

# Roseburg District BLM Planning Update



Updated Summer 2016

July 1, 2016

Dear Citizen:

The Quarterly Planning Update is published with the intent of providing current information about discretionary management actions being undertaken, specific projects and future events planned on the Roseburg District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

With publication of a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register, on March 9, 2012, the BLM began the process of revising resource management plans for the Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Medford Districts, and the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District. On April 24, 2015, the Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for the Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon was released for a 90-day period for public review and comment, extending through July 23, 2015, later extended through August 21, 2015 in response to requests from interested parties.

Comments received may be viewed on the BLM planning website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon/comments.php>. The BLM published the Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon on April 12, 2016 on the BLM website. The publication of the PRMP/FEIS in the Federal Register on April 15, 2016 began a 30-day public protest period that concludes on May 16, 2016. The BLM anticipates issuance of two Records of Decision in the summer of 2016. Additional information on this planning effort may be obtained at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon/>.

Beginning October 1, 2016, new BLM projects will be made available on the National NEPA Register (ePlanning) at: [https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do). To access Roseburg District projects, select the **Text Search** tab; under the state(s), select **Oregon/Washington**; and under Office(s), select **ORWA - Roseburg DO**. For a complete list of new projects, select **All** under the **Document Type(s)**, **Fiscal Year(s)** and **Program(s)** boxes. Then click the **Search** button and your results will be shown at the bottom of the page. Historical documents may be found in the NEPA Archive on the Roseburg District Internet website at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/plans/plans.php>.

We will keep you updated on further developments through the Quarterly Planning Update and the district website at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/plans/index.php>. As in previous updates, this edition contains information on a wide array of work proposed or underway on the Roseburg District. Written comments on BLM projects, including the specific project and field office name, should be sent to 777 N.W. Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon 97471, during the specified public comment period.

Thank you for your interest in Roseburg District BLM lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Machado".

POK Barbara Machado  
District Manager

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## Key Contact

For more information about projects in the Quarterly Planning Update, contact Cheyne Rossbach, Public Affairs Officer at (541) 464-3245.

## Categorical Exclusions

In implementation of the NEPA regulations, the BLM has developed categorical exclusions covering management actions for many resource programs, including fish and wildlife, forestry, realty, transportation, recreation management and emergency stabilization following a natural disaster. In developing categorical exclusions, the BLM demonstrated through rulemaking procedures how these actions do not typically result in significant environmental effects and set forth the methodology and criteria used to define the categories of actions. These rulemaking procedures included extensive public involvement and input, and CEQ review regarding appropriate limits on the use of the categorical exclusion to assure that any categorically excluded action would remain within the effects of actions covered in the analysis for the rulemaking. The purpose of a categorical exclusion is to eliminate the need for unnecessary paperwork under NEPA. Specifically, Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) at 40 CFR §1508.4 state that:

*"'Categorical exclusion' means a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and which have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by a Federal agency in implementation of these regulations (Sec. 1507.3) and for which, therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required...Any procedures under this section shall provide for extraordinary circumstances in which a normally excluded action may have a significant environmental effect."*

Use of categorical exclusions on the Roseburg District includes an internal exemption review of extraordinary circumstances as prescribed through CEQ and Departmental/Bureau policy. We include categorical exclusions in the Roseburg District Quarterly Planning Update to keep the public informed, but because the actions are categorically excluded from NEPA review, there is not a comment/response process as with NEPA documents such as environmental assessments (EAs) and environmental impact statements (EISs).

## **Roseburg District**

- **Roseburg District Pump Chance and Helipond Routine Maintenance** - The Roseburg District proposes to conduct routine maintenance activities on 110 existing pump chances and heliponds (water impoundments) scattered on BLM lands. These impoundments provide sources of water for wildland fire suppression efforts. The BLM in cooperation with the Douglas Forest Protection Association, Coos Forest Protective Association and other landowners would conduct periodic routine maintenance within the existing footprint of existing sites. Routine maintenance includes brushing, dredging of accumulated sediment, maintaining road access to the sites, and site maintenance activities such as trash removal. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2016-00060-CX)
- **Roseburg District Pre-commercial Thinning 2016-2019** – This project would authorize pre-commercial thinning of approximately 2,500 acres of stands approximately 15 to 25 years old within the GFMA, C/D Blocks, LSR and RR land use allocations. The BLM would accomplish this work between fall 2016 and spring 2019. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2016-0005-CX)

- **Roseburg District Special Forest Products** - Roseburg District proposes to issue and administer contracts/permits for harvesting a variety of special forest products. The District has issued an average of approximately 1,200 SFP contracts/permits annually since 1996. Special forest products are limited to those that can be collected under a free use permit (mushrooms, floral greenery, etc. for personal use) or sold using Form 5450-5 (for the sale of vegetative material up to a value of \$2,499.00), Form 5450-1 (for the sale of vegetative material over \$2,500.00), and Christmas tree tags. The program provides the public with the opportunity to harvest special forest products for recreational or personal use or commercially as a source of income. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2016-0004-CX)

