

Swiftwater Field Office

FY 2003 Commercial Thinning Timber Sales

Description: Analyze and design two separate commercial thinnings. The two thinnings would be analyzed separately, but have one environmental assessment (EA) document; Copeland Divide, (Commercial Thinning) Sec. 3, T. 22 S., R. 6 W., W.M.; Sec. 31, T. 21 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; Sec. 7, T. 22 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; and Boyd Howdy (Density Management/Commercial Thinning) Secs. 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25 & 27, T. 25 S., R. 2 W., W.M.; Secs. 29 & 30, T. 25 S., R.1W., W.M.

Location: Swiftwater Resource Area; General Forest Management Area, Connectivity/Diversity Blocks, Late-Successional Reserve, and Riparian Reserve.

Issue Identification: Begins May/June 2002.

Analysis: To Be Announced.

Public Review: To Be Announced.

Decision Dates: To Be Announced.

Recreation Programmatic EA

Description: This EA analyzes a variety of repair, maintenance, upgrade, and minor improvement projects, many of which are categorically excluded by congress. This EA analyzes three project categories: 1) Repair/maintenance of damage caused by "Acts of God" (i.e. flood, wind, etc); 2) General maintenance and upgrade (e.g. pumphouses, pavilions, paving, etc.); and 3) Minor improvements (e.g. Eagle Scout projects, sprinkler systems, watchable wildlife sites, etc.)

Location: Swiftwater Resource Area Recreation Sites.

Issue Identification: Begins May 2002.

Analysis: To Be Announced.

Public Review: To Be Announced.

Decision Dates: To Be Announced.

Upper Umpqua Restoration

Description: This EA analyzes a variety of potential and continuing projects throughout the watershed. Treatment of forests for fish, wildlife and commercial objectives; treatment or decommissioning roads; and instream and aquatic enhancement area a few of the types of projects analyzed in this EA.

Location: Swiftwater Resource Area; General Forest Management Area, Connectivity/Diversity blocks, Late-Successional Reserve, and Riparian Reserve.

Issue Identification: Begins May 2002.

Analysis: To Be Announced.

Public Review: To Be Announced.

Decision Dates: To Be Announced.

Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items

South River Field Office

Myrtle Creek Watershed Restoration

Description: An assessment of the environmental consequences of watershed restoration projects that would include the replacement of stream-crossing culverts that are at risk of failure and/or blocking passage to fish, road decommissioning, road upgrading, slide stabilization, and installation of in-stream structures to promote habitat complexity.

Location: Throughout the Myrtle Creek 5th Field Watershed.

Issue Identification: In progress.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

South River Commercial Thinning 2002

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 520 acres of managed second-growth stands in General Forest Management Areas and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sections 27, 33 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 6 W.; Sections 3 and 9, T. 30 S., R. 6 W.; Sections 25 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 7 W.; Section 29 of T. 29 S., R. 8 W.; Section 13, T. 29 S., R. 9 W.; and Sections 13 and 23, T. 30 S., R. 9 W.

Location: Upper Middle Fork Coquille and Middle South Umpqua River/Rice Creek watershed analysis units.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

South River Firewood Cutting Areas

Description: Would establish programmatic guidelines for the creation of public firewood cutting areas which would provide a stable supply of firewood for home heating. Firewood cutting would be limited to hardwood species.

Location: Matrix lands within the Resource Area located within a maximum of 200 feet from surfaced, all-weather roads. Riparian Reserves, owl activity centers and cultural sites would be excluded from consideration.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

South River Commercial Thinning 2000

Description: Commercial thinning and density management of approximately 300 acres of managed second-growth stands in GFMA and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 19, T. 28 S., R. 8 W.; Secs. 13 and 24, T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Secs. 3 and 4, T. 30 S., R. 3 W.; Sec. 19, T. 29 S., R. 2 W.; and Sec. 9, T. 30 S., R. 2 W. The timber sales would be expected to yield approximately 5,590 CCF of timber.

Location: East Fork and Middle Fork Coquille River, South Umpqua River, and Middle South Umpqua River/Dumont Creek watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: A 34-acre commercial thinning, Hurricane Ruby, was authorized on August 27, 2001. The commercial thinning was offered and sold on September 25, 2001. A second commercial thinning consisting of 136 acres, Weaver Road, was authorized on October 30, 2001, and sold at auction on November 27, 2001. Additional units were analyzed which may still be offered under future decisions.

