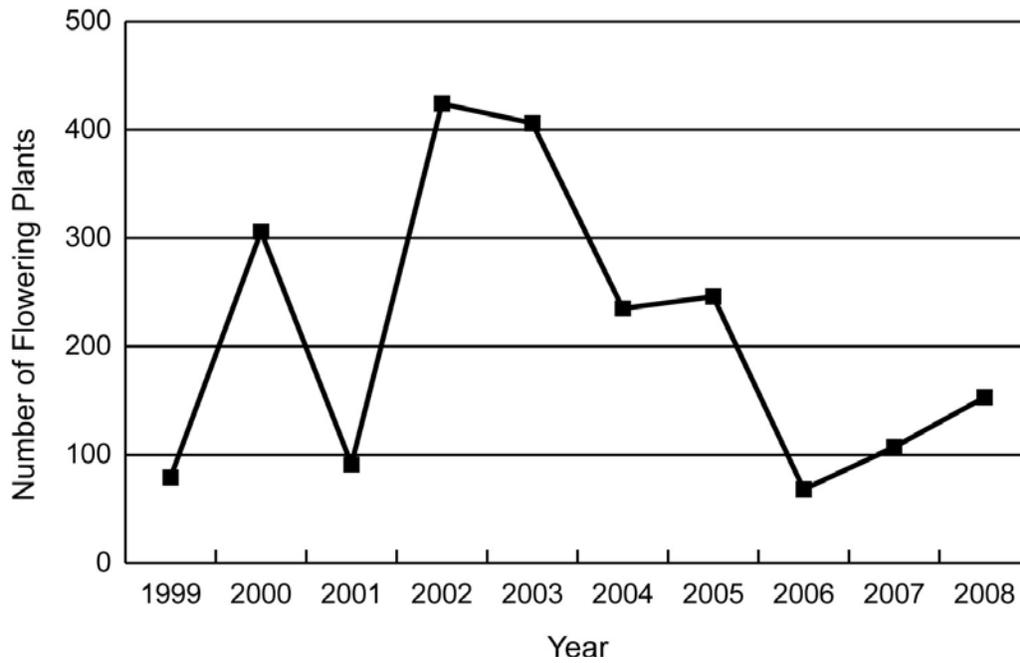
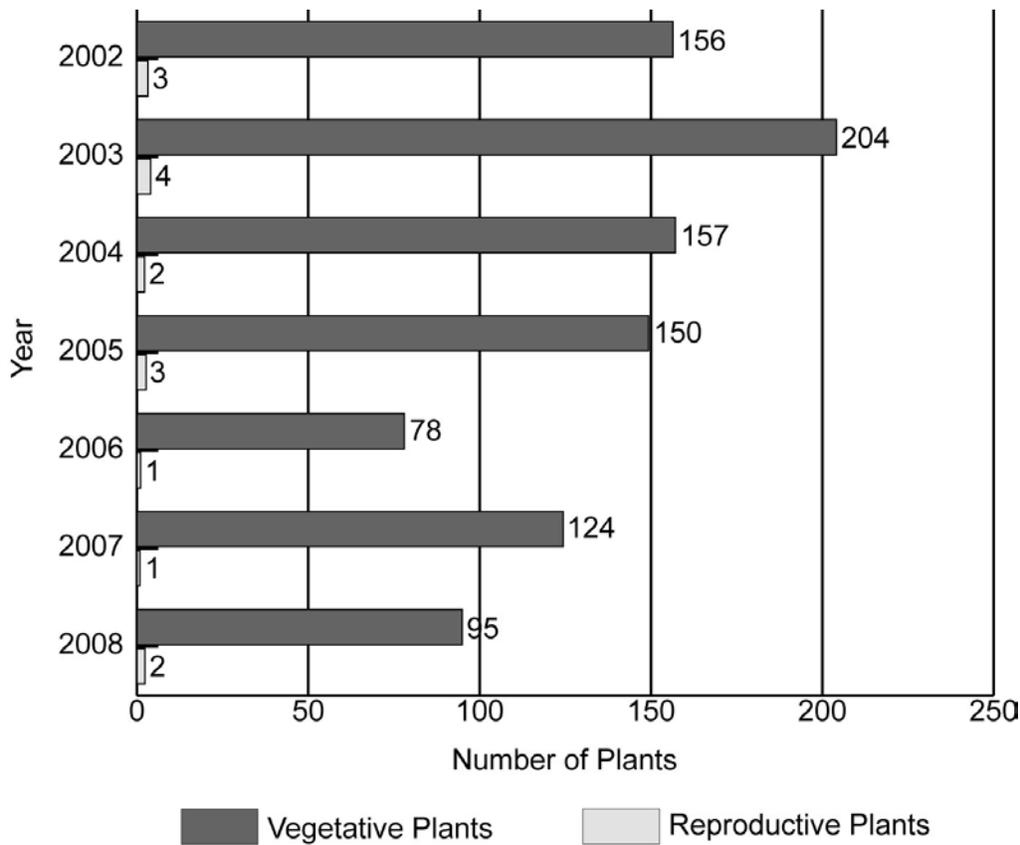


Figure 3. Mean number of vegetative and reproductive *Fritillaria gentneri* plants per plot per year in the Pickett Creek site.



estimate for total number of vegetation and reproductive plants in the upper and below-road subpopulations and the direct census of all flowering plants in the Pickett Creek population (Figure 2).

2. Most individuals at Pickett Creek are very small bulblings, while plants of larger size classes and reproductive stages are much less frequent. In all years, the majority (greater than 97%) of the plants in the population have been vegetative, while fewer than 3% produce flowers (Figure 3). The proportion of flowering individuals in the population was extremely low, suggesting the increase in population size was largely due to recruitment of nonflowering individuals.
3. Continued monitoring of this population is important in order to determine the factors that contribute to the observed variability in population size. This information will be useful for the management of the *F. gentneri* population at Pickett Creek and for guiding monitoring and management of other *F. gentneri* populations.

RECOVERY ACTIONS

The BLM moved forward on recovery actions for Gentner's fritillary in 2007 and 2008 (information for 2007 was not available at the time of the 2007 APS and is included here). This was done as a partnership project with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) collecting



A Gentner's fritillary bulb is collected for propagation.

bulbs and 'bulblets,' growing plants ex situ, outplanting, and monitoring the survival of the plantings. In past years, the BLM developed the protocol for cultivating the rare lily with ODA. See the "Recovery-based cultivation and outplanting of *Fritillaria gentneri* – 2007 Progress Report" by Amsberry and Meinke, ODA, Native Plant Conservation Program for further information. The 2008 formal report is forthcoming from ODA.

In 2007, small Gentner's fritillary bulblets were collected from five plant sites (Table 5) and taken to an Oregon State University nursery for propagation. Over 1,600 propagules (bulblets) were collected and are growing in the nursery. They will be outplanted in a few years when they are big enough.

Table 5. Gentner's Fritillary Bulblets Collected in 2007

Site	Bulblets
Antioch Road	86
Muddy Gulch	780
Pelton Lane	166
Hutton Creek	544
Squires Peak	114

In 2007, three outplanted sites provided sources for bulblets. About 8,200 bulblets were harvested from larger bulbs at these sites and replanted in the nursery in order to make more clones. The outplanted sites were monitored in April 2007 and 2008 for the number of emergent plants (large and small bulbs) (Tables 6 and 7).

Table 6. Gentner's Fritillary Bulblets Harvested and Replanted and Number of Emergent Plants in 2007

Site	Bulblets Harvested	Emergent Plants
Jacksonville Woodlands (City)	1,800	80
Pickett Creek (BLM)	4,300	710
Pilot Rock (BLM)	2,100	300

Table 7. Gentner's Fritillary Emergent Plants (large and small bulbs) in 2008

Site	Emergent Plants
Pickett Creek (BLM)	721
Pilot Rock (BLM)	582
Pilot Rock Pond (BLM)	39
Dodecatheon (BLM)	85
Woods Property (City)	186
Oregon Street (1st planting) (City)	116
Jacksonville Cemetery (City)	101

The formal 2008 report from ODA has not been received at the time of this report; a summary of actions follows.

The ODA collected bulblets from 9 sites to grow in the greenhouse at Corvallis for a few years until they are big enough for outplanting (Table 8).

Table 8. Gentner’s Fritillary Bulblets Collected in 2008

Site	Number of Bulblets
Brushy Creek (BLM)	560
Muddy Gulch (BLM)	720
Squires Peak (BLM)	230
Jacksonville Cemetery (City)	460
Pilot Rock (BLM)	650
Antioch Road (BLM)	180
Dog Creek (BLM)	400
Grants Pass (ODOT)	900

In 2008, the ODA harvested 22,500 bulblets from greenhouse plants and replanted them back into flats at the nursery.

Jacksonville Source	9,500 bulblets
Pickett Creek Source	5,500 bulblets
Pilot Rock Source	7,500 bulblets

In 2008, the ODA and BLM outplanted 4,040 bulbs into existing sites (Table 9).