## South River Field Office

- **Douglas Electric Cooperative Power Line Right-of-Way Grant** – This action reauthorizes two existing right-of-ways to Douglas Electric Cooperative to operate, maintain, and terminate a 7200 volt buried and two overhead distribution power line (69 kV and 7200 volt) for a term of twenty-five years. Each right-of-way is ten feet wide and composed of three segments: 1,391 feet (0.32 acres), 2,718 feet (3.74 acres), and 1,500 feet long (2.07 acres). No additional rights would be conveyed. This action requires no new ground disturbing activities or construction. The right-of-way is located in Section 3 of T. 30 S., R. 9 W.; Section 14 of T. 28 S., R. 7 W.; Section 9 of T. 29 S., R. 8 W.W.M. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R050-2016-0002-CX)
- **Stouts Creek Fire Roadside Safety and Fuel Break** – The Stouts Creek Fire burned approximately 26,428 acres during the summer of 2015, including 5,539 acres of BLM-administered lands in the South River Field Office. The Stouts Creek Roadside Safety and Fuel Break project includes hazard tree removal along approximately 0.75 miles of existing roads and constructing a fuel break approximately a mile in length. The project occurs in the Late-successional Reserve (LSR) land use allocation where fire severity was moderate to high. The proposed roadside safety actions would be designed to provide safe travel on existing roads, comply with state guidelines for the removal of hazard trees, and reduce long-term maintenance and repair to BLM roads. The roadside safety portion of the project is located in Sections 1 and 23 of T. 31 S., R 3 W., WM. The proposed fuel break would be designed to aid in the control, reduce the risk of spread of fire and provide for firefighter safety during any potential future fires. The fuel break portion of this action would be located in Section 13 of T. 31 S., R 3 W., WM. A decision for this project is expected in the summer of 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R050-2016-0004-CX)
- **2016 Cycle Oregon Bicycle Ride** – The BLM proposes to issue a special recreation permit to Cycle Oregon for a 7-day bicycle ride for 2,200 participants that traverse approximately 448 miles beginning and ending in Myrtle Creek, Oregon between September 11 and September 17, 2016. Overnight stops during the event are on non-BLM lands in the towns of Myrtle Creek, Camas Valley, Bandon, Gold Beach, and Glendale as well as Indian Mary Park managed by Josephine County. The proposed ride includes multiple access points onto BLM lands administered by the Roseburg, Coos Bay, and Medford Districts via secondary, paved roads. This decision was signed on May 16, 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R050-2016-0006-CX)
- **PacifiCorp Transmission Line Right-of-Way Grant Renewal** – This action reauthorizes an existing right-of-way to PacifiCorp to operate and maintain a 115 kV overhead transmission power line for a term of thirty years. The transmission line crosses Roseburg District-administrated lands in four locations (approximately 1.3 miles) and encompasses approximately 12 acres. No additional rights will be conveyed. This action requires no new ground disturbing activities or construction. The right-of-way is located in Sections 28, 29, and 34 of T. 30 S., R. 2 W. and Section 15 of T. 30 S., R. 4 W.; W.M. This decision was released on May 3, 2016 (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R050-2016-0007-CX)

## Swiftwater Field Office

- **Cable Crossing Fire Salvage and Roadside Hazard Tree Removal** – The Cable Crossing fire burned approximately 1,860 acres during the summer of 2015, including over 900 acres of BLM-administered lands in the Swiftwater Field Office. The Cable Crossing Fire Salvage and Roadside Safety Hazard Tree Removal project includes two treatments; (1) fire salvaging 65 acres of dead or dying trees burned under moderate to high severity and (2) felling, and removing approximately 250 roadside hazard trees along 2 miles of roads. The Cable Crossing Fire Salvage project would occur in the General Forest Management Area (GFMA) land use allocation, and the Roadside Safety Hazard Tree Removal project would occur in the GFMA, Connectivity/Diversity Blocks (C/D Blocks), and Riparian Reserve (RR) land use allocations. The project is located in Sections 19 and 30 of T. 26 S., R. 2 W.; and Section 13 of T. 26 S., R. 3 W., W.M. The BLM released a decision on February 23, 2016. The sale went no-bid and will be re-advertised and scheduled for auction in fall of 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R040-2016-0002-CX)
- **Cable Crossing Fire Suppression-Created Log Removal** – The BLM would remove approximately 25.0 MBF of timber generated by fire suppression activities. The logs, which are located within 50 feet of center line along roads in Sections 19 of T. 26 S., R. 2 W.; and Section 13 of T. 26 S., R. 3 W.; W.M., were felled and decked as part of the fire suppression activities. Removal would reduce existing and future threats to road infrastructure and remove hazards to public and reciprocal rights-of-way users. There would be no ground or habitat disturbance as all equipment operations would be restricted to existing road prisms. The project area includes BLM-administered lands in the C/D Blocks and GFMA land use allocations. A decision will be released in spring of 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R040-2016-0004-CX)
- **HGTV Film Permit – Tioga Bridge**– China TV Media Group applied for a short-term film permit to film an interview at the Tioga Bridge and the trail located on the North Umpqua River. The filming would occur on the date of April 10, 2016, during the period of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. No disturbance of public lands, other than the use of existing facilities and roads, would be authorized. This decision was released on April 7, 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R040-2016-0005-CX)
- **2016 Swiftwater Blowdown Salvage** – The BLM would remove approximately 20.0 MBF of downed trees generated by windthrow on approximately two acres. The logs are located on BLM-administered lands in the GFMA and Adaptive Management Area land use allocations in the NW¼NE¼ of Section 30, T. 27 S., R. 2 W., and the NE¼NE¼ of Section 35, T. 22 S., R. 5 W., W.M. The BLM released a decision on May 23, 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R040-2016-0006-CX)
- **Narrows Salvage** – The BLM is proposing to salvage approximately 100 MBF of downed trees on approximately six acres resulting from a windthrow event that took place in 2014 in Sections 1 and 11 of T. 26 S., R. 03 W.; W.M. Salvage within these two stands would provide economic, stream restoration, and fuels reduction benefits to the Swiftwater Resource Area. The proposed action includes approximately 0.1 miles of road construction and 0.3 miles of road renovation. The project area includes BLM-administered lands in the GFMA and RR land use allocations. Downed trees removed from the RR would be utilized for stream restoration projects. This decision is anticipated to be released in summer of 2016. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R040-2016-0007-CX)