South Umpqua Connectivity Density Management

Description: Density management of approximately 140 acres allocated as Connectivity/Diversity Blocks and Riparian Reserves. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 17, T. 30 S., R. 2 W and Sec. 17, T. 30 S., R. 3 W. The timber sales would be designed to accelerate the development of old-growth habitat and yield an estimated 2,040 CCF of timber.

Location: Deadman/Dompier and South Umpqua River watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

South River Watershed Restoration

Description: The EA analyzed an array of restoration projects to be implemented over a 5 year period. Projects include road renovation and decommissioning, culvert replacement, stream bank stabilization, tree-lining and placement of logs in stream for habitat structure.

Location: S. Umpqua River, Myrtle Creek, Lower Cow Creek, Olalla-Lookinglass and Middle Fork Coquille Watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: Decisions have been issued for several projects analyzed in the EA. Culverts on Suicide Creek, Live Oak Creek, Union Creek, St. John Creek and Weaver Creek will be replaced. Decisions authorizing in-stream structure placement on Days Creek and tree-lining on Thompson Creek are being prepared. Remaining projects analyzed in the EA will be implemented over the next two or three years.

Slimewater Creek Density Management

Description: Density Management of approximately 255 acres of early and mid-seral aged stands in the South Umpqua River/Galesville Late-Successional Reserve. These stands are located in Sec. 27, T. 30 S., R. 4 W. and Sec. 9, T. 31 S., R. 4 W. The objective would be the accelerated development of late-seral habitat characteristics.

Location: Shively-O'Shea Subwatershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: Treatment of 118 acres was authorized on October 30, 2001. This sale did not receive any bids in the November 27, 2001, auction. A Letter of Concurrence on the effects of the project on the Oregon Coast coho salmon, Oregon Coast steelhead trout, designated critical habitat for the coho salmon, and Essential Fish Habitat was received from the National Marine Fisheries Service on February 12, 2002. In the letter the National Marine Fisheries Service concurred with the "not likely to adversely affect" determination made by the BLM. The project was re-offered for competitive bids on April 23, 2002.

Ragu Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 150 acres allocated as General Forest Management Area. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Sec. 9, 21, 29, and 33, T. 29 S., R. 8 W.; and Sec. 5, T.30 S., R. 8 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately 6,208 CCF of timber.

Location: Olalla Creek/Lookingglass Creek and Middle Fork Coquille River watersheds.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Complete.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Dickerson Heights Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 180 acres allocated as General Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Secs. 3, 11, 9, and 15, T. 29 S., R. 7 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately 8,800 CCF of timber.

Location: Olalla Creek/Lookingglass Creek watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Loose Laces Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 200 acres allocated as General Forest Management Area and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks. Proposed timber sale units would be located in Secs. 1, 3, 13, and 15, T. 31 S., R. 6 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately 7,300 CCF of timber.

Location: Lower Cow Creek watershed.

Issue Identification: EA OR105-98-04 and FONSI withdrawn and replaced by EA OR105-99-14. Issue identification completed.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment work in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Cow Catcher Timber Sale

Description: Regeneration harvest of approximately 190 acres of Matrix lands in Sec. 5, 7, 9, and 17, T. 31 S., R. 6 W. The timber sale would be expected to yield approximately 7,700 CCF of timber.

Location: Lower Cow Creek watershed.

Issue Identification: Complete.

Analysis: Environmental Assessment in progress.

Public Review: Unknown at this time.

Decision Date: Unknown at this time.

Swiftwater Field Office

Rock Creek Access Road Realignment (Rock Creek Road Stabilization Project)

(OR-104-02-04)

Description: Realignment of approximately one quarter mile of the 26-3-1.0 road (Northeast Fork) to repair potential failures.

Location: T.24S., R.2W., Section 25.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed.

Decision: Completed.

FY 2002 Commercial Thinning Timber Sales

(OR-104-02-01 & 02)

Description: Analyze and design four separate commercial thinnings. The four thinnings would be analyzed in two separate environmental assessment (EA) documents; West Side (Hayhurst and Cat Tracks), Sec. 3, T. 22 S., R. 6 W., W.M.; Sec. 31, T. 21 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; Sec. 7, T. 22 S., R. 4 W. W.M.; and East Side (Relativity and East Fork) Secs. 11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25 & 27, T. 25 S., R. 2 W., W.M.; Secs. 29 & 30, T. 25 S., R.1W., W.M..

Location: Swiftwater Resource Area; General Forest Management Area , Connectivity/Diversity Blocks, and Riparian Reserve.

Issue Identification: Completed.

Analysis: Complete.

Public Review: Expected by the end of June 2002.