Table 9. Gentner’s Fritillary Bulbs Outplanted in 2008

Site	Number of Bulbs
Pickett Creek	1,000 large + 500 small
Mariposa Botanical Area	1,040 large
Catholic Wagon Road (Jacksonville Cemetery)	1,050 large
Oregon Street (2nd planting)	450 large

In situ bulblet collection, ex situ production (which can involve harvesting bulblets and replanting to increase numbers), and outplanting back at collection sites or in unoccupied habitat is demonstrating this is a viable way to increase and create populations of this federally listed endangered lily and recover the species. We also see increases in the number of planted plants as planted bulbs start producing bulblets which can break off through natural processes and start growing on their own in a short amount of time. Additional collections and outplantings are scheduled in 2009 per the USFWS recovery plan, if funding is available.

Gentner’s fritillary cytological and pollen viability analysis

In 2007, an important study conducted by ODA looked at populations of Gentner’s fritillary from the Medford BLM. This report, “Continuing investigations of hybridization and fertility of *Fritillaria*

gentneri through cytological evaluations and pollen viability analysis” is available from the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Plant Conservation Program, Corvallis, Oregon.

This study found that interspecific pollinations of scarlet lily (*Fritillaria recurva*) and checkered lily (*F. affinis*) produce capsules and contain viable seeds. These seeds are capable of germination and plants from these interspecific crosses are being cultivated at OSU. The study documented that hybrids are possible between these related species. The study also sequenced the entire genomes of Gentner’s fritillary as well as the related scarlet fritillary and checkered fritillary. The study showed that Gentner’s fritillary is not sterile, but instead is not self compatible or compatible with closely related individuals within a population. When individuals are pollinated with pollen from flowers of the same species from other populations (i.e., Pilot Rock x Jacksonville), the plants produce capsules and viable seed. This likely accounts for the extremely low levels of sexual reproduction at most sites.

Cook’s desert parsley population monitoring

In 2008, the Institute for Applied Ecology, a partner with the BLM, conducted population monitoring at 3 locations of Cook’s desert parsley in the Illinois Valley: French Flat, Rough and Ready ACEC, and Indian Hill. Population size estimates included all life-history stages from seedlings to large reproductive plants.

In 2008, the monitored populations for the French Flat Middle site declined for this listed endangered plant. It is likely climate is the driver of the decline; however, other factors such as habitat changes and voles have been hypothesized as factors. The 2008 report is available online at http://www.appliedeco.org/reports/loco08%20report_agency.pdf.

Lomatium cookii population data for the past 10 years is summarized for the Middle and South French Flat subpopulations, Rough and Ready, and Indian Hill sites (Figures 4-6).

Figure 4. *Lomatium cookii* population data for Middle and South French Flat —1997 to 2008.

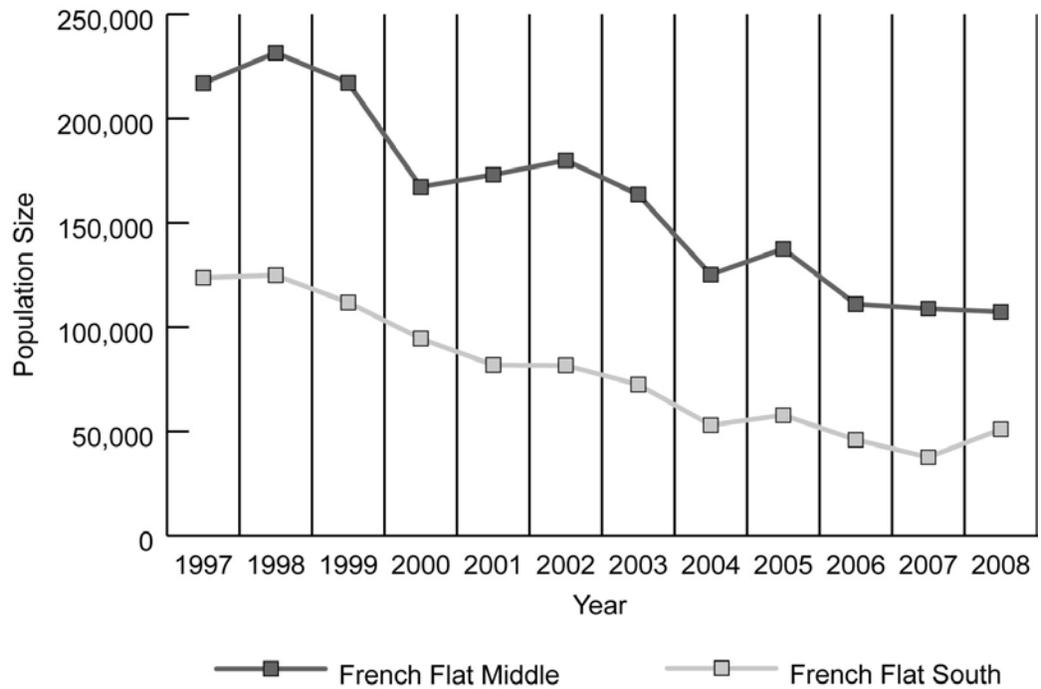


Figure 5. *Lomatium cookii* population data for Rough and Ready ACEC —1997 to 2008.

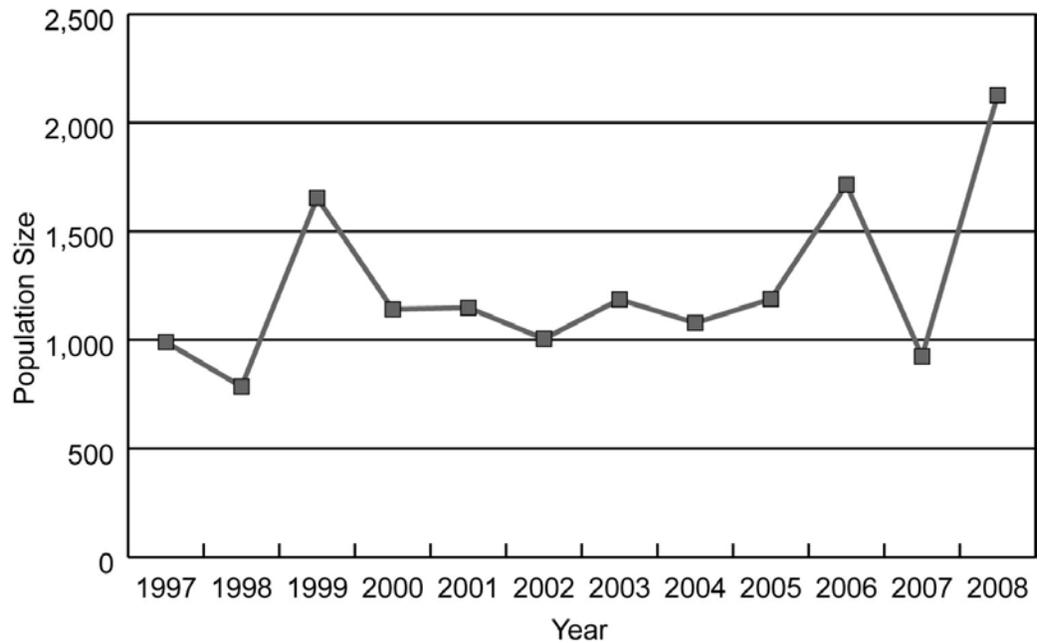
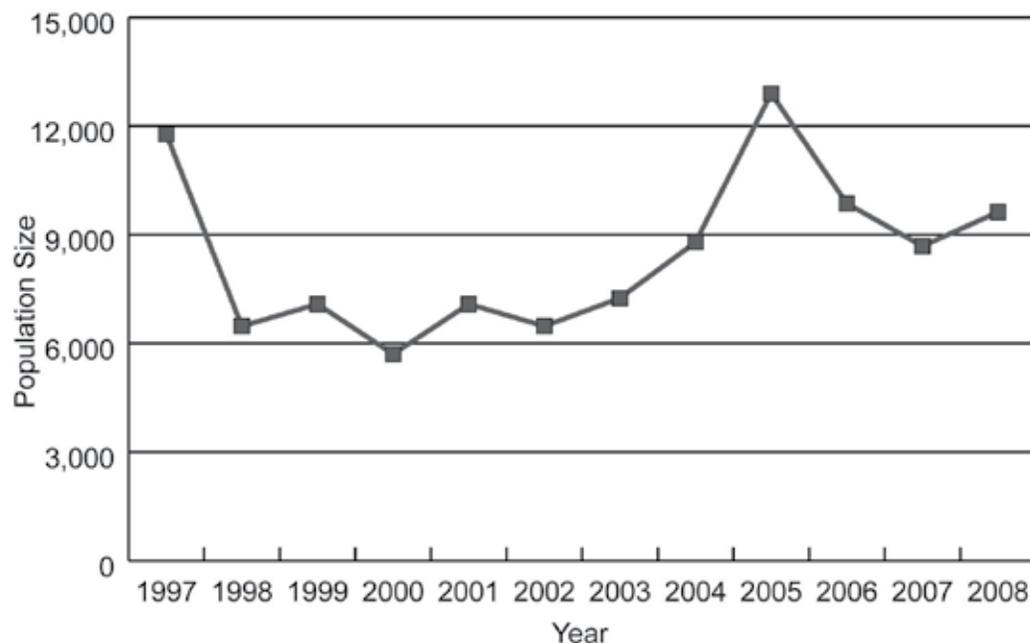


Figure 6. *Lomatium cookii* population data for Indian Hill —1997 to 2008.