## **New Projects**

### **Roseburg District**

#### *Timber Management Activities*

No new planning starts are underway for timber management activities at the District level.

#### *Restoration Activities*

No new planning starts underway for restoration activities at the District level.

#### *Other Activities*

**Roseburg District Quarry Expansion** – The Roseburg District Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to expand six designated Community Pits located on BLM-administered land. The six sites would become Long-term Regional Quarries. The action is necessary in order to continue providing opportunities for mineral materials (rock) extraction by government agencies, private industry, individuals, and nonprofit organizations over the long term. The proposed actions would include clearing vegetation, and the removal and stockpiling of topsoil and overburden from up to three acres per site, and subsequent rock quarry operations including blasting, crushing, stockpiling, loading, and hauling of mineral materials produced at the sites. Mineral material produced at the sites is most commonly utilized in road surfacing, cut bank stabilization, erosion control, stream enhancement, building construction, and landscaping projects. These Community Pits are located in the following Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (1995 ROD/RMP) land use allocations: GFMA, Adaptive Management Area (AMA), and LSR. The pits would be managed consistent with approved site plans and the 1995 ROD/RMP.

**Location:** Harness Mountain - T24S, R4W, Sec 1, S1/2 NW1/4 and N1/2 SW - GFMA  
Honey Creek - T26S, R2W, Sec 2, NE NW - GFMA  
Hotel - T27S, R2W, Sec 28, NE NE - AMA  
Brushy Butte - T28S, R4W, Sec 18, NE SE and SE NE - GFMA  
Middle McNabb - T29S, R7W, Sec 3, SE SE - GFMA  
Shively Creek - T31S, R4W, Sec 11, S1/2 NE NW - LSR

**Issue Identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Unknown at this time

**Decision Date:** Anticipated in 2017

**Roseburg District Integrated Weed Management and Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides –** The BLM proposes to conduct herbicide treatments to control invasive plants and limited use on native plants. The BLM proposes the use of up to 14 herbicides analyzed in the 2010 Oregon Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides EIS/ROD to control invasive plants. Limited use would be allowed on native plants (i.e. poison oak in recreation or administrative sites). Use of herbicides would occur in all land use allocations.

**Location:** District-wide

**Issue identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period and Decision Date:** Unknown at this time

**Decision Date:** Anticipated in 2017

## **South River Field Office**

### *Timber Management Activities*

No new planning starts are underway for timber management activities in the South River Field Office.

### *Restoration Activities*

**Rice Creek In-stream Restoration –** The BLM would conduct an in-stream restoration project on BLM-administered lands in Rice Creek. Activities would include tree felling, installing in-stream structures such as logs, trees, root wads, and boulders, replacing a culvert, planting native species, and removing noxious weeds. The analysis of effects tiers to the 2008 Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09). The project would be implemented over the next three to four years.

**Location:** Section 25 of T. 29 S., R. 7 W.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Determination of NEPA Adequacy. Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09).

**Decision Date:** A decision for these projects will be published in spring of 2017.

**2018 South River In-stream Restoration** – The BLM would conduct five in-stream restoration projects on BLM-administered lands in the RR and LSR land use allocations: 1) Weaver Creek, 2) Twelvemile Creek, and 3) West Fork Canyon Creek, 4) Days Creek Phase II, and 5) Middle Creek. Activities would include tree felling, installing in-stream structures such as logs, trees, root wads, and boulders, replacing a culvert, planting native species, and removing noxious weeds. The analysis of effects tiers to the 2008 Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09). The projects would be implemented over the next three to four years.

