

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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To: District Managers: Idaho: Upper Columbia/Salmon/Clearwater and Lower Snake River; Oregon: Burns, Prineville, Spokane, and Vale; Montana: Missoula Field Office

From: State Director

Subject: Field Unit Annual Report

DD: 02/28/2003

Attached is the PACFISH/INFISH annual report to be completed by your staff. The report includes both a questionnaire and spreadsheet (see attachments). Required responses to the questionnaire *and* spreadsheet are due no later than **February 28, 2003**, to the Columbia River Coordinator via Cathy Selby, Office Assistant (email: cselby@fs.fed.us), for the Forest Service and to Dorothy Mason, Endangered Species Coordinator, for the Bureau of Land Management. The reports will be reviewed for completion and consolidated.

Information generated will be used to complete the annual report cards to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on implementation of legal obligations identified in the 1998 programmatic Salmon, Steelhead, and Bull Trout Biological Opinions. In addition, the responses to the questionnaire and spreadsheet will be compiled and incorporated into the annual Federal Caucus progress report that will be submitted to the Council on Environmental Quality Salmon Policy Team. These annual progress reports are used to evaluate the level and type of federal agency actions needed to implement commitments identified in the All H Paper.

A spreadsheet has been included this year to initiate tracking on a subset of aquatic restoration actions in the interior Columbia basin consistent with those tracked by the Interagency Restoration Database (IRDA) (Northwest Forest Plan). For Field Units in Oregon and Washington, if you are already tracking restoration accomplishments in IRDA, *you will not need* to complete this spreadsheet.

If you have any questions, please contact your regional Interagency Implementation Team representative.

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this IB and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

/s/ Jay K. Carlson (for)
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State Director, OR/WA
USDI Bureau of Land
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/s/ K Lynn Bennett
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2 Attachments

- 1 - [Questionnaire](#) (12 pp)
- 2 - [Spreadsheet](#) (1 p)

Distribution

OR-931 (Joe Moreau) - 1
OR-930 (Dorothy Mason) - 1
OR-030 - 1

United States
Department of
Interior

Bureau of
Land Management

OR/WA/
ID/MT

Directions for Completing the Field Unit Annual Report

The Field Unit Annual Report is to be completed by **February 28, 2003**. Completed responses to the Questionnaire and Spreadsheet are to be forwarded via email to the Columbia River Coordinator via Cathy Selby, Office Assistant, (email: cselby@fs.fed.us) for the Forest Service and to Dorothy Mason, Endangered Species Coordinator and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Coordinator, for the Bureau of Land Management .

Note: Narratives, though they may be brief, are critical to a quality report. In most cases we have made short narratives a requirement for “not implemented” responses. This helps in assessing the status of each field unit. Please take the time to include this important information.

EXAMPLE:

Item #5b (Bull trout BO): Provide descriptions, locations, and maps of unroaded and low road density areas, and existing information on the relative habitat value of the areas of bull trout

Being implemented Not Implemented

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

Response: Information has been provided to the IIT as requested for both FS and BLM units.

Attachment 1-1

USDI Bureau of Land Management District Managers

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM 9/12/97 STEELHEAD BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT as described in 6/19/98 LRMP BO For FIVE ANADROMOUS SPECIES (Appendix 1, pp 76_81)

1. BA Recommendation #1: Extend measures identified in the NMFS Biological Opinion of March 1, 1995 and all subsequent related direction to Land and Resource Management Plans.

Implemented Not Implemented

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”):

2. BA Recommendation #3: Use National Marine Fisheries Service Matrix and Level 1 teams to assess ongoing actions.

Being implemented Not Implemented

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”):

3. BA Recommendation #4: Use special management consideration in Selway, South Fork Salmon and Middle Fork Salmon. Applies to FS Regions 1 & 4 only.

Implemented Not Implemented Not Applicable

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”)

4. BA Recommendation #5: It is important that steelhead habitat restoration be accelerated in the Snake River Basin ESU. It is recommended that the Forest Service and BLM work cooperatively with NOAA-Fisheries,

state agencies, and tribes to develop priorities and adequately fund restoration.”

Does your field unit have a strategy for development of restoration priorities and pooling funding?