Cook's desert parsley pollinator monitoring

In 2007, an important pollinator study occurred under a partnership with Southern Oregon University and Dr. Carol Ferguson. The objective was to document the pollinators of Cook's desert parsley. No studies have looked at pollination for this listed species. The report documented seven different insects from three different insect orders visit the flowers of the Cook's desert parsley. Only two insects, however, appear to be consistent pollinators, the native bees from the Family Andreniidae and several species of native Syrphid flies. This represents the only formal study done on the pollinators and counters anecdotal information that bumblebees are a primary pollinator. It is evident these native pollinators are critical to the survival of this species.



Cook's desert parsley.

Cook's desert parsley reintroduction 2007 - 2008

In 2006 and 2007, the ODA and the Institute for Applied Ecology developed a protocol for collecting germinating Cook's lomatium (*Lomatium cookii*) seed and growing plants ex situ. Portions of this work also became a Master's thesis for a student at Oregon State University working with ODA and Institute for Applied Ecology.

In 2007, we looked at the question of direct seeding as a means to establish new populations of this listed species. In 2008, we continued this but also looked at planting seedlings grown in the greenhouse. Like the listed Gentner’s fritillary, the draft recovery plan for Cook’s lomatium calls for augmentation and outplanting to recover the species.

Direct seeding

Seed was collected in 2006 at the French Flat Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and at The Nature Conservancy’s Agate Desert Preserve. The BLM sowed 2,050 seeds into 30 plots at French Flat. These plots were read in 2007 and 2008¹ (Table 10).

Table 10. *Lomatium cookii* Seed Survival Rate at French Flat for Seeds Collected in 2006

Seed Source	2007	2008
French Flat	7.1%	7.5%
Agate Desert	10.7%	5.7%

In 2007, seeds were collected from French Flat ACEC and, in the winter of 2007, 1,500 seeds were sowed into 20 plots. The survival rate for these seeds in 2008 was 7.5%.

In 2007, seeds from the Agate Desert Preserve were also direct seeded at the Agate Desert. The survival rate for these seeds in 2008 was 35.1%.

Additional monitoring will occur in 2009 depending on funding.

In 2008, plants grown in the Oregon State University greenhouses by ODA and Institute for Applied Ecology were outplanted into 20 plots at French Flat ACEC in the south population and replicated at The Nature Conservancy’s Agate Desert Preserve. This study looked at 7 treatment types, 4 culturing methods (growth medium), and 3 ages of seedlings (just germinated, 1-year-old seedlings and 2-year-old seedlings) (Table 11). More specific information is available in “Exploring methods for *Lomatium cookii* population augmentation, interim report” (Silvernail, Meinke, and Kaye 2008).

Table 11. Survival Rate for Transplanted *Lomatium cookii* Seedlings at French Flat and Agate Desert

Site	Number of Transplants	Survival Rate ¹
French Flat	347	44.2% - 65.8%
Agate Desert	399	10.3% - 66.7%

¹Varies depending on treatment type.

¹The increase in seedling establishment at French Flat meant some germination occurred in the second year or plants were missed in the first year.

These populations will be monitored again in 2009 and a 2-year survival rate be documented. Initial observations indicate that planting small seedlings, rather than direct seeding, is the more effective method to reintroduce the species, and that seed collection, ex situ growing, and outplanting back into the wild is an effective means of recovery.

Siskiyou mariposa lily (*Calochortus persistens*) – Candidate

Monitoring of the only Federal candidate plant species (*Calochortus persistens*) occurring on the BLM in Oregon found the plant extant and several plants flowered this year (the population has less than 10 plants). The rest of the population occurs just south of the Rogue River Valley in the mountains near Yreka, California. In its range, this species and its habitat are threatened from off-highway vehicle use on ridgelines and by competition from noxious weeds. Annual revisits will continue. A Conservation Assessment for this species was due out in 2007 but has not been completed. USFWS has not made a determination on whether to list this species. This species remains a candidate for Federal listing.

SENSITIVE SPECIES MONITORING

Monitoring was completed for a handful of sensitive species in 2008:

- Greene's mariposa lily (Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument grazing study)
- Clustered lady slipper orchid
- Howell's lily (serpentine endemic)

All monitoring was completed and reports are available at the Medford District Office on request.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

The 1995 ROD/RMP designated areas on the Medford District that may need special management such as Areas of Environmental Concern (ACECs) and Research Natural Areas (RNAs).

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

WOPR is evaluating 25 areas for designation as ACEC on BLM lands across western Oregon.

The following 7 existing ACECs on the Medford District were found to meet the relevance and importance criteria for ACECs:

- Crooks Creek (147 acres)
- Eight Dollar Mountain (1,249 acres)
- French Flat (651 acres)
- King Mountain Rock Garden (68 acres)
- Poverty Flat (29 acres)
- Rough and Ready (1,189 acres)
- Table Rocks ACEC and Outstanding Natural Area (1,244 acres)

The draft WOPR proposed five potential ACECs that will be analyzed in the final WOPR:

- Cobleigh Road (250 acres)
- Dakubetede Wildland (1,814 acres)
- East Fork Whiskey Creek (3,189 acres)
- Pickett Creek (32 acres)
- Waldo-Takilma (1,760 acres)

The proposed Whiskey Creek ACEC (640 acres) was not evaluated for ACEC status in the WOPR, but will be managed under interim management until the District evaluates the ACEC designation under a future plan amendment.

RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS

All 12 of the existing RNAs (10,400 acres) were found to meet the relevance and importance criteria for ACECs and were proposed to move forward for inclusion in the WOPR (Table 12). The BLM felt these RNAs furthered the O&C Act by providing baseline information on timbered (and nontimbered) plant communities.

Table 12. Existing Research Natural Areas included in the WOPR

RNA Name	Acres
Woodcock Bog	265
Oregon Gulch	1,051
Scotch Creek	1,799
Round Top Butte	605
Brewer Spruce	1,707
Grayback Glades	1,069
North Fork Silver Creek	499
Pipe Fork	516
Holten Creek	421
Lost Lake	387
Old Baldy*	166
Bobby Creek	1,915
* In conjunction with Klamath Falls Resource Area	

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The District's cultural program provided cultural and historic input into the Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project, WOPR, Butte Falls Resource Area Blowdown Timber Sales, a proposed land exchange project, and numerous small projects.

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

RURAL INTERFACE AREAS

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

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

The BLM manages rural interface areas encompassing approximately 136,000 acres within 0.25 mile of private land zoned for 1- to 5-acre or 5- to 20-acre lots located throughout the Medford District.

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

SOCIOECONOMIC

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

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

MONETARY PAYMENTS

The BLM contributes financially to the local economy in a variety of ways. One of these ways is through monetary payments. They include Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and O&C Payments. Payments of each type were made in fiscal year 2008 as directed in current legislation. The specific amounts paid to the counties under each revenue-sharing program in fiscal year 2008 are displayed in Table 13.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

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

Benton		\$205,518.79	\$2,701,104.04		\$2,935,982.65
Clackamas		\$405,917.89	\$5,334,920.79		\$5,798,826.95
Columbia		\$150,665.02	\$1,980,168.80		\$2,152,357.39
Coos		\$431,516.31	\$5,671,357.24		\$6,164,518.74
Coos (CBWR)		\$54,022.72	\$710,012.90		\$771,753.15
Curry		\$266,955.01	\$3,508,551.51		\$3,813,642.95
Douglas		\$1,832,115.86	\$24,079,237.07		\$26,173,083.77
Douglas (CBWR)		\$9,766.06	\$128,353.97		\$139,515.18
Jackson		\$1,146,078.07	\$15,062,740.32		\$16,372,543.83
Josephine		\$883,511.36	\$11,611,863.63		\$12,621,590.90
Klamath		\$18,336.83	\$2,096,511.03		\$2,444,910.82
Lane		\$1,116,822.72	\$14,678,241.52		\$15,954,610.35
Lincoln		\$11,284.20	\$331,003.31		\$376,140.13
Linn		\$193,085.26	\$2,537,692.05		\$2,758,360.92
Marion		\$106,782.00	\$1,403,420.61		\$1,525,457.18
Multnomah		\$79,720.81	\$1,047,759.22		\$1,138,868.72
Polk		\$157,978.85	\$2,076,293.50		\$2,256,840.76
Tillamook		\$0	\$497,340.83		\$585,106.86
Washington		\$0	\$559,508.44		\$658,245.22
Yamhill		\$52,659.62	\$692,097.83		\$752,280.25
Total		\$7,122,737.38	\$96,708,178.61		\$105,394,636.72

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

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

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

RECREATION

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

Medford District BLM provides developed campgrounds at Hyatt Lake, Tucker Flat, Elderberry Flat, and Skull Creek. Developed



day-use sites occur along the Recreation Section of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River and at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, and Hyatt Lake. Interpretive trails and sites are located at Eight Dollar Mountain, Table Rocks, Hyatt Lake, Gold Nugget, Rand Administrative Site, and three National Register Sites—Whisky Creek Cabin, Rogue River Ranch, and Smullin Visitor Center at Rand. A hang-gliding site is maintained at Woodrat Mountain. A winter tubing hill and a system of cross country and snowmobile trails are managed near Hyatt Lake.

