

PLAN MAINTENANCE
FISCAL YEAR 1998

1. Refinement of 15 percent Retention Management Action/Direction.

Guidance on implementation of the 15 percent retention management action/direction which provides for retention of late-successional forests in watersheds where little remains. A joint BLM-USFS guidance which incorporated the Federal executives' agreement was issued on September 14, 1998, as BLM Instruction Memorandum No. OR-98-100. This memo clarifies and refines the standard and guideline contained in the Northwest Forest Plan and ROD/RMP that directs that in fifth field watersheds in which Federal forest lands are currently comprised of 15 percent or less late-successional forest should be managed to retain late-successional patches. The memo emphasizes terminology and intent related to the standard and guideline, provides methods for completing the assessment for each fifth field watershed, dictates certain minimum documentation requirements and establishes effective dates for implementation. Instruction Memo OR-98-100 is adopted in its entirety as ROD/RMP clarification and refinement.

2. Clarification of Visual Resource Management Action/Direction.

Management Action/Direction for Visual Resources has been found to be unclear due to internal inconsistency. The Roseburg ROD/RMP includes management action/direction in addition to that which is common to all other western Oregon BLM Districts. The prescriptive management action/direction unique to the Roseburg District ROD/RMP has been found too difficult to implement in a logical and consistent manner. The management action/direction for visual resources is refined by the deletion of five paragraphs that discuss harvest scenarios on page 53 of the ROD/RMP. This refinement does not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses and allows the Roseburg District ROD/RMP to be consistent with other western Oregon BLM ROD/RMPs.