**Location:** Sections 23, 25, 31, and 35 of T. 30 S., R. 9 W.; Sections 10, 14, and 15 of T. 31 S., R. 5 W.; Section 4, 9 and 32 of T. 29 S. R. 3 W.; Sections 23 and 13 of T. 29 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 31 and 33 of T. 31 S., R. 7 W.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Determination of NEPA Adequacy. Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09).

**Decision Date:** A decision for these projects will be published in spring of 2018.

### *Other Activities*

No new planning starts are underway for other miscellaneous activities in the South River Field Office.

## **Swiftwater Field Office**

### *Timber Management Activities*

**Deadman's Folley Harvest Plan** – A planning area of 2,500 acres for thinning and regeneration harvest of 40-88 year old forest stands in Elk Creek watershed within Moderate Intensity Timber Area, Low Intensity Timber Area, Late Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve land use allocations. Four sales, totaling 1,250 acres, are planned which are anticipated to yield approximately 16 MMBF of timber.

**Location:** Sections 25 and 35 of T. 21 S., R. 7 W., W.M. Sections 27, 29 and 33 of T. 21 S., R. 6 W., W.M. Sections 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 23 and 27 of T. 22 S., R. 7 W., W.M. Sections 5 and 7 of T. 22 S., R. 6 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Anticipated summer of 2017

**Decision Date:** Separate decisions for each sale are anticipated in fiscal year 2017 and 2018.

## *Restoration Activities*

**2017 Swiftwater In-stream Restoration** – The BLM would conduct four in-stream restoration projects on BLM-administered lands in the RR and LSR land use allocations: 1) Pass/Canton Creek, 2) Big Tom Folley Creek, 3) Rock Creek, and 4) McGee Creek. Activities would include tree felling, installing in-stream structures such as logs, trees, root wads, and boulders, planting native species, and removing noxious weeds. The BLM would also be replacing a fish barrier culvert with an Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) culvert on a tributary to Little Wolf Creek. The analysis of effects tiers to the 2008 Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09). The projects would be implemented over the next three to four years.

**Location:** Sections 23, 25, and 26 of T. 24 S., R. 1 W.; Sections 21, 28, 29, 30, and 31 of T. 21 S., R. 6 W.; Section 15 of T. 25 S., R. 2 W. W.M, and Section 5 of T. 24 S., R. 7 W. W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Determination of NEPA Adequacy. Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09).

**Decision Date:** A decision for these projects will be published in spring of 2017.

**2018 Swiftwater In-stream Restoration** – The BLM would conduct three in-stream restoration projects on BLM-administered lands in the RR and LSR land use allocations: 1) Canton Creek, 2) Big Tom Folley Creek, and 3) Rock Creek. Activities would include tree felling, installing in-stream structures such as logs, trees, root wads, and boulders, replacing a culvert, planting native species, and removing noxious weeds. The analysis of effects tiers to the 2008 Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09). The projects would be implemented over the next three to four years.

**Location:** Sections 2, 3, 11, 15, and 23 of T. 25 S., R. 1 W.; Sections 35 and 36 of T. 21 S., R. 7 W.; Sections 2, 3, and 10 of T. 22 S., R. 7 W. W.M, and Section 21 of T. 25 S., R. 2 W. W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Determination of NEPA Adequacy. Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09).

**Decision Date:** A decision for these projects will be published in spring of 2018.

## *Other Activities*

**North Umpqua River Acquisitions** – The BLM is proposing to acquire four parcels of offered lands within and adjacent to the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River in a phased approach. In total, 412 acres, including two miles of the North Umpqua River, would be purchased. Phase one is to acquire the Swiftwater parcel that includes 211 acres and 4,500 feet of the North Umpqua River. Future phases include acquiring three parcels, totaling 101 acres and 1.25 miles of the North Umpqua River.

**Location:** Sections 8, 17 and 22 of T. 26 S., R. 2 W., W.M. Section 12 of T. 26 S., R. 3 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period and Decision Date:** Anticipated summer of 2017

## **Status of Previous Planning Update Action Items**

Note -The Roseburg District FY2016 Timber Sale Plan is published at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/timbersales/files/2016-sale-plan.pdf>

### **Roseburg District**

#### *Timber Management Activities*

There are no previous planning actions to update for timber management activities at the District level.

#### *Restoration Activities*

There are no previous planning actions to update for restoration activities at the District level.

#### *Other Activities*

**Roseburg District Helipond and Flight Path Maintenance** – The BLM proposes to maintain the utility and function of 20 existing heliponds on BLM-administered lands. These heliponds provide sources of water during wildland fire suppression efforts requiring the use of helicopters, fire engines, and water tenders. Specific actions to be taken would include: 1) Maintaining the integrity of the helipond dikes by maintaining a tree-free perimeter; 2) Expanding, as necessary, the cleared perimeter around heliponds by providing a tree-free perimeter; 3) Creating and maintain cleared flight paths into and out of heliponds for safe helicopter operation; 4) Brushing roads into heliponds to provide access for engines and water tenders during wildfire suppression actions; 5) Dredging to maintain the designed water-storage capacity of the heliponds; and 6) Maintaining and repairing ponds and emergency overflow structures.