The BLM's Environmental Education program provides outstanding opportunities for the public to learn about BLM lands and resources. BLM environmental educators conducted interpretive hikes on the Table Rocks for more than 4,200 school children. Environmental education opportunities were also provided for 2,500 children and adults during the summer and fall months at McGregor Visitor Center, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineer facility operated by the BLM.

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

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

Hyatt Lake
Recreation Area
offers camping,
boating, fishing,
hiking, picnicking,
and horseback riding.

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

The 5,867-acre Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area, as well as the developments at Hyatt Lake, are now encompassed by the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. The Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area continues to be managed under the nonimpairment criteria of the *Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review*, pending Congressional action.

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

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

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

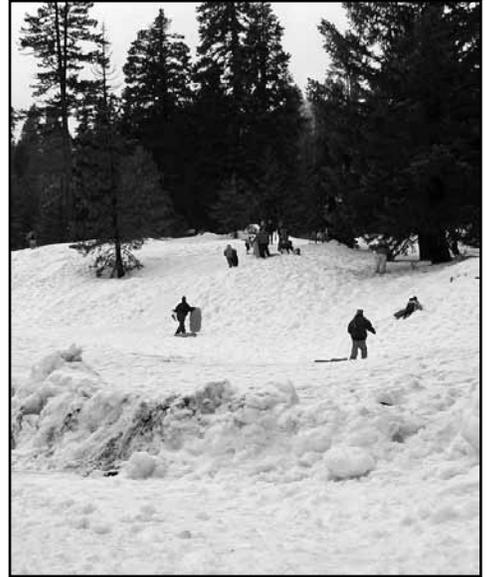


Table Mountain
Winter Play Area.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

The Medford District manages 866,000 acres of land located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos counties. Under the Medford District ROD/RMP and Northwest Forest Plan, lands administered by the Medford District were assigned specific land

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

The Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District ROD/RMP provide for a sustainable timber harvest, known as the allowable sale quantity (ASQ), from Medford District lands of 57.1 MMBF (million board feet) annually. Due to a number of legal challenges affecting western Oregon, the District has not offered its full ASQ for several years. In fiscal year 2008, Medford was committed to offering 46.7 MMBF, a decrease of 10.4 MMBF from fiscal year 2007, in order to ramp up for increased harvest in 2010 resulting from the WOPR. As a result of continuing litigation on Biological Opinions from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the District offered 28 MMBF of timber for sale in fiscal year 2008. The majority of the 28 MMBF offered was timber salvaged from a significant windstorm that occurred in the eastern portion of the District.

The Medford District held 11 public timber sale auctions in fiscal year 2008, offering a total volume of 27.6 MMBF. Additional volume from negotiated sales, stewardship contracts, and modifications to ongoing sales brought the total offered volume up to 28 MMBF (Table 15). Table data are for all advertised “Offered” timber sales.

Table 15. Timber Harvest Volume Offered for Sale on Medford District by Land Use Allocation

Land Use Allocation	Offered Volume Fiscal Year 2008		Total Volume (MBF) 2005 to 2014
	MBF	CCF	
Adaptive Management Area	0	0	18,098
Northern GFMA	26,525	47,745	64,819
Southern GFMA	1,086	1,955	14,121
Connectivity/Diversity Block	0	0	234
Miscellaneous*	150	270	4,424
Total from ASQ Lands	27,761	49,970	101,696
Late-Successional Reserve	0	0	5,435
Riparian Reserve	0	0	0
Hardwood	0	0	5
Total District Volume	27,761	49,970	107,136
District Target Volume	57,100	102,780	153,847

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

SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

In fiscal year 2008, the Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program. Among these products were boughs, burls, Christmas trees, edibles and medicinals, floral and greenery, mushrooms, and wood products (Table 16).

Table 16. Special Forest Products Sales for Fiscal Year 2008

Product	Number of Contracts	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Sold Value
Boughs, Coniferous	65	189,410	pounds	\$5,343.50
Burls and Miscellaneous	1	1,000	pounds	\$90.00
Christmas Trees	1,100	1,100	permits	\$5,500.00
Ornamentals	0	0	items	0
Edibles and Medicinals	5	1,700	pounds	\$169.50
Floral and Greenery	158	253,650	pounds	\$7,603.50
Mosses-Bryophytes	2	300	pounds	\$12.00
Mushrooms-Fungi	63	12,650.5	pounds	\$1,967.00
Seed and Seed Cones	1	60	bushels	\$12.50
Transplants	2	25	items	\$13.75
Wood Products	260	903,330	cubic feet	\$49,501.11
Total	559			\$70,212.86

ENERGY AND MINERALS

ENERGY

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

Biomass produced during fuel reduction thinning and forest management activities is used for energy production. This material is converted into electrical energy through burning in closed systems. Biomass can also be converted into fuels such as methane, ethanol, and hydrogen.

MINERAL MATERIALS

The Medford District manages three types of minerals—locatable, salable, and leasable. Locatable minerals include minerals such as gold and silver that are subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims. The District contains 850 mining claims covering about 20,000 acres. Salable minerals are high volume, low value mineral

resources including common varieties of rock, clay, decorative stone, sand, and gravel. The District manages 300 rock quarries where salable minerals are extracted. Leasable minerals include oil, gas, geothermal, and coal. These may be leased to private interests by the Federal government. The District manages no leasable minerals.

Numerous existing rock quarries provided mineral materials for the public and for BLM management activities. BLM use included road repair and surfacing for timber sales, rip rap for fish weir projects, and culvert replacement. Private use for fiscal year 2008 included over 50 permits for decorative rock and renewal of a long-term lease. No quarries were opened or closed.

BLM geologists are responsible for a wide variety of activities within the minerals program. They administer or adjudicate issues on Federal mining claims, validate title evidence, review mineral validity reports, and provide guidance for surface use management and use and occupancy under the mining laws. They retain records of mineral surveys and patents, service Federal minerals contest actions, process lease applications for minerals and mineral materials, and review and adjudicate permits to prospect for solid minerals. In addition to these functions, they also prepare and service mineral resource decisions, notices, and other legal documents.

MINING

The Medford District completed four large and numerous smaller occupancy trespass cases, mostly located on mining claims. District staff assisted the Department of Justice and BLM Solicitors with the brief for a pending mining claim patent case in the 4th Circuit Court and the brief for the same case in the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Additional mining-related work included completing resampling on a pending patent exam, processing all notices of intent in a timely manner, closing out over 20 expired notices, and granting occupancy concurrence to some of the notices of intent. The District also completed more than 100 inspections of mining claim occupancies, plans of operation, and notices of intent.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS

No land sales, purchases, donations, or exchanges occurred within the District in fiscal year 2008.

ACCESS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Because public and private lands are intermingled within the District boundary, landowners must cross the lands of other landowners in order to gain access to their lands and resources such as timber. Throughout most of the District, this has been accomplished through 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 fiscal year 2008, the District continued developing Transportation Management Objectives for all roads controlled by the Bureau. The Medford District controls about 4,700 miles of road. Transportation management objectives are used to support watershed analysis and to determine candidate roads for the decommissioning process. Road inventories, watershed analyses, and individual timber sale projects identified some roads and associated drainage features that posed a risk to aquatic or other resource values. The BLM identified the following activities to reduce the risk:

- Surfacing dirt roads
- Replacing deteriorated culverts
- Replacing log fill culverts
- Replacing undersized culverts in perennial streams to accommodate 100-year flood events

Other efforts reduced overall road miles by closing or eliminating roads.

The District did not decommission any roads in fiscal year 2008; 0.5 mile of road was closed by a gate. Since the RMP was signed in 1995, approximately 436 miles of roads have been closed and 183 miles have been decommissioned.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous materials are 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. The District's hazardous materials coordinator participated in a number of actions involving investigations or cleanup of reported hazardous waste sites and employee and public awareness training.

The District completed annual instruction and education on hazardous materials to bring BLM employees current on hazardous materials, material safety data sheets, and Community Right-to-Know classes.

The following actions were completed in 2008:

- The District's hazardous materials storage building had an incorrect ventilation system that was resolved and accepted by the Compliance Assessment - Safety, Health, and the Environment inspecting team. The hazardous material locker was changed so access is minimal and compatibility is no longer a problem.
- Vandals did serious damage to the lands and communication site leased by California Oregon Broadcasting, Incorporated (COBI) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Vandalism caused over 2,000 gallons of diesel fuel to spill and soak into the roadway. The site required extensive clean-up. The assessment and clean-up was handled by the BLM and COBI. Total clean-up took approximately 14 days. COBI and FAA shared in the clean-up cost.
- The District continued water quality monitoring at Almeda Mine and began negotiating for additional clean-up costs. The District requested funding to complete an environmental site assessment and to place limestone in the channels to prevent the acid mine drainage from reaching the Rogue River.
- The Medford District passed the 2-year Compliance Assessment - Safety, Health, and the Environment inspection with 80% compliance and was able to amend and fix areas on the spot as well as meet the deadline to address additional areas.
- The BLM exchanged dangerous wet-celled batteries at Rogue River Ranch for gel-filled batteries to avoid problems with



The historic Almeda Mine on the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River.

continued battery maintenance. The District was able to save \$800 by exchanging the batteries.

