

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

In Reply Refer to:
5200 (OR-932) P

October 9, 2002

EMS TRANSMISSION 10/09/2002
Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2003-001
Expires: 09/30/2003

To: District Managers (Salem, Eugene, Coos Bay, Roseburg, Medford, Lakeview)

From: Associate State Director

Subject: Update of Land Use Allocation Data and
Identification of Data Stewards

DD: November 1, 2002
November 29, 2002

Program Areas: Land Use Planning, GIS, Wildlife, Recreation.

Purpose: There are two purposes for this Instruction Memorandum (IM): 1) to update resource management plan (RMP) data; and 2) to identify district data stewards for this data.

Policy/Action: Attachment 1 outlines the policy for updating RMP Land Use Allocation Data and stewardship responsibilities. Districts are requested to submit the names of their district data stewards for the Land Use Allocation Data sets listed in Attachment 1 to Chris Cadwell (OR-932). The districts are requested to update Land Use Allocation Data according to the standards outlined in Attachment 2 and provide it to David Haney (OR-955). As part of the update of the Northwest Forest Plan Land Use Allocation Data, the districts are to compile their current data on large administratively withdrawn areas and to review key watershed data as described in Attachment 3. In order to document changes to land use allocations since the initiation of the Northwest Forest Plan, the districts are requested to list the management actions which have resulted in changes to allocations since 1994 and to send the list to Chris Cadwell (OR-932; Eugene District Office). Attachment 4 provides instructions on reporting changes to allocations.

Time-frame: Identification of stewards (Attachment 1) is to occur by November 1, 2002. Update of data is to be completed by November 29, 2002

2

Budget Impact: This is a refinement of existing standards for the operational maintenance of land use planning data and has minimal direct budgetary impact.

Background: The purpose of this update policy and data standards is to facilitate the continuous maintenance of the RMP allocation data across the western Oregon districts as changes occur over time. Since 1994 the various administrative units within the Northwest Forest Plan have developed their own standards, based on their own needs, for mapping and management of the land use allocation data. The Northwest Forest Plan monitoring teams, Survey and Manage annual species review, and local interagency analyses have revealed the need for updated Northwest Forest Plan-wide land use allocation data. In 2001, the Regional Interagency Executive Committee formed a working

group to establish interagency data standards for the purpose of compiling the current agency allocation data for the Northwest Forest Plan area. This IM directing that the BLM RMP data be updated will create the information needed to respond to this interagency data request, and result in revised maintenance procedures and standards for BLM RMP data related to land use allocations. Internally this is among the most frequently used data in day-to-day GIS operations, and it is essential for the periodic RMP evaluations. This data is also provided to other agencies and to the public by the districts, State Office, and Regional Ecosystem Office.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: None

Coordination: The interagency data standards were developed by an interagency working group established through the Regional Ecosystem Office. Drafts of these standards have been shared with the district planners and GIS community through email and presentations at the Field Users Group. Oregon State Office staff conducted a meeting with the district planners and GIS coordinators to develop the work plan reflected in this IM. The Oregon State Office Deputy State Director for Resources Planning, Use and Protection (OR-930) and OR-930 branch chiefs have been briefed on this data request.

Contact: Chris Cadwell (OR-932; stationed in the Eugene District Office; 541-683-6120) is the primary contact. David Haney (OR-955; 503-808-6429) can be contacted for GIS-related issues. It is assumed that district planners will be the primary points of contact for this work unless otherwise designated.