**Location:** BLM-constructed and administered heliponds throughout the District.

**Issue Identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** September/October 2016

**Decision Date:** October/November 2016

### **South River Field Office**

#### *Timber Management Activities*

**Days Creek-South Umpqua River Harvest Plan** – The proposed action includes application of silvicultural treatments to an estimated 2,825 acres of BLM-administered lands in the Days Creek-South Umpqua 10<sup>th</sup>-field watershed, and the Judd Creek-South Umpqua, Dompier Creek-South Umpqua and Lower South Myrtle 12<sup>th</sup>-field subwatersheds, allocated as GFMA, C/D Blocks, and Riparian Reserve. Treatments being considered include commercial thinning and variable retention harvest in the Matrix land use allocations, and density management in Riparian Reserves. Design of the project and analysis of the effects of the proposed action will conform to the management objectives of the 1995 Roseburg District ROD/RMP and tier to the analytical assumptions and conclusions of the 1994 Roseburg District PRMP/EIS.

**Location:**

- Sections 17, 18 and 19 of T. 29 S., R. 2 W., W.M.
- Sections 13, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 33 and 35 of T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M.
- Section 33 of T. 29 S., R. 4 W., W.M.
- Sections 25 and 35 of T. 29 S., R. 5 W., W.M.
- Sections 9, 17, 19 and 29 of T. 30 S., R. 2 W., W.M.
- Sections 7, 13, 15, 17, 23 and 27 of T. 30 S., R. 3 W., W.M.
- Sections 3, 4, 5, 11 and 14 of T. 30 S., R. 4 W., W.M.
- Sections 3, 9, 10, 11 and 15 of T. 30 S., R. 5 W., W.M.

**Issue Identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Anticipated Summer of 2016

**Decision Date:** Decisions are anticipated in fiscal year 2017.

**Olalla-Camas Regeneration Harvest** – The BLM would conduct regeneration harvest on approximately 870 acres of previously thinned 60 to 100 year-old forest stands allocated to the GFMA. No timber management entries would be made into thinned and unthinned Riparian Reserves associated proposed units. The project area includes lands within the East Fork and Middle Fork Coquille, Olalla Creek-Lookingglass Creek and Clarks Branch-South Umpqua watersheds. Four sales are anticipated to yield between 15 and 18 MMBF of timber chargeable to the Roseburg District annual allowable sale quantity.

**Location:**

- Sections 25, 31 and 35, T. 29 S., R. 7 W., W.M.
- Sections 19, 29 and 31, S. 28 S., R. 8 W., W.M.
- Section 32, T. 29 S., R. 8 W., W.M.
- Section 35, T. 29 S., R. 9 W., W.M.;
- Sections 5 and 7, T. 30 S., R. 8 W., W.M.
- Sections 3 and 27, T. 30 S., R. 9 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Opened July 15, 2015, ended August 13, 2015

**Decision Date:** Decisions are anticipated in fiscal year 2017.

**Myrtle Creek Harvest Plan** – The proposed action includes application of silvicultural treatments to an estimated 3,142 acres of BLM-administered lands within the Myrtle Creek fifth-field watershed, allocated as GFMA, C/D Blocks, and Riparian Reserve. Proposed treatments include thinning from below, variable density thinning in upland stands, density management in Riparian Reserves, and variable retention harvest. The project was designed to conform to the 1995 Roseburg District ROD/RMP and tiers to the analytical assumptions and conclusions of the 1994 Roseburg District PRMP/EIS.

The BLM issued a Revised Myrtle Creek Harvest Plan EA on August 11, 2015 which includes an analysis for proposed Non-High Priority Site Designation for red tree vole sites identified through surveys of units that are part of the proposed harvest plan. The comment period is noted below.

The BLM issued a 2016 Revised Myrtle Creek Harvest Plan EA on February 12, 2016 to incorporate new information pertaining to northern spotted owl survey results that were obtained since the original release of the EA in June of 2014. The comment period is noted below. (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R050-2013-0003-EA)

**Location:**

- Sections 31 and 32 of T. 28 S., R. 2 W., W.M.
- Sections 17, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 31, 22, 33, 35 and 36 of T. 28 S., R. 3 W., W.M.
- Sections 2, 3, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19, 21, 25, 29 and 35 of T. 28 S., R. 4 W., W.M.
- Section 27 of T. 28 S., R. 5 W., W.M.
- Section 8, T. 29 S., R. 2 W., W.M.
- Sections 3, 5, 7, 9 and 15 of T. 29 S., R. 3 W., W.M.
- Sections 3, 11, 13, and 15 of T. 29 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

**Issue Identification:** Complete**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment**Public Comment Period:** June 4 – July 3, 2014; August 11 – 26, 2015; February 12 – 26, 2016**Decision Date:** Fiscal years 2015, 2016 and 2017. The Wiley Turtle Timber Sale was advertised September 3, 2015, drew two protests and was sold September 25 2015. The Orb Weaver Thinning Timber Sale advertised September 29, 2015, drew one protest and was sold on October 27, 2015. Slippery Louis Timber Sale was advertised on December 29, 2015, drew one protest and was sold on January 26, 2016. The Kung Fu Timber Sale was advertised on March 29, 2016, drew two protests and was sold on May 26, 2016. The BLM is considering up to three additional sales for auction in fiscal year 2017.