- The District continues to see abandoned tires on BLM lands and recycled more than 280 tires found on BLM land during 2008.
- Clean-up work on several hazardous waste dumps, including household and animal waste was completed with the District geologist.
- The District's Lands and Realty program continued work on restoration and clean-up of illegal occupancy on mining sites.

WILDFIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

WILDFIRE

The 2008 fire season began June 16 and ended October 10, lasting 117 days. Wildland fire potential indicators predicted normal activity for large fires throughout the Pacific Northwest. The 2008 fire season in southwest Oregon resulted in an average wildfire year.

Oregon Department of Forestry provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District through a cost reimbursable contract. For the 2008 fire season, the District experienced 57 wildfires which burned a total of 1,368 acres, an increase from last year. Of the 57 fires, 42 were lightning caused and burned 1,300 acres. Human-caused fire starts totaled 15 and burned 67.5 acres.



The lightning-caused Doubleday Fire burned 1,240 acres

FUELS MANAGEMENT

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

Since 1996, when landscape-scale projects began showing accomplishments, the Medford District has completed 204,687

acres of hazardous fuels reduction and site preparation by burning or mechanical means. In 2008, 10,945 acres were treated using prescribed fire and 10,312 acres were treated by hand or with mechanical methods.

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 approximately 352,313 acres of the Medford District's 866,000 total acres.



Grazing is one of the many multiple uses on 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 these lands are properly managed, the Bureau conducts monitoring studies to help BLM managers determine if resource objectives are being met.

Current grazing regulations direct the BLM to manage livestock grazing in accordance with the August 12, 1997 "Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands in Oregon and Washington." The fundamental characteristics of rangeland health combine physical function and biological health with elements of law relating to water quality, and

plant and animal populations and communities. Assessments of rangeland health are underway and will be completed on grazing allotments over a 10-year period.

Following the evaluation and determination of rangeland health, lease renewals are subject to the appropriate level of environmental analysis as prescribed under the NEPA. Under existing law (Public Law 108-108, Section 325), grazing leases that expire during fiscal years 2004-2008 prior to the completion of the lease renewal process will 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 applicable laws and regulations.

An update of the Medford District Rangeland Program Summary was completed in 2001 and summarized changes that occurred since the previous update. Copies of this document are available

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

by contacting the Medford District Office. All future updates will be reported annually in the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

FISCAL YEAR 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

RANGELAND HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

Rangeland health assessments are completed on each allotment prior to consideration of grazing lease renewal. These assessments are conducted by an interdisciplinary team of resource specialists who assess ecological processes, watershed functioning condition, water quality conditions, special status species, and wildlife habitat conditions on an allotment. Assessments include field visits to the allotments and evaluation of all available data. The following Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations were completed for the following allotments in 2008 (Table 17).

Table 17. Rangeland Health Assessments Completed in Fiscal Year 2008

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Soda Mountain*	10110	35,619 acres
Keene Creek*	10115	23,643 acres
Jenny Creek*	10108	1,417 acres
Deadwood*	20106	8,004 acres
Box R*	10137	88 acres
Buck Point	10114	3,385 acres
*All or a portion of the allotment is located within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.		

LEASE RENEWALS

The following allotment leases were renewed in fiscal year 2008 on the Medford District (Table 18):

Table 18. Medford District Grazing Lease Renewals in Fiscal Year 2008

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Antelope Road	10132	200 acres
Yankee Reservoir	10134	120 acres
Canal	10136	440 acres
Brownsboro	10133	80 acres
Poole Hill	20113	1,760 acres

ALLOTMENT MONITORING



Monitoring plots help the BLM evaluate grazing impacts.

Medford District collected monitoring data on 12 grazing allotments in fiscal year 2008. This information is being used in evaluations to determine whether or not allotments are meeting BLM's Oregon/Washington Standards for Rangeland Health and in completion of the lease renewal process.

CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT

LIVESTOCK IMPACT STUDIES

The 2001 Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (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 completing literature reviews designed to determine “the impacts of livestock grazing on the objects of biological interest in the monument with specific attention to sustaining the natural ecosystem dynamics” as directed by the presidential proclamation. The Medford District formally released the results of the CSNM Livestock Impacts Studies to the ranchers and the public in January 2008. *Reader's Guide for the Livestock Impacts Study in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument* is available on the Medford District Web site.

RANGELAND HEALTH ASSESSMENT DETERMINATIONS AND DETERMINATION OF COMPATIBILITY

The results of the CSNM Livestock Impacts Studies were used in an evaluation to determine whether or not the allotments were meeting the Oregon Standards for Rangeland Health and to help determine if livestock grazing is “incompatible with protecting the objects of biological interest.” The Medford District released the CSNM Rangeland Health Assessments on current grazing practices and the determination of current livestock grazing compatibility with the CSNM proclamation in July 2008.

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PLANNED WORK

The following Rangeland Health Assessments, Evaluations, and Determinations and NEPA requirements for allotment lease renewals are planned for 2009 (Tables 19 and 20).

RANGELAND HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

Table 19. Allotments to Receive Rangeland Health Assessments in Fiscal Year 2009

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Conde	20117	5,346 acres
Lake Creek Spring	10121	4,679 acres
Lake Creek Summer	10122	5,561 acres
Deer Creek Reno	10124	4,025 acres
Cove Ranch	10143	80 acres
North Cove Creek	10148	281 acres
Foots Creek	20219	115 acres
Devon South	10043	402 acres
Bull Run	10023	40 acres
Reese Creek	10027	40 acres
Crowfoot Creek	10039	521 acres
Cove Creek	10112	1,207 acres
Lower Big Applegate	20206	11,712, acres
Howard Prairie	10116	320 acres
Billy Mountain	20203	4,758 acres
Grizzly	10119	378 acres

LEASE RENEWALS

Table 20. Allotments Scheduled for Lease Renewals in Fiscal Year 2009

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Devon South	10043	402 acres
Bull Run	10023	40 acres
Reese Creek	10027	40 acres
Crowfoot Creek	10039	521 acres
Buck Point	10114	3,835 acres
Cove Ranch	10143	80 acres
North Cove Creek	10148	281 acres
Foots Creek	20219	115 acres
Soda Mountain*	10110	35,619 acres
Keene Creek*	10115	23,643 acres
Jenny Creek*	10108	1,417 acres
Deadwood*	20106	8,004 acres
Box R*	10137	88 acres
Conde	20117	5,346 acres
Lake Creek Spring	10121	4,679 acres
Lake Creek Summer	10122	5,561 acres
Deer Creek Reno	10124	4,025 acres



Table 20. Allotments Scheduled for Lease Renewals in Fiscal Year 2009

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	BLM Acres
Cove Creek	10112	1,207 acres
Heppsie Mountain	10126	4,076 acres
Lower Big Applegate	20206	11,712, acres
Howard Prairie	10116	320 acres
Billy Mountain	20203	4,758 acres
Grizzly	10119	378 acres
Flat Creek	10002	12,421 acres
Summit Prairie	10031	30,743 acres
*All or a portion of the allotment is located within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument		

CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT

The results of the Rangeland Health Assessment Determinations and Determination of Compatibility will be used in the planning process to help the BLM develop alternatives and make decisions to reauthorize or cancel leases. The District is working to complete the CSNM grazing decisions prior to the 2009 grazing season.

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 1 year of care. The Medford District completed compliance checks on 16 adopters for a total of 19 horses to ensure proper care of adopted animals. Titles were issued to 18 adopters for a total of 21 horses and 3 burros.

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

- Provided foster care and training for one wild horse for four months until a new adopter could be found. During this time the volunteer provided gentling practices such as touching and grooming and training exercises such as haltering, leading, and tolerance of hoof care and handling.
- Conducted compliance inspections.

CADASTRAL SURVEY

Cadastral surveys create, retrace, mark, define, or reestablish the boundaries and subdivisions of public lands in the United States. The Cadastral Survey Program on the Medford District was centralized at the beginning of fiscal year 2007. While land survey crews remain physically located on the District, employees are now a part of the OR/WA 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 Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Crews surveyed 38 miles of line and established monuments on 58 corners in support of the Medford District timber program in fiscal year 2008. Crews also completed two reimbursable projects for the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and the Bureau of Reclamation, adding 16 survey miles and 28 corners to the total Cadastral Survey Program accomplishments by the end of the fiscal year.

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

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ACTION PLAN

In 2008, the Medford District Outreach Committee combined with Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest employees to form the new "Service First" Southern Oregon Regional Outreach Committee (SOROC!). The new committee is responsible for dual outreach at events which appropriately characterize common themes shared by the two Agencies.

Currently, SOROC! is creating a new *Service First Community Outreach and Action Plan* which will outline the Committee's outreach efforts on three levels: Joint Outreach Activities, Forest Service Only Outreach Activities, and BLM Only Outreach Activities. This new document will address the priority goals of each agency as well as outline common goals between the agencies which will be used as Themes for Outreach.

In fiscal year 2008, the District made more than 216,000 outreach contacts.