Implemented___ Not Implemented___ Not Applicable___

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”)

5. BA Recommendation #6: Review effects to steelhead from commercial permits and noncommercial boating and floating from adverse effects to steelhead spawning. If these actions are adversely affecting steelhead productivity, modify permits to reduce or eliminate the adverse effects. Review all recreational facilities as ongoing Federal actions.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”):

6. BA Recommendation #8: Watersheds within the upper Columbia River basin ESU and the Snake River basin ESU should be treated as key watersheds (as directed by PACFISH) and as designed critical habitat.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”):

Attachment 1-2

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7. BA Recommendation #9: Use these nine BA recommendations indefinitely until new, long-term direction is adopted.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”):

Attachment 1-3

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS FROM THE 6/19/98 LRMP BO FOR FIVE ANADROMOUS SPECIES (from appendix 2, pp 83_90)

1. Mechanism #1.c: Annually (by March 1) review the fiscal year program of work for attainment of fish conservation measures. Reach agreements with National Marine Fisheries Service on the priorities and the identification of shortfalls in funding or staffing.

Implemented (show dates)___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for either response):

2. Mechanism #1.d.3: Implement monitoring commensurate with the level of on-the-ground activities, and provide NMFS feedback on the effects of activities.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response):

3. Mechanism #2.c: Conduct biennial programmatic reviews and/or project bundling by watershed or sub basin. This will occur every two years starting with January 15, 1999. Update and verify the baseline condition. Individual projects may be considered on a case-by-case basis only to meet unforeseen program and public needs.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response):

4. Mechanism #4: BLM and Forest Service shall exercise their existing authorities on land management programs with a pattern of adverse effects to conserve endangered and threatened species. Protect critical habitat from activities associated with laws that may conflict with ESA (such as ANILCA and Ditch Act, mining laws, etc.)

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response):

5. Mechanism #5.c: Prepare a schedule for completing Watershed Analyses with at least one WA scheduled to be completed per year starting in 1999 per management unit.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response):

List Watershed	Scheduled Completion Date	Management Unit Name

6. Mechanism #5.d.2: By May 1, 2000, USFS and BLM in coordination with NMFS shall complete one sub basin assessment per management unit and at least one per management unit each year thereafter. Use the South Fork Clearwater River Assessment methods and procedures, or procedures developed by Kerry Overton, Rocky Mountain Research Station, or other jointly agreed upon procedures.

List Sub-basin	Document Completed (date)	Peer Reviewed (date)

7. Mechanism #5.d.3: Goals and objectives identified in sub-basin analyses need to be incorporated into action plans at the watershed scale.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

Attachment 1-5

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FS &BLM COMMITMENTS CONTAINED IN THE 6/19/98 AMENDMENT TO THE LRMP BA FOR BULL TROUT (pp 23_26 in the 8/14/98 bull trout BO).

1. Commitment 1: (A) Restoration and Improvements – the FS and BLM in cooperation with NOAA-Fisheries and the USFWS will develop and implement strategies that will integrate and coordinate restoration, protection, and evaluation measures (construction/maintenance, flood repair, watershed and fish habitat improvements, etc.) to expeditiously achieve restoration objectives at multiple scales; **(B) Restoration opportunities** will be identified through an agreed upon approach using existing funding, information and programs, and incorporating new information as it becomes available. *The IIT Interim Restoration Strategy was completed and provided to the Field Units in May, 2000.*

A. Is the National Forest or Resource Management Areas the appropriate scale for integration or should it be done at a broader scale?

Check one: Plan Level? _____ or Broader scale? _____

B. Is the “Interim Restoration Strategy” being used by your Field Unit?

Being Implemented___ Not implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response)

C. In the absence of a formal process, is funding being pooled by field units (e.g. other management budget categories, etc.)?

Implemented___ Not Implemented___ Not Applicable___

Narrative (required for “not implemented response”)

2. Commitment 2: Standards & Guidelines – The USFS and BLM will complete prior commitments in the PACFISH and INFISH decisions, and use the conclusions in the PACFISH, INFISH reviews and the land management plan BA for bull trout and suckers. Prior commitments to be emphasized are:

(I) Commitment 2.a: Road evaluation and Planning (standards RF_2 and RF_3): Implementation of these existing standards in PACFISH & INFISH is necessary to understand and begin reducing impacts from roads on streams with habitat for ESA listed and proposed fish. Achievement of PACFISH/INFISH RF-2 and RF-3 will be a priority

Being implemented___ Not implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response)

- (a) *Commitment 2.a.ii:* As part of watersheds analyses, road inventories, and other appropriate information will be used to collaborate with NMFS and FWS in developing restoration strategies. Restoration strategies will be used to identify key processes needing attention, prioritize key locations and project types, address implementation and scheduling issues and provide a preliminary estimate of costs. These strategies will serve as the primary framework for implementation of integrated restoration activities.**

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(i) Is road inventory information being used in Watershed Analysis?