## *Restoration Activities*

There are no previously ongoing planning efforts for restoration activities in the South River Field Office.

## *Other Activities*

**White Castle Temporary Area Closure** – The BLM Roseburg District, South River Field Office would temporarily restrict motorized and non-motorized public access to the contract area of the White Castle Variable Retention Harvest project for a period of up to 24 months. Administrative use by the BLM and its contractors, the U.S. Forest Service, the Douglas Forest Protective Association, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and access by parties with rights of reciprocal use would be permitted. Signs and temporary traffic barriers would be used to restrict access by the general public to the 2,167-acre Action Area including approximately 15 miles of road within the area. The purpose for this proposed action is to quickly implement a temporary closure of the area during active logging operations. The need results from the danger to timber sale protesters within harvest units of an active timber sale; risks to personnel engaged in timber harvest operations; and potential damage to roads, vehicles, and equipment. (DOI-BLM-OR-R050-2013-0007-EA)

**Location:** S½SE¼ Section 23, Section 25, and NE¼ Section 26, T. 28 S. R 3 W., and E½ Section 4, NE¼W½ Section 4, N½ Section 31, Section 32, and SW¼, and Section 33, T. 28 S. R 2 W., W.M.

**Issue Identification:** Completed**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment**Public Comment Period:** August 1 - August 30, 2013**Decision Date:** November 21, 2013. Implementation date unknown at this time.

**White Rock Travel Management Plan** – The Umpqua Lands Trail Riders Association proposed development of an OHV emphasis area in the Myrtle Creek watershed, near White Rock. The Roseburg District does not have the capacity to evaluate this proposal at this time, but prework will be opportunistically conducted in preparation for full evaluation of the proposal in the future. The proposal would include an evaluation of a comprehensive travel management plan, including inventory and possible development of roads and trails for motorized and non-motorized uses.

**Location:** T. 28 S., R. 3 W. and R. 4 W.; T. 29 S., R. 3 W. and R. 4 W., W.M. Exact boundaries of the emphasis area are undetermined.

**Issue Identification, Analysis, Public Comment Period and Decision Date** are all unknown at this time.

## Swiftwater Field Office

### *Timber Management Activities*

**Third Rock Commercial Thinning** – Thinning of 38-56 year old forest stands on approximately 1,125 acres in the Rock Creek watershed within the GFMA, C/D Blocks and Riparian Reserve land use allocations. Three sales are planned which are anticipated to yield approximately 8.5 MMBF of timber.

**Location:** Sections 5, 9, 19, 21, 27, 29 and 33 of T. 25 S., R. 2 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Anticipated fall of 2016

**Decision Date:** Separate decisions for each sale are anticipated in fiscal year 2017 and 2018.

**Back in Black Harvest Plan** – Regeneration harvest of forest stands on approximately 541 acres in the Calapooya Creek and Lower North Umpqua watersheds is planned within the GFMA land use allocation. No entries for the purpose of timber management would be made into thinned and unthinned Riparian Reserves associated with many of the proposed units. Three sales are planned, anticipated to yield approximately 13.0 MMBF of timber chargeable to the Roseburg District annual allowable sale quantity.

**Location:** Sections 5, 7, and 17 of T. 24 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 1 and 13 of T. 24 S., R. 4 W.; and Section 17 of T. 25 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Anticipated summer of 2016

**Decision Date:** Separate decisions for each sale are anticipated in fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

**Calapooya Creek Harvest Plan** – Commercial thinning, variable density thinning and variable retention harvest of 30-73 year old forest stands on 1,275 acres in the Calapooya Creek and Lower North Umpqua watersheds is planned within GFMA and C/D Blocks land use allocations.

**Location:** Sections 7, 17, 19, 29, and 33 of T. 25 S., R. 3 W.; Sections 23 and 25 of T. 25 S., R. 4 W., Sections 5, 7, 9, 17 of T. 24 S., R. 3 W; and Sections 1, 9, 11, 13, 15 of T. 24 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** April 3 through May 4, 2015

**Decision Date:** A decision for the Green Gas timber sale was signed August 11, 2015 and sold on September 15, 2015. A decision for the Good Boyd timber sale was signed January 20, 2016 and sold on February 23, 2016. A decision for the Yellow Medicine timber sale is anticipated in fiscal year 2017 or 2018.

## *Restoration Activities*

**2016 Swiftwater In-stream Restoration** – The BLM would conduct four in-stream restoration projects on BLM-administered lands in the Riparian Reserve and Late-Successional Reserve land use allocations: 1) Pass Creek, 2) Big Tom Folley, 3) Upper Elk Creek, and 4) Gossett Creek. Activities would include tree felling, installing in-stream structures such as logs, trees, root wads, and boulders, replacing a culvert, planting native species, and removing noxious weeds. The analysis of effects tiers to the 2008 Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09). The projects would be implemented over the next three to four years.