The *Service First Community Outreach and Action Plan* will provide an effective public education and outreach program that demonstrates both the Agencies' and the public's roles in the management and use of natural resources. The objectives will be to continue to improve communication between the Agencies and the general public; to increase the public's understanding of and support for BLM and Forest Service missions, programs, and activities; and to improve public stewardship of public lands. The BLM will focus on five key messages:

1. Forest Management
2. Fire and Fuels
3. Off-highway Vehicle Use
4. Management of Special Areas (Rogue National Wild and Scenic River and Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument)
5. Watershed Restoration

SOROC! OUTREACH EVENTS AND SHOWS

In 2008, SOROC! included in its outreach efforts the Jackson County Fair and several smaller events and in-school programs that were traditional for the Forest Service. For larger events, SOROC! created educational exhibits, distributed educational materials, and provided professional staffing. The following are some of the larger venues events staffed by SOROC!:

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

OTHER OUTREACH AND EVENTS

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

National Public Lands Day events combine BLM employees and local volunteers to accomplish maintenance and restoration activities on public lands. Some of these events include multiple government agencies. The events also supplied forest management and watershed

restoration education opportunities for the volunteers. National Public Lands Day events for the Medford District in fiscal year 2008 were Rogue River Greenway Restoration Projects (Gold Hill and Gold Nugget area), Eight Dollar Mountain Interpretive Trail Construction, and Rogue River Cleanup.

ANNUAL FREE FISHING EVENTS

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

JOSEPHINE COUNTY ANNUAL TREE PLANT

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

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Environmental education encompasses interpretive and educational hikes and presentations given by environmental education specialists, District 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.

TABLE ROCKS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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



A portion of the trash collected during Rogue River Cleanup

MCGREGOR PARK ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM



McGregor Park and Visitor Center
 McGregor Park is located 30 miles northeast of Medford, Oregon on the banks of the beautiful Rogue River. The park is situated along the Rogue-Umpqua Scenic Byway (Highway 62) just below Lost Creek Lake and near Cole Rivers Fish Hatchery. Barrier-free facilities at McGregor Park provide access to restrooms, trails, picnic areas, a playground, fishing ramps, interpretive displays, and wildlife and salmon viewing.

The US Army Corps of Engineer's McGregor Park Visitor Center is operated in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). BLM staff is on-hand to answer questions and provide information on the area. The Visitor Center displays information on Lost Creek Dam and area plants, wildlife, geology, and cultural history. Interactive exhibits provide fun, hands-on exploration for kids (and adults).
 The McGregor Park Visitor Center is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday through Sunday and Holidays (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day).

In addition to staffing the Visitor Center, BLM interpreters provide a summer and fall environmental education program that focuses on natural and cultural history of the area and local resource management issues.
 This program is available to groups on request. Contact the BLM at 541-618-2200 for more information.

The McGregor Park facilities are located along the Rogue-Umpqua National Scenic Byway (Highway 62) just below Lost Creek Dam. The facilities include a visitor center and park that are made available through a unique partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the BLM. The program uses a combination of outdoor and indoor settings to expose public and school groups to natural and cultural history and regional resource management challenges. Participants are led through hands-on, interactive, educational stations with activities and illustrative kits, interpretive hikes, and subject-specific presentations. During the 2008 season, the center featured displays on fire ecology and fire management, watershed health and the riparian zone, salmon lifecycle, and Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

PUBLIC SCHOOL OUTREACH

An 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 our educational programs, either at the schools or in an outdoor environment on BLM lands.

Table 21. Medford District Outreach Programs for Fiscal Year 2008

Program	Participants
“Take It Outside” Presentation to Medford Rotary Club	30
Boys and Trade Career Fair	195
Girls and Trade Career Fair	215
Table Rocks Classroom Presentations	3,144
Table Rocks Hikes	4,165
Earth Day	400
Evans Valley Earth Day	45
Latino Kids and Bugs	95
Bear Creek Watershed Education Partners Symposium	200
Shady Cave Wildflower Show	110
OSU Education Day at McGregor Park	60
Summer McGregor Park Visitor Center	1,176
OSU Migrant Education Day at McGregor Park	45
Fall McGregor Park Environmental Education	1,447
Salmon Watch at McGregor Park	225
Salmon Festival	350
Salmon Viewing at McGregor Park	6
Ashland High School Storytelling Workshop	12

Table 21. Medford District Outreach Programs for Fiscal Year 2008

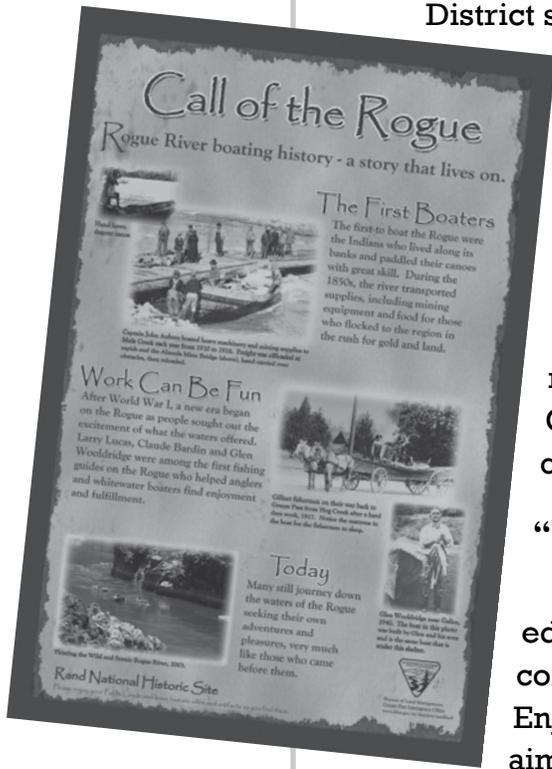
Program	Participants
Hoover Elementary School Science Fair	100
Three Rivers School District Science Fair	100
Josephine County Tree Plant	1,000
Pinehurst School	30
Orange County, CA School	12
Kids Unlimited Junior Ranger Program	50
Eagle Point High School	125
Josephine County Fair	5,000
Jackson County Fair	500
Josephine County Master Gardeners Show	300
Jackson County Master Gardeners Show	300
Jackson County Sportsmen's Show	1,000
KTVL Kids Day	300
National Public Lands Day	380
Stewardship/Fuels/Restoration Presentations to Landowner Groups	200
Presentations to Organizations	800
Total Outreach Events and Presentations	22,138
Medford District Web Site	67,879
Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Web Site (operational for 1 week in fiscal year 2008)	1,000
Total Web-based Outreach	68,879
MIO/GPIO/Rand - Front Desk and Telephone Outreach	125,000+
Total Outreach for Fiscal Year 2008	216,017

OUTREACH MEDIA/MATERIALS/DISPLAYS

In 2008, the District reached the public using various media such as television, magazines, newspapers, Congressional briefings, and radio. Outreach materials and displays included production of interpretive panels, interpretive plans, brochures, informational flyers, educational displays, classroom curricula, and educational web sites.

Several existing displays were redesigned to better reflect the Service First theme and several new displays were created to include Forest Service priority goals. Our displays were not only used at outreach events, but were also used, in whole or in part, for public meetings at the Medford Interagency Office and Grants Pass Interagency Office, for internal District functions, and for loan to Partner organizations.

Several District brochures were updated, redesigned, and reprinted; two new brochures were created; and District funds were contributed to reprinting the Jacksonville Woodlands Brochure.



District staff created and positioned 12 to 15 formal interpretive panels at locations throughout the District such as trailheads, Rand Visitor Center, and historic sites. Additionally, two new bulletin boards were created and installed at Cathedral Hill Trailhead.

The Medford District's public Web site, consisting of 70 pages of information, was expanded and maintained with over 300 updates entered in 2008. The Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Web site was created and is up and running.

“TAKE IT OUTSIDE” PROGRAM

Leah Schrodtt, the Table Rocks environmental education program lead, was a member of the national committee in charge of heading up the “Take It Outside: Enjoy Your Public Lands” initiative. This initiative is aimed at getting young people outside and engaged in and connected to our public lands. Leah was also the state lead for the initiative.

OUTREACH PARTNERS

The District could not have achieved the extensive outreach we did without the numerous partners who complement BLM's resource management message and increase the overall effectiveness and success of the many events in which we participated. Our partners include local, state, and Federal agencies; special interest groups and organizations; watershed councils; SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism); public and private schools, colleges, and universities; private businesses; and service organizations.



COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

Consultation and coordination with all levels of government have been ongoing and are a standard practice in the Medford District. On the Federal level, the District consults with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service and NOAA Fisheries Service on matters relating to federally listed threatened or endangered species. The District coordinates its activities with the 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, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. On a local level, the District consults with Native American tribal organizations and with Jackson and Josephine counties.

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

The following projects were selected and funded at the listed level (Table 22):

Table 22. Resource Advisory Committee Selected Projects for Fiscal Year 2008

Project Name	Project Number	County	RAC Recommended Funding
Cow Creek Byway Railroad Crossing	118-807	Douglas	\$58,549
Roadside Brushing	118-809	Douglas	\$55,000
Water Sources Inventory and Maintenance	118-815	Douglas	\$25,000
South Douglas County Water Availability III	118-802	Douglas	\$58,682
Forest Road – Signing and Maintenance	118-814	Douglas	\$25,000
Young Stand Management	118-810	Douglas	\$50,000
Knapweed Control and Eradication	118-806	Douglas	\$0
Noxious Weed Control and Management (county)	118-805	Douglas	\$22,000
Noxious Weed Control and Management (BLM)	118-804	Douglas	\$75,578
Umpqua Basin Fish Barrier Inventory and Scoring	118-803	Douglas	\$0
Young Stand Management	118-801	Curry	\$44,444
Roadside Brushing – Curry County	118-808	Curry	\$16,096
Rogue River Trail/ Bridge Maintenance	117-816	Curry	\$37,777
No funds were allocated to Jackson and Josephine counties.			