Yes ___ No ___

If no, what are you using?

(ii) Are you implementing post-watershed analysis restoration strategies?

Yes ___ No ___

If no, describe reasons in narrative

(iii) Is the IIT “Interim Restoration Strategy” being used in development of post-watershed analysis restoration strategies?

Yes ___ No ___

If no, what strategy is being used?

How does it link to broader-scale priorities?

(b) *Commitment 2 a.iii:* Continue updating road inventories.

(i) Have you updated your road inventory information?

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response)

(ii) Is your road data being updated annually through Sec. 7 baseline or project consultation?

Yes _____ No _____

If no, how often _____

(iii) How complete is your road inventory with respect to the standards described on page 72 of the BO?

25% complete _____ 50% complete _____ 75% _____ 100% _____

(II) Commitment 2.b: Complete prior commitments in PACFISH/INFISH in regards to: Culvert replacement, fish passage, grazing facilities in RHCAs, recreation facilities, and minerals management

(standards RF_4, RF_5, GM_2, RM_1, and MM_2)

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response)

3. Commitment 3.c: Complete watershed analysis in existing INFISH priority watersheds, and special emphasis watersheds (required by PACFISH/INFISH standards TM_1, RF_2, RM_1). Project decisions will be guided by the results of watershed analysis.

Guidance followed (Y or N)?___ If guidance not followed, explain why:

Attachment 1-7

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4. Commitment 3.d: Priorities and schedules for watershed analysis will be developed concurrently with the restoration plans, and updated annually. This is the strategy developed by IIT in May, 2000

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response)

5. Commitment 4: Watershed analysis will be conducted according to "Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale," Field Guide for Watershed Analysis, 1995 as updated (USDA et al. 1995). In general, watershed analysis will not be project driven, but undertaken to generate an information base and recommendations for use in project planning.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response)

6. Commitment 7: Following the agreed upon approach was Sec. 7 consultation on ongoing actions at the watershed level completed by May 1, 2000?

Implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response)

REASONABLE AND PRUDENT MEASURES (pp 94 of the FWS bull trout BO of 8/14/98)

1. Measure #1: Apply the review criteria described on pages C_3 through C_9 of the PACFISH ROD (USDS & USDI, 1995a), and A_1 through A_6 of the INFISH FONSI (USDA 1995) to ensure that proposed actions are fully consistent with applicable standards and guidelines and ACS objectives.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response)

2. Measure #2: Utilize the Level 1 team consultation process and apply the "bull trout Matrix" or a similar approach as agreed to by the agencies to evaluate actions to determine the potential effects to bull trout, and to assure interagency coordination to complete the consultation process. In addition, update the environment baseline at the Sec. 7 watershed scale to include proposed actions once consultation is concluded.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for "not implemented" response)

3. Measure #4: Together with the Service, collaborate in development of multiyear road restoration strategies for key priority and special emphasis watersheds.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response)

4. Measure #6: Apply the result of watershed analysis where required or applicable, and consider expected benefits to bull trout during the design and prioritization of instream habitat enhancement and restoration actions to ensure that potential short-term adverse effects to bull trout are outweighed by long-term benefits.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response)

Attachment 1-8

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5. Measure #7: Ensure that the timing of any work within intermittent or perennial stream channels associated with these projects is designed to minimize/reduce short-term adverse effects to aquatic habitat and bull trout.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

6. Measure #8: Apply relevant PACFISH and INFISH objectives, standards and guidelines, and relevant aspects of the June 19, 1998, additional commitments in design and implementation of watershed and habitat restoration actions.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

7. Measure #9: Avoid, reduce or minimize the adverse effects of road construction, reconstruction and maintenance on bull trout habitat components; particularly water quality, flow and hydrology, and channel condition and dynamics.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

8. Measure #10: Review, modify, and implement annual operating instructions or term grazing permits for those allotments/leases which encompass streams known or expected to contain bull trout addressed in the BO to meet appropriate PACFISH or INFISH objectives.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

9. Measure #11: Develop and implement grazing management plans and practices in areas of known or suspected bull trout spawning to minimize/reduce trampling of redds and other direct and indirect effects that may result in take of the species.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

10. Measure #12: As allotment management plans are amended or revised, modify the AMPs to meet appropriate PACFISH or INFISH objectives.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___
Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

11. Measure #13: Minimize/reduce the adverse effects of mining actions, including placer mining, recreational suction dredging, and gold panning, that result in take of the species by implementing all relevant standards

and guidelines (e.g., MM_1, MM_2, etc).