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this Information Memorandum and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your Servicing Personnel Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

Signed by
Judy Ellen Nelson
(Acting)

Authenticated by
Cindy Fredrickson

3

4 Attachments

- 1 - [Land Use Allocation Update Policy and Stewardship](#) (2 pp)
- 2 - [Data Standards and Technical Specifications for BLM Land Use Allocation Data](#) (5 pp)
- 3 - [Large Administratively Withdrawn Areas; Review of Key Watersheds](#) (2 pp)
- 4 - [Documenting Changes to Land Use Allocations](#) (1 p)

Distribution

WO-210 (Room1050 LS) - 1
 OR-931 (Joe Lint, Margaret Wolf) - 2
 OR932 (Chris Cadwell, Nancy Diaz) - 2
 OR-933 (Leslie Frewing-Runyon, Eric Stone, Harold Belisle) -3
 OR-955 (David Haney) - 1
 REO (Dale Guenther, Debbie Pietrzak) - 2
 OR-010 (Don Hoffheins, Mike Limb, Gayle Sitter) - 3
 OR-080 (Paul Jeske, Mark Koski, Roy Price) - 3
 OR-090 (Wayne Elliot, Don Wilbur, Jay Ruegger, Eric Greenquist) - 4
 OR-100 (Phil Hall, Dale Gough, Christopher Foster) - 3
 OR-110 (Jim McConnell, Rick Prusz, Jim Harper) - 3
 OR-120 (Bob Gunther, Alan Ward, Kerrie Palermo) - 3

Purposes of this Policy

- Establish data standards and update procedures to support the maintenance of the Land Use Allocation Data for the resource management plans and the Northwest Forest Plan
- Establish District Data Stewards for this data and outline their responsibilities.

Establishment of these standards and update procedures will provide for consistent data across the six western Oregon Districts.

Background

The western Oregon RMPs adopted the Late-Successional Reserves, Adaptive Management Areas, and Matrix allocations from the February 1994 FSEIS on *Management of Habitat of Late-Successional and Old Growth Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (Northwest Forest Plan - NWFP). The RMPs made further delineation of the NWFP matrix lands into a mix of General Forest Management Areas (GFMA), Connectivity Diversity Blocks (CON), and District Defined Reserves (DDR). The corporate level data for the RMP allocations was last updated in 1998 for the evaluations of the RMPs. This policy sets forth the procedures to facilitate continuous update of the corporate level GIS data for the Primary Land Use Allocations, along with Late-Successional Reserves associated with Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites and Known Spotted Owl Activity Centers.

The Regional Interagency Executive Committee formed a workgroup to develop standards for compiling the current agency Land Use Allocation data across the NWFP. The standards and update procedures outlined in this memo will support current and future needs for compiling the agency allocation data across the NWFP.

Update Policy

- 1) **Land Use Allocation (LUA theme)** - The standards for allocation categories are outlined in Attachment 2. Update of the LUA data should occur directly after any of the following actions have been finalized:
 - A) Disposal of Lands - finalized on the date of patent, quit claim deed or other transfer document.
 - B) Acquired Lands - finalized when the final title opinion is received from the regional solicitor.
 - C) Land Exchanges - finalized on the date the exchange closes.

Attachment 1 - 1

- D) Changes of allocations resulting from NEPA, Congressional, or Presidential actions - finalized on the decision, legislation approval, or proclamation date.

As new lines are created for land acquisitions coordination with the District Landlines (LLI), data stewards are encouraged to build coincidence between LUA and LLI GIS themes as appropriate.

- 1) **Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites (OMMS theme)** - The standards for this theme are outlined in attachment two. Update of Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites data should occur directly after the identification of a new Occupied Marbled Murrelet Site.
- 2) **Known Spotted Owl Activity Centers (KOAC theme)** - The standards for this theme are outlined in Attachment 2. Since Known Owl Activity Centers are based on sites as of January 1, 1994, and these sites have been previously mapped, no additional sites should be added to this data set. Refinement of boundaries

may occur to better tie to readily identifiable ground features for implementation purposes.

District Data Stewardship Responsibilities

The district data steward(s) for Land Use Allocation (LUA), Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites (OMMS), and Known Spotted Owl Activity Centers (KOAC) GIS themes serve as the primary point of contact for their district. The steward is responsible for ensuring edits and updates of these themes are timely, accurate, and consistent with standards outlined in this policy. The stewards are also responsible for approving who has edit rights to the data.

