

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Oregon State Office
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208**

In Reply Refer to:
5400 (OR-931) P

August 27, 2003

EMS TRANSMISSION 08/28/2003
Information Bulletin No. OR-2003-234

To: District Managers: Lakeview, Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Medford, and Coos Bay
From: Deputy State Director for Resource Planning, Use and Protection
Subject: Late-Successional Reserve Acres Available for Commercial Thinning Treatment (Density Management Restoration) DD: 09/08/2003

The purpose of this Information Bulletin (IB) is to collect information regarding available Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) acres and associated per acre volume throughout the western Oregon (LSR) network. This information will be used in developing a strategy that will allow the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to meet Resource Management Plan (RMP) late-successional habitat development objectives and meet the LSR timber production commitments specified in the terms of the Settlement Agreement reached between the American Forest Resource Council (AFRC) et. al., and the United States Department of Justice.

In order to develop a strategy for implementing a LSR thinning program in the LSRs, it is important for BLM to accurately assess the available operable acres located in LSR, as well as the potential per acre harvest volume that could be expected to result from harvest operations in the LSR.

To aid in the development of this strategy, the Districts are to compile LSR data on the attached "Western Oregon BLM Estimated Available LSR Commercial Thinning Acres and Volumes" table and return it to Lyndon Werner, Oregon State Office (OR-931), by September 8, 2003. The information requested in each column is defined as follows:

Column 1: Use the row with your district's name.

Column 2: The thinnable age class is the age range in which trees are sufficiently sized for commercial operations, but not exceeding the maximum age allowable for operations within an individual LSR. The lower limit for thinning is based on the productivity in the area where the LSR is located. The upper limit is set by the RMP. If the lower age limits need adjusting from what the attached form indicates, the Districts should adjust them to be consistent with local conditions.

Column 3: The total number of LSR acres on a specific District in the thinnable age classes.

Column 4: The acres located in the LSR land use allocation in each District that currently needs thinning treatment

to place the stands on a developmental trajectory that will allow them to meet LSR objectives. These acres should be a sub-set of those acres specified in Column 3.

Column 5: The acres upon which harvest operations to meet LSR objectives can physically and economically be conducted while meeting other constraints such as Endangered Species Act, Special Status Species program, etc. These acres should be a sub-set of the acres specified in Column 4.

Column 6: The average volume that each acre specified in Column 5 would produce.

On August 1, 2003, the Department of Justice reached a settlement agreement with the American Forest Resource Council and others requiring the BLM to meet the timber production goals specified in the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP). A portion of this agreement specifies a specific harvest level be produced from the LSR network specified under the NWFP. To develop a LSR thinning strategy, accurately estimated treatable acres and volumes are needed.

For additional information, contact Lyndon Werner, Forester (OR-931), at (503) 808-6071.

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.

Signed by
/s/ Judy Ellen Nelson

Authenticated by
Mary O'Leary
Management Assistant

1 Attachment

1 - [Western Oregon BLM Estimated](#) LSR Commercial Thinning Acres and Volumes (1 p)

Distribution

WO-270(204 LS)
OR-014 (Rodney Johnson)
OR-082 (Jeffrey Gordon)
OR-090 (Dave DeMoss)
OR-100 (Steven Niles)
OR-110 (David D. Reed)
OR-120 (Jon Menten)

Western Oregon BLM Estimated Available LSR Commercial Thinning Acres and Volumes					
1	2	3	4	5	6
District	Thinnable Age Class	Total LSR Acres in Thinnable Age Classes	LSR Acres needing Commercial thinning to meet LSR Objectives	Operational acres within current/anticipated constraints*	Expected MBF/Acre that sales will produce
Coos Bay	30-70				
Eugene	40-70				
Medford	40-70				
Roseburg	40-70				
Salem	30-70				
Salem	80-110				

* Acres that can physically and economically be thinned while meeting other constraints (i.e. special status species, ESA, etc)