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

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12. Measure #14: Analyze, design, and implement timber harvest activities to address impacts from the action on water quality, habitat access, habitat elements, channel condition and dynamics, stream flow, hydrology, and watershed conditions.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FROM THE 8/14/98 LRMP BO FOR BULL TROUT, (pp 96_99)

1. T&C #2: To ensure that proposed actions designed in accordance with relevant standards and guidelines are in fact consistent with PACFISH and INFISH ACS objectives, USFS and BLM decision makers will apply the results of watershed analysis and other relevant information to conclude that actions either "meet" or "do not prevent attainment" of the ACS objectives. The conclusion must be documented and supporting rationale provided. Examples of tools for the documentation include, but are not limited to materials provided at interagency workshops on the bull trout conference process (e.g., the bull trout matrix and outline for watershed BAs) and Adequate Documentation for Changes to ACS.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

2. T & C #3: To ensure that an interagency, interdisciplinary process is used to implement management direction in the LRMPs, utilize the Level 1 team streamlining consultation process; the bull trout watershed consultation approach as outlined in the January 27, 1998, letter of direction and as updated by any new, revised interagency direction; and apply the bull trout Checklist and Matrix of Pathways and Indicators (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998), or a similar agreed upon approach, to evaluate all proposed actions that may affect bull trout.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

3. T&C #6: Addresses mining operations (BLM only).

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

4. T&C #7: For Watershed and Habitat Restoration Actions; Provide documentation of information and criteria used to design and prioritize actions to demonstrate that the timing of in-channel work associated with the subject projects will minimize short-term adverse effects to aquatic habitat, and to demonstrate compliance with the applicable objectives and standards and guidelines of these Conservation Strategies.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

5. T&C #8: For Watershed Habitat Restoration Actions; To ensure that proposed actions are designed to provide for long term habitat benefits while avoiding, minimizing, or reducing short term impacts, utilize information and

Attachment 1-10

recommendations from completed watershed scale environmental baseline and the determination of effects of proposed actions using the bull trout Matrix and Checklist, or an agreed upon approach.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

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6. T&C #9: For Road Construction Actions; To avoid or minimize incidental take associated with the adverse effects of road construction, reconstruction and maintenance on water quality, flow and hydrology, and channel condition and dynamics, each administrative unit shall apply the pertinent standards and guidelines for road construction and decommissioning as described in the LRMPs, as amended by PACFISH and INFISH.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

7. T&C #10: For Road Construction Actions; New roads (temporary, semi-permanent or permanent) in RHCAs shall be minimized to the greatest extent possible, and shall be constructed only where watershed analyses have been completed to document that the roads would not prevent attainment of ACS objectives.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

8. T&C #11: For Livestock Grazing Actions; When reviewing and modifying grazing actions to minimize/reduce incidental take, amend livestock grazing annual operating instructions, term grazing permits or leases to incorporate appropriate criteria for evaluating ecological conditions of affected areas to ensure attainment of ACS objectives. The evaluation criteria should be developed by USFS and/or BLM range and other interdisciplinary specialists, in coordination with the Service through Level 1 teams.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

9. T&C #12: For Livestock Grazing Actions; Implement management actions, as appropriate, to minimize the impact of livestock grazing in known bull trout spawning areas. Some actions that may be considered include numbers of animals, timing and duration or grazing, herding, fencing of riparian areas, or upland water sites.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

10. T&C #13: For mining operations where the administrative unit has discretion to require a Plan of Operations, require such a plan if the mining operation has the potential to adversely affect bull trout. Ensure that the plan complies with applicable minerals management standards and guidelines for ACS.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

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11. T&C #14: For Timber Harvest Actions; Analyze, design, and implement timber harvest activities to meet the requirements of PACFISH and INFISH, and such additional measures as needed to minimize/reduce incidental take of bull trout, through incorporation of the following terms and conditions as appropriate for site specific concerns: a) Evaluate effects to bull trout and develop mitigation measures. i. Utilize the indicators for bull trout habitat needs contained in the bull trout matrix, or a similar evaluation tool agreed upon by the agencies; ii. Utilize information from: scientific literature; models validated with local data wherever possible; and on-site studies to evaluate slope stability, and landslide hazard and risk; b) Develop and implement approaches that address and minimize the potential incidental take of bull trout from fuel storage and transportation associated with timber harvest actions.

Being implemented___ Not Implemented___

Narrative (required for “not implemented” response):