The District Planner should have an active role in the management of this data to ensure consistency with the District Resource Management Plans, even if the Planner is not designated as the District Steward.

Designation of Stewards

District are requested to supply the names of their District Data Stewards to Chris Cadwell by November 1, 2002, for the following GIS themes.

- Primary Land Use Allocations - (LUA)
- Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites - (OMMS)
- Known Owl Activity Centers. - (KOAC)

Questions on Stewardship may be referred to the State Data Stewards: Chris Cadwell (for LUAs), Joe Lint (for OMMSs and KOACs).

Attachment 1 - 2

Attachment 2 - Data Standards and Technical Specifications for BLM Land Use Allocation Data

Districts are requested to update the Land Use Allocation (LUA), Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites (OMMS), and Known Owl Activity Centers (KOAC) themes in accordance with the standards outlined below. Technical specifications and instructions for providing the data covered in the request to the Oregon State Office can be found at the OSO GIS Web site: <http://www.or.blm.gov/gis/>

1) Land Use Allocation (LUA)

The Land Use Allocation theme was last updated corporately as part of the RMP evaluations in 1998. <http://web.or.blm.gov/records/ib/98/b98331.htm>

1A) Land Use Allocation - Categories & BLM /NWFP Interagency Crosswalk

The districts will update the BLM LUA coverage with the categories and hierarchy on the left in the table below. The OSO GIS staff will cross walk the data to fill in the corresponding Northwest Forest Plan categories.

BLM LUA Categories & Hierarchy (SUBJ_LUA)	Northwest Forest Plan Interagency Categories
Congressionally Reserved - (CCGR)	Congressionally Reserved - (CR)
Late-Successional Reserves - (LSR)	Late-Successional Reserves - (LSR)

Adaptive Management Area w/ LSR (AMR)	Adaptive Management Area w/ LSR (AMR)
Adaptive Management Areas - (AMA)	Adaptive Management Areas - (AMA)
General Forest Management Areas - (GFMA)	Other - (Other)
North GFMA - (NGFMA) [Medford only]	Other - (Other)
South GFMA - (SGFMA) [Medford & Lakeview only]	Other - (Other)
Connectivity / Diversity Blocks - (CON)	Other - (Other)
District Defined Reserves - (DDR)	Other - (Other)
National Monument - (MON)	Other - (Other)
No NWFP Designation - (ND)	No NWFP Designation - (ND)

Attachment 2 - 1

1B) Land Use Allocation Definitions

Congressionally Reserved (CCGR/CR) – The following definition is from the NWFP Standards & Guidelines (S&Gs), with additional clarifying text as indicated by the underlined text:

These include Forest Service and BLM lands with congressional designations that normally preclude timber harvest (i.e., preclude timber harvest except in very limited circumstances such as for public health and safety), as well as all other Federal lands not administered by the Forest Service or BLM. Areas within this category include National Parks and Monuments, Wildernesses, wild segments of the Wild and Scenic Rivers system, National Wildlife Refuges, and military reservations (S&Gs, page C-8).

Late-Successional Reserves (LSR) – Map the first two elements of the NWFP’s LSR system: (1) Areas mapped as part of an interacting reserve system; and (2) LS/OG 1 and 2 areas within Marbled Murrelet Zone 1, and certain owl additions, mapped by the Scientific Panel on Late-Successional Forest Ecosystems (1991). These LSRs do not include AMAs (S&Gs, page C-9).

Adaptive Management Areas with LSR (AMR) – Adaptive Management Areas are landscape units designated to encourage the development and testing of technical and social approaches to achieving desired ecological, economic, and other social objectives (S&Gs, pages C-21 & D-1). This category encompasses areas designated as **both** Adaptive Management Areas and Element 1 or 2 Late-Successional Reserve Land Allocations.

Adaptive Management Areas (AMA) – As noted above, Adaptive Management Areas are landscape units designated to encourage the development and testing of technical and social approaches to achieving desired ecological, economic, and other social objectives (S&Gs, pages C-21 & D-1). This category encompasses areas that have been designated as Adaptive Management Areas that **are outside of** Element 1 or 2 LSR Land Allocations.