**Location:** Sections 15 and 33 of T. 24 S., R. 1 W.; Sections 23 and 35 of T. 21 S., R. 7 W.; and Sections 3 and 13 of T. 24 S., R. 4 W. W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Determination of NEPA Adequacy. Roseburg District Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ORWA-R000-2008-0009-EA/OR-103-08-09).

**Decision Date:** A decision for these projects will be published in summer of 2016.

**Thunder Mountain Quarry Expansion** – Expansion of the existing Thunder Mountain Quarry, by up to 8 acres in phased increments, within Little River and Middle North Umpqua watersheds is planned within the Adaptive Management Area and GFMA land use allocations. It is anticipated that the proposed action would yield approximately 228,000 loose cubic yards of rock over the next 25 years in multiple entries, which would provide for the projected quantity of rock for identified future road surfacing needs and provide extraction opportunities for other government entities, private industry, individuals, and nonprofit organizations.

**Location:** SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 29, T. 26 S., R. 2 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Complete

**Analysis:** Environmental Assessment

**Public Comment Period:** Anticipated summer of 2016

**Decision Date:** Anticipated summer of 2016.

## *Other Activities*

There are no previously ongoing planning efforts for other activities in the Swiftwater Field Office.

## *North Bank Habitat Management Area (NBHMA) Activities*

Cattle grazing continues to be used as a tool to manage vegetation on the east side of the NBHMA (Blacktail Basin). The grazing helps improve forage conditions for Columbian white-tailed deer by reducing thatch and stimulating grass and forb growth. A mix of temporary and existing fencing has been used to delineate pastures and manage grazing intensity. Permanent gates have been installed at locations where the fences cross roads. In addition, new fence construction is planned along the east side of the lower half mile of the west fork of Jackson Creek.

Other ongoing projects include invasive species removal thorough out the NBHMA, a Columbian white-tailed deer GPS collar study in partnership with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and maintenance of special status species plant populations.

**Location:** Sections 31, 32, and 33, T. 25 S., R. 4 W., W.M.; Sections 35 and 36, T. 25 S., R. 5 W., W.M.; Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, and 14, T. 26 S., R. 5 W., W.M. and Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, T. 26 S., R. 4 W., W.M.

**Issue Identification:** Completed.

**Analysis:** Completed – these activities are covered by the North Bank Habitat Management Area/ACEC Final EIS (September 2000)

**Public Comment Period:** Completed in September 2000.

**Decision Date:** September 2000.

**West Entrance Trailhead Improvements** – Due to the increasing use by the public of the North Bank Habitat Management Area, the BLM proposes improvements to the current West Entrance parking area for recreation purposes. The draft proposal includes installation of a single-vault restroom to provide for health and sanitation, installation of an information kiosk, and a pull-through gravel parking area for vehicles and vehicles with trailers.

**Location:** Section 11, T. 26 S., R. 5 W., W.M.

**Issue identification:** Ongoing

**Analysis:** Determination of NEPA Adequacy. Covered by the North Bank Habitat Management Area/ACEC Final EIS (September 2000)

**Public Comment Period:** The BLM held two public meetings on May 12 and May 14, 2016.

**Decision Date:** Anticipated fall of 2016.

## Volunteer Opportunities

- **Eagle Scout projects:** projects may include recreation site improvements like fence and trail work, building and installing benches and railings, and sign installation.
- **Job shadows** are available for motivated high school and college students interested in natural resource management careers. Contact Cheyne Rossbach at 541.464.3245 or [crossbac@blm.gov](mailto:crossbac@blm.gov)
- **Self-directed volunteer projects** are available as well, depending on interests, experience level, and available staff time.

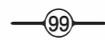
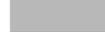


Contact Suzanne Shelp ([sshelp@blm.gov](mailto:sshelp@blm.gov) or call 541-464-3291) regarding any volunteer opportunities on the Roseburg district. Thank you!