PLANNING AND NEPA DOCUMENTS

PLAN MAINTENANCE

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

PLAN MAINTENANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Previous plan maintenance has been published in past Medford District Annual Program Summaries. The following additional items were implemented on the Medford District as part of the plan maintenance during fiscal year 2008. 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.

No plan maintenance was undertaken in fiscal year 2008.

MONITORING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

INTRODUCTION

This document represents the thirteenth monitoring report of the 1995 Medford District ROD/RMP. This monitoring report compiles the results of implementation monitoring of the thirteenth year of implementation of the RMP. Included in this report are the projects that occurred from October 2007 through September 2008. 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 I, 1995 Medford District ROD/RMP).

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

MONITORING OVERVIEW

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

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

MONITORING RESULTS AND FINDINGS

Implementation monitoring was based on a process developed by the Medford District Research and Monitoring Committee. Projects were randomly selected for implementation monitoring for the period from October 2007 to September 2008.

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 2008 was based on the following stratification:
 - All advertised timber sales
 - All silvicultural projects
 - Riparian restoration projects
 - Fish habitat enhancement projects
 - Wildlife habitat restoration projects
 - Fuels reduction projects
 - Road restoration projects
 - Miscellaneous projects
2. A random number was selected, with every fifth project from the list selected to be monitored (the monitoring plan in the ROD required 20 percent of projects within each area to be monitored.)
3. The NEPA documents, watershed analysis files, and Late-Successional Reserve Assessments applicable to each of the selected projects were reviewed and compared to answer the first part of the implementation monitoring question:

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

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT MONITORING

Table 23. Types and Numbers of Projects by Resource Area for Fiscal Year 2008

Project Type	Resource Area				District Total
	Ashland	Butte Falls	Glendale	Grants Pass	
Timber Sale	1	2	0	3	6
Silviculture	2	5	1	1	9
Riparian	0	1	0	0	1
Fish Habitat	0	1	0	0	1
Wildlife Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	2	2	1	2	7
Road Restoration	0	0	0	0	0
Other	34	27	4	7	72
Total	39	38	6	13	96

Table 24. Types and Numbers of Projects Selected for Monitoring by Resource Area for Fiscal Year 2008

Project Type	Resource Area				District Total
	Ashland	Butte Falls	Glendale	Grants Pass	
Timber Sales	1	0	0	1	2
Silviculture	0	1	0	0	1
Riparian	0	1	0	0	1
Fish Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Habitat	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	0	1	0	0	1
Road Restoration	0	0	0	0	0
Other	7	5	1	2	15
Total	8	8	1	3	20

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

The Medford District started or completed 97 projects from October 2007 through September 2008. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, special forest products collection, and trail renovation. The projects were sorted into the following categories:

Timber Sales

Silvicultural Projects

Wildlife Habitat

Road Restorations

Riparian Projects

Fish Habitat work

Prescribed Burns

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 District ROD/RMP and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our thirteenth year of monitoring evaluation continues to support our earlier observations that overall the District is doing a good job of implementing the Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District RMP. The District has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

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

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

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

- Structures in Riparian Reserves
- Special Areas

Riparian reserves were measured and found to have the correct size buffers for the different types of streams. All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the Northwest Forest Plan ROD. The project results and information on the monitoring process is available at the Medford District Office. As a result of the observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past 13 years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.

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

APPENDIX A. MONITORING PROJECTS SUBJECTED TO SAMPLING

TIMBER SALES

- Althouse Sucker
- Granite Joe
- Cheney Slate
- Blowdown Salvage
- Lookout B Low
- Double Down
- Windy Soda

SILVICULTURAL PROJECTS

- Young Stand Management
- Glendale Resource Area Reforestation
- Butte Falls Resource Area Tree Planting, Scalping
- Butte Falls Resource Area Conifer Limb Pruning
- Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control
- Butte Falls Resource Area Brush and Hardwood Clump Control
- Camp Stew II
- Tree Planting and Radius Scalping (Ashland Resource Area)
- Silviculture Treatments (Ashland Resource Area)

FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

- West Branch Elk Creek Fish Structure

PRESCRIBED BURN PROJECTS

- Deer Willy Fuel Hazard Reduction
- Rogue River Fuel Hazard Reduction
- Angora Hazard Fuel Reduction
- Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction
- Seven Basin Title II Project
- Title II Lomakatsi Wagner Creek Fuels
- Fuels Reduction, City of Jacksonville

RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECTS

- Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting

OTHER PROJECTS

- Quartz Off-Highway Vehicle Plan
- China Garden Right-of-Way/Road Construction
- Brass Joe/Waterbrook Right-of-Way/Road Construction
- Clary and Meehan Right-of-Way/Road Construction
- Hinkle Gulch Hazard Tree
- ODOT Sexton Mountain Communication Tower Site
- Kiosk – Bear Camp Road
- Verizon Sexton Mountain Communication Site Upgrade
- Seneca Right-of-Way
- Swanson Right-of-Way Road Construction
- Removal of the Unauthorized Cook Cabin
- Revised Perpetua Forests Company Right-of-Way
- Avista Right-of-Way (OR 64384) Sawyer Road
- UNAVCO Flounce Rock
- PacifiCorp Right-of-Way (OR 9445) Cobleigh Road
- Gambee O&C Log Hauling Permit
- Meriwether O&C Log Hauling Permit
- Bicoastal Rogue Valley, Right-of-Way
- 3 Links Blowdown Removal
- Christiansen and Case #49143 FD Right-of-Way
- Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage
- Butte Falls/Prospect Highway Blowdown Salvage
- T36S, R2E, Section 2 Blowdown Removal
- North Line Blowdown Salvage
- Pole Picker Thin
- O&C Right-of-Way Michigan-California Lumber Company
- Bowen Over Salvage
- Wetzels, PacifiCorp, Embarq Right-of-Way
- Rocky Fence Salvage
- Gaps Corner Salvage
- LaMinora Right-of-Way
- Kogap O&C Hauling Permit
- C2 Fence Salvage

- Greensprings Fire and Rescue Right-of-Way
- Elderberry Campground Renovation
- No Link Salvage
- Verizon Wireless Right-of-Way (OR65561)
- Fawcett Fence Salvage
- Pleasant Blowdown Road Salvage
- Two Gate Installation
- Pacific Crest Trail Relocation
- Fardleman Right-of-Way Amendment
- Box O Native Grass Plug Pilot Study
- Road Right-of-Way OR 64637
- PacifiCorp Right-of-Way OR 64627
- Meriwether M660 Amendment
- Oregon National Guard Special Recreation Permit
- FLPMA Right-of-Way OR 64675
- MRA Special Recreation Use Permit Poker Run
- Siskiyou Hill Climb Special Recreation Use Permit
- Utilities Right-of-Way 64339, 22857, 65226
- Conde Blowdown Roadside Salvage
- Woodrat Mountain Hangliding Event
- Wagner Creek Hazard Trees
- Bunny Meadows Emergency Restoration
- Bunny Meadows Hill Climb Restoration
- Boyden Haul Permit
- Jefferson Public Radio OR 64263
- Tallowbox Lookout Replacement
- Woodrat Roadside Hazard Tree
- PacifiCorp Right-of-Way OR 64263
- Ashland Blowdown Road Clearing
- US Cellular Right-of-Way Ruch
- Cove Creek Blowdown Salvage
- Road Right-of-Way OR 065391
- Howard Blowdown Salvage
- Antelope Blowdown Salvage

- Burnt Creek Blowdown Salvage
- Pinehurst Airport Road
- Road Right-of-Way Hyatt Lake
- Down Wind Blowdown Salvage
- Special Recreation Use Permit MRA Poker Run

FISCAL YEAR 2008 SAMPLED PROJECT LIST (BY CATEGORY)

TIMBER SALES

- Althouse Sucker
- Windy Soda

SILVICULTURAL PROJECTS

- Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control

RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECTS

- Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting

PRESCRIBED BURN PROJECTS

- Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction

OTHER PROJECTS

- Quartz Off-Highway Vehicle Plan
- ODOT Sexton Mountain Communication Tower Site
- Removal of the Unauthorized Cook Cabin
- Gambee O&C Log Hauling Permit
- Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage
- O&C Right-of-Way Michigan-California Lumber Company
- LaMinora Right-of-Way
- No Link Salvage
- Pacific Crest Trail Relocation
- Meriwether M660 Amendment
- Utilities Right-of-Way 64339, 22857, 65226
- Bunny Meadows Hill Climb Restoration
- PacifiCorp Right-of-Way OR 64263
- Howard Blowdown Salvage
- Down Wind Blowdown Salvage

APPENDIX B. MONITORING QUESTIONS

IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

The following two lists of questions were used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for fiscal year 2008. The first list, 2008 Project-Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, was used for monitoring specific projects. The second list, APS-Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, was addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

MEDFORD DISTRICT 2008 PROJECT-SPECIFIC RMP IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING QUESTIONS

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

ALL LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

EXPECTED FUTURE CONDITIONS AND OUTPUTS

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

IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING

1. Are surveys for the species listed in Appendix C conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Projects sampled: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; Removal of the Unauthorized Cook Cabin; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; No Link Salvage; Pacific Crest Trail Relocation; Bunny Meadows Hill Climb Restoration; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage.