Decision Dates: Expected by August 2002.

Cavitt Creek Road Restoration

(OR-104-01-10)

Description: Road-related restoration in the Cavitt Creek; reduce or eliminate sedimentation to streams; providing for unobstructed movement of aquatic fauna; road renovation, decommissioning, and culvert replacement.

Location: Secs. 21, 23, 25-27, 35, T. 27 S., R. 3 W.; Secs. 19, 30, T. 27 S., R. 2 W.; Secs. 2, 3, 5, T. 28 S., R. 3 W. W.M.

Issue Identification: Completed January 15, 2002.

Analysis: Completed.

Public Review: Completed.

Decision: January 15, 2002.

Swiftwater Field Office

Shingle Lane Regen & Commercial Thinning (OR-104-99-10)
Watson Mountain Ecosystem Management Strategy (OR-104-99-01)
Powell Creek Timber Sale (OR-104-98-08)
Pipeline Timber Sale (OR-104-98-10)
What-a-Gas Timber Sale (OR-104-98-06)
Green Thunder Timber Sale (OR-104-99-04)
Bear Hill Timber Sale (OR-104-99-07)

Upcoming Events

Free fishing will be June 8, 2002. BLM, FS, County Parks, Umpqua Bass Masters, ODFW, and others pull together at Cooper Creek Reservoir to encourage people to fish.

National Public Lands Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 28, 2002. At this time, there are two projects scheduled, public involvement is welcome and encouraged. The scheduled projects are:

Installing 50 bat boxes under bridges to create bat roosts.

There are nine bat species that use bridges for roosting in the Roseburg District, but the cement flat-bottom bridges provide minimal bat roosting opportunities. Past land management activities have resulted in the loss or disturbance of naturally occurring roosts. Installing bat boxes under bridges will help to create additional roosts for bats in the area. Volunteers will learn about the natural history of bats, why bats use bridges, and how installing boxes is expected to help bat populations.

For more information on the bat box project, contact Liz Berger at 464-3313.

North Bank Habitat Management Area.

Installation of guzzlers, a water catchment and storage system, to provide water to Columbian white-tailed deer, as well as other wildlife, during the dry summer and fall months. Depending on weather, planting of riparian vegetation to aid in the recovery of the stream systems in the habitat area. There will also be the option of some noxious weed removal and old fence line removal, depending on accessibility to areas due to fire season and the number of volunteers.

There will be a short program on the Columbian white-tailed deer and its habitat in the area. Pictures and discussion of the management activities, such as prescribed burning, mowing and grazing, to improve the oak woodland and grass savanna habitat will be included.

For more information on the North Bank Habitat Management Area projects, contact Melanie Roan at 464-3362.

A barbeque or catered lunch is planned to feed the volunteers at the end of the project.

Abbreviations and Definitions

BO - Biological Opinion.

CF - Cubic feet.

CCF - Hundred cubic feet.

CX or Categorical Exclusion - Actions which do not have significant effects on the environment and for which an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

EA - Environmental Assessment - A concise public document that briefly provides evidence and analysis of a proposed Federal action. It is used to determine whether further analysis needs to be done for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

FONSI - Finding of No Significant Impact - A document briefly explaining why an action will not have a significant effect on the human environment.

IDT - Interdisciplinary Team - A group of resource specialists, whose participation is determined by the issues relating to the project proposal, and who conduct environmental analysis.

Issue Identification - Similar to scoping (see below). Used for Roseburg District Environmental Assessments.

LSR - Late Successional Reserves - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. These reserves will maintain a functional, interactive, late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystem. Approximately 81% of the Roseburg District BLM is reserve.

Matrix Lands - One of the seven Federal land designations set forth in the Northwest Forest Plan. Most timber harvest contributing to the Allowable Sale Quantity takes place in this area. Approximately 19% of the Roseburg District BLM is matrix.

MBF - Thousand board feet.

MMBF - Million board feet.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act - A federal law which sets the systematic interdisciplinary analysis to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences to provide for an informed decision. The process provides for public participation in the development, review and revision of certain activities on Federal Lands.

NFP - Northwest Forest Plan - A common name for the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994). It is also used to refer to the Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species with the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl which accompanies the Record of Decision.

O&C Lands - Revested Oregon and California Railroad Lands.

Resource Management Plan (RMP) - A land use plan prepared by the BLM in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

Scoping - An early and open part of environmental impact statement process that allows interested public and other Federal, state and local agencies the opportunity to provide issues, concerns and opportunities relative to proposed project actions. Scoping is required by regulation for Environmental Impact Statements.