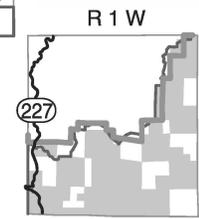
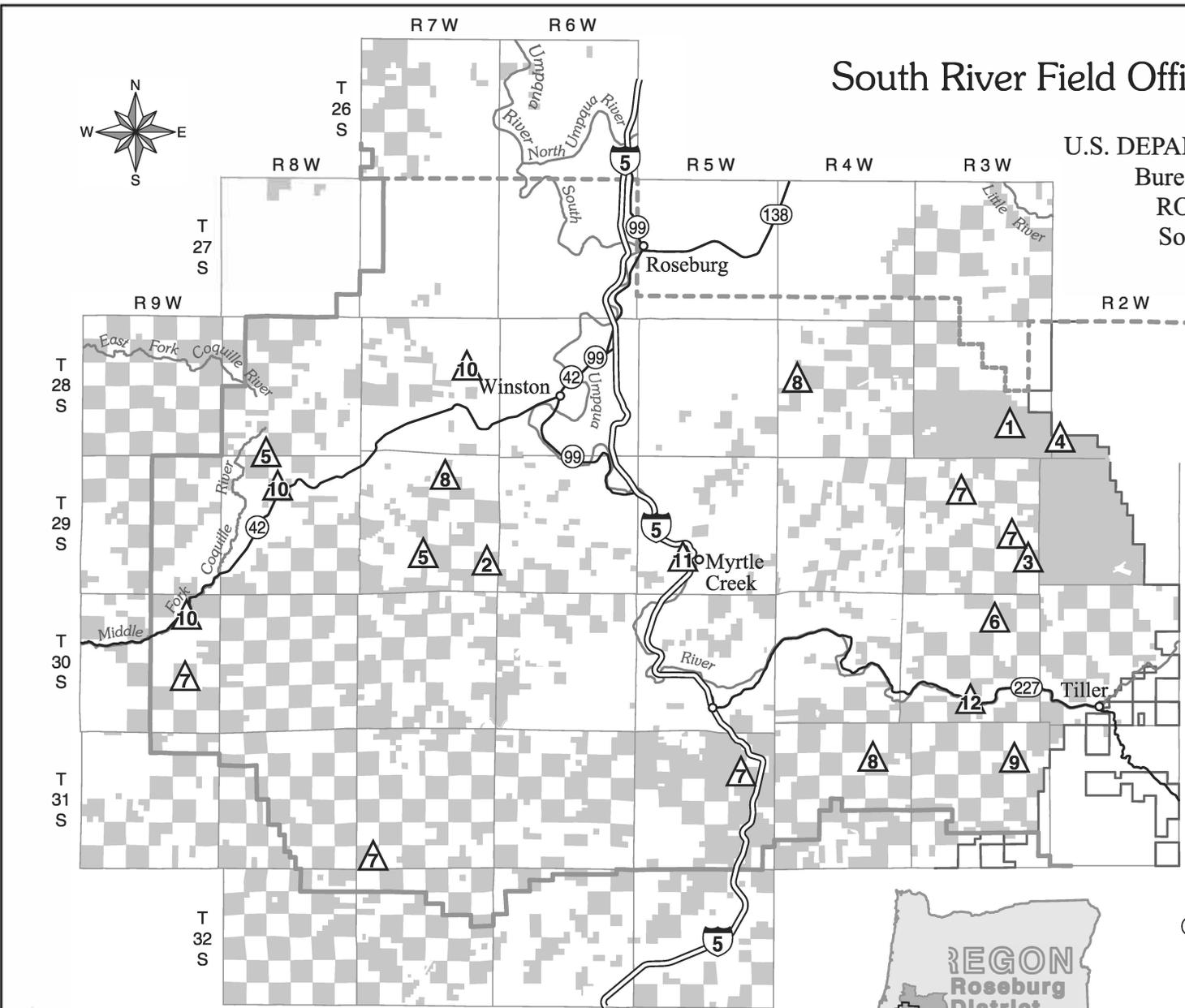
# South River Field Office Planning Update

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 Bureau of Land Management  
 ROSEBURG DISTRICT  
 South River Field Office  
 Summer 2016

## LEGEND

-  Interstate Highway
-  State Highway
-  BLM District Boundary
-  BLM Resource Area Boundary
-  National Forest Boundary
-  BLM Administered Land

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.



- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|  White Rock Travel Management Plan   |  Days Creek- South Umpqua Harvest Plan          |  2016 Cycle Oregon Special Recreation Permit |
|  Rice Creek Stream Restoration       |  2018 South River In-Stream Restoration         |  PacifiCorp Transmission Line ROW Grant      |
|  Revised Myrtle Creek Harvest Plan   |  Roseburg District Quarry Expansion             |   |
|  White Castle Temporary Closure      |  Stouts Creek Fire Roadside Safety & Fuel Break |   |
|  Olalla - Camas Regeneration Harvest |  Douglas Electric Powerline ROW Grant           |   |



## Abbreviations and Definitions

**ACEC/RNA** – Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area

**BO** - Biological Opinion.

**C/D Blocks** – Connectivity/Diversity Blocks land use allocation

**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** – This is 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).

**ERFO** – Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads

**FONSI - Finding of No Significant Impact** - This is a document that briefly presents the reasons why the implementation of an action will not result in “significant” environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in the Roseburg District’s *Proposed Resource Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* (PRMP/EIS, October 1994).

**GFMA** – General Forest Management Area land use allocation

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

**Matrix Lands** – Comprised of Connectivity/Diversity Blocks and General Forest Management Area land use allocations. Most timber harvest contributing to the Allowable Sale Quantity takes place in this area. Approximately 19% of the Roseburg District BLM is matrix. (Land use allocation under the NWFP & 1995 ROD/RMP).

**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.

**NWFP** - 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.

**Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD/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 analysis 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.