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: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area

Precommercial Thin, Brush and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; Removal of the Unauthorized Cook Cabin; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; No Link Salvage; Pacific Crest Trail Relocation; Bunny Meadows Hill Climb Restoration; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage.

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: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; ODOT Sexton Mountain Communications Tower Site; Removal of the Unauthorized Cook Cabin; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; O&C Right-of-Way Michigan/California Lumber Company; Laminora Right-of-Way; No Link Salvage; Pacific Crest Trail Relocation; Meriwether M660 Amendment; Utilities Right-of-Way OR64339; Bunny Meadows Hill Climb Restoration; PacifiCorp Right-of-Way OR64263; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage.

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 fiscal year 2008 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. The Riparian Reserve widths were based on the established guidelines. Project sampled: Althouse Sucker 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 50-foot

no-treatment buffer from bank-full width would be used to protect stream bank stability.

Riparian Reserve Width (165)	# 1 = 221 feet
(No cut for 50 feet)	# 2 = 192 feet
	# 3 = 203 feet
	# 4 = 176 feet
	# 5 = 171 feet

- 10A. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Projects sampled: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; No Link Salvage; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage.

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

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Projects sampled: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; No Link Salvage; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage.

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

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Projects sampled: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; No Link Salvage; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage.

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 - Yes. Project sampled: Althouse Sucker. Three culverts on fish-bearing streams would be replaced with open bottomed (natural stream bed) culverts.

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 the Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines and Medford District 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 - Yes. Two timber sales (Althouse Sucker and Windy Soda) were reviewed. In the timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting, such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris are 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, soil, 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 - Yes. 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 - Yes. Prescribed burns were all in the form of pile burning, rather than broadcast burning. Not all of the piled material has been burned. The piles that have been burned were done so in prescription and according to their individual burn plans when prescribed

conditions were available. Overall particulate emissions from prescribed burning can be minimized through ignition timing, aggressive mop-up, and reducing large heavy fuels consumed by fire.

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. Water is required to abate dust 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?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. The Althouse Sucker and Windy Soda timber sales were the timber sales selected but have not been offered for sale yet. Best management practices were examined based on contract specifications. Skid trail locations will be approved ahead of time, the maximum area for skid trails will be less than 12% of the area, existing skid roads will 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 fiscal year 2008 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 Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines and ROD/RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. In timber sale units with prescriptions for partial cutting, such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris are available.

39. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

Compliance/Monitoring Results - Yes. Projects sampled: Windy Soda; Althouse Sucker; Butte Falls Resource Area Precommercial Thin, Brush, and Hardwood Clump Control; Beaver Dam Exclosure Planting; Pleasant Fry Fuel Hazard Reduction; Blocked Road Blowdown Salvage; No Link Salvage; Pacific Crest Trail Relocation; Bunny Meadows Hill Climb Restoration; Howard Blowdown Salvage; and Down Wind Blowdown Salvage. Seasonal restrictions are in place for spotted owl habitat and buffers on Riparian Reserves and for special status plants have been implemented.

FISH HABITAT

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

Compliance/Monitoring Results - The Althouse Sucker and Windy Soda timber sales identified at-risk fish species and designed features to avoid adverse impacts to them.

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

Compliance/Monitoring Results - The Althouse Sucker and Windy Soda timber sales 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning special status species. This may range from a verbal discussion up to and including 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 Althouse Sucker met Visual Resource Management Class II and III guidelines.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

65. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions consistent with protection of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values 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. Projects sampled: 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 is 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, re establish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 9B. Are management actions creating a situation where riparian reserves are made more susceptible to fire?
- 13A. Are new recreation facilities within the Riparian Reserves designed to meet, and where practicable, contribute to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 13B. Are mitigation measures initiated where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

LATE-SUCCESSIONAL RESERVES

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 228)

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

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AREAS

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 229)

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

MATRIX

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 230)

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

AIR QUALITY

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 231)

- 25A. Are conformity determinations being prepared prior to activities which may: contribute to a new violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, increase the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay the timely attainment of a standard?
- 25B. Has an interagency monitoring grid been established in southwestern Oregon?

SOIL AND WATER

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 232)

- 27A. What watershed analyses have been or are being performed?
28. In watersheds where municipal providers have agreements, have the agreements been checked to determine if the terms and conditions have been met?
29. What is the status of identification of instream flow needs for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat, and riparian resources?
30. What watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented?
31. What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
32. What is the status of development of road or transportation management plans to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
33. What is the status of preparation of criteria and standards which govern the operation, maintenance, and design for the construction and reconstruction of roads?
- 34A. What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk?
- 34B. What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within Key Watersheds?
- 34C. If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in Key Watersheds?
35. What is the status of reviews of ongoing research in Key Watersheds to ensure that significant risk to the watershed does not exist?
- 36A. What is the status of evaluation of recreation, interpretive, and user enhancement activities/facilities to determine their effects on the watershed?
- 36B. What is the status of eliminating or relocating these activities/facilities when found to be in conflict with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

- 37A. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies in the development of watershed based Research Management Plans and other cooperative agreements to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 37B. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies to identify and eliminate wild ungulate impacts which are inconsistent with attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

WILDLIFE HABITAT

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 234)

40. What is the status of designing and implementing wildlife habitat restoration projects?
41. What is the status of designing and constructing wildlife interpretive and other user enhancement facilities?

FISH HABITAT

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 235)

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?
43. Are fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities being designed and implemented which contribute to attainment of aquatic conservation strategy objectives?
44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES AND SEIS SPECIAL ATTENTION SPECIES AND HABITAT

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 236)

48. What coordination with other agencies has occurred in the management of special status species?
49. What land acquisitions occurred or are underway to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species?
50. What site specific plans for the recovery of special status species were, or are being, developed?
51. What is the status of analysis which ascertains species requirements or enhances the recovery or survival of a species?
52. What is the status of efforts to maintain or restore the community structure, species composition, and ecological processes of special status plant and animal habitat?

SPECIAL AREAS

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 238)

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

CULTURAL RESOURCES INCLUDING AMERICAN INDIAN VALUES

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 239)

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

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 241)

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

SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 243)

68. What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities?
69. Are RMP implementation strategies being identified that support local economies?
70. What is the status of planning and developing amenities (such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities) that enhance local communities?

RECREATION

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 244)

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

TIMBER RESOURCES

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 245)

72. By land use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the Northwest Forest Plan ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management objectives?
73. Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the calculation of the expected sale quantity implemented?

SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 246)

74. Is the sustainability and protection of special forest product resources ensured prior to selling special forest products?
75. What is the status of the development and implementation of specific guidelines for the management of individual special forest products?

FIRE/FUELS MANAGEMENT

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 247)

77. What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves and Adaptive Management Areas?

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

APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF ONGOING PLANS AND ANALYSES

NEPA DOCUMENTATION

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

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

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

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

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

TIMBER MOUNTAIN/JOHN'S PEAK OHV PLAN

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

The management plan will offer an alternative that will provide for a recreational opportunity in a forest, mountain, and trail environment. The area offers a quality riding experience for users of Class I (all-terrain vehicles), Class II (four-wheel drive vehicles), and Class III (motorcycles) vehicles. Visitor information would be provided to ensure proper use of public lands. Law enforcement measures would be employed, as appropriate. The BLM will cooperate with county and private landowners to preserve and maintain the character of the area.

APPENDIX D. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACS	Aquatic Conservation Strategy
AMA	Adaptive Management Area
ASQ	Allowable Sale Quantity
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CBWR	Coos Bay Wagon Road
CCF	Hundred Cubic Feet
CSNM	Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument
CWD	Coarse Woody Debris
CX	Categorical Exclusion
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
EA	Environmental Assessment
EEA	Environmental Education Area
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FY	Fiscal Year
GeoBOB	Geographic Biotic Observations
GFMA	General Forest Management Area
KBO	Klamath Bird Observatory
LSR	Late-Successional Reserve
MBF	Thousand Board Feet
MMBF	Million Board Feet
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NWFP	Northwest Forest Plan
O&C	Oregon and California Revested Lands
ODA	Oregon Department of Agriculture
ODEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OR/WA	Oregon/Washington BLM
PD	Public Domain Lands
PILT	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
REO	Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC	Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RNA	Research Natural Area
ROD	Record of Decision
ROD/RMP	Medford District ROD and RMP

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R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
S&G	Standards and Guidelines
USFS	US Forest Service
USFWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service
WOPR	Western Oregon Plan Revisions
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WQRP	Water Quality Restoration Plan

APPENDIX E. DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

Candidate species — Plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. These are taxa for which the US Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and 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 designation of approximately 20 to 200 square miles in size.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Refugia — Locations and habitats that support populations of

organisms that are limited to small fragments of their previous geographic ranges.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Stream mile — A linear mile of stream.

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

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