General Forest Management Areas (GFMA/Other) - Defined by the District Resource Management Plans.

Connectivity/Diversity Blocks (CON/Other) - Defined by the District Resource Management Plans.

District Defined Reserves (DDR/Other) - Defined by the District Resource Management Plans.

Attachment 2 - 2

All Other NWFP designated lands (Other) – This category encompasses other Federal lands designated through individual land management plans as Administratively Withdrawn, Matrix, or Riparian Reserves (S&Gs, pages C-29, C-30, & C-39). This category also includes Known Owl Activity Centers and Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites. This category encompasses the BLM LUA General Forest Management Areas, Connectivity Diversity Blocks, and Cascade Siskiyou National Monument categories.

National Monument - (MON/Other) - National Monuments created by Presidential designation and not designated by Congress (i.e., Cascade Siskiyou National Monument).

No NWFP Designation (ND) – This category encompasses Federal lands within the NWFP area that have had no formal designation to identify a NWFP Land Allocation (e.g., West Eugene Wetlands)

1C) - Land Use Allocation Theme - Additional Notes and Instructions

LSR Numbers - During the NWFP, EIS numbers were assigned to the LSRs (Table G-3 FSEIS Vol. II Appendices) to segregate them into individual blocks for analytical purposes. Many LSR Assessments have used and refined this numbering system. An additional attribute has been provided in the LUA theme for the districts to identify/number the individual LSR blocks (optional).

Congressionally Reserved - The definition provided in the 1998 update for Congressionally Reserved included Wild & Scenic Rivers. The 1998 definition was in error in that only the Wild segments are Congressionally designated. Districts should review the Congressionally Reserved designations to ensure they do not include the scenic sections. A corporate standard is being developed for Wild and Scenic Rivers which will have some redundancy with data stored in the LUA theme. It is advisable to review the line work for the Wild segments included in LUA so they can be used when the Wild and Scenic corporate coverage is developed.

No NWFP Designation - This is a new category added to the LUA theme to identify those Federal lands which are not covered by the NWFP. The West Eugene Wetlands is an example. Update of the LUA theme will be needed to add these areas.

Monument - The new category has been added to identify the Presidential designation of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument in the Medford District.

Quality Control - The LUA data stored in the corporate library was last updated in 1998 for the Third Year Evaluation. If a locally stored and edited coverage is submitted, comparison should be made with the data in librarian [??] to ensure any differences between the two are legitimate.

Attachment 2 - 3

2) Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites - (OMMS theme)

The Occupied Marbled Murrelet Site data was last updated corporately as part of the Third Year Evaluation in 1998. <http://web.or.blm.gov/records/ib/98/b98346.htm> The name of the theme is being changed from Marbled Murrelet Core (MMCORE) to Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites (OMMS) to be consistent with the language in the NWFP/RMP.

2A) Definition

This theme represents "Element 3" Late-Successional Reserves for Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites as described on page C-10 of the NWFP S&Gs.

2B) Delineation Criteria

The RMPs for the western Oregon districts within the range of the marbled murrelet specify that protection will be afforded to all contiguous existing habitat and recruitment habitat (stands that are capable of becoming murrelet habitats within 25 years) for marbled murrelets within a ½-mile radius of any site where occupation behavior (e.g., active nest, fecal ring, eggshell fragments, or birds flying low, through, into or out of the forest canopy within or adjacent to a stand) has been verified.

Delineate all contiguous existing habitat and any recruitment habitat that occurs within ½-mile of the location of the observed occupied behavior. Contiguous is defined as all stands of existing habitat and recruitment habitat that are not separated by more than 100 meters at their closest point. Existing and recruitment habitat will be defined by the biologists in the respective districts/resource areas.

Use discernible landscape features such as roads, ridgetops, streams and, if necessary, contrasting edges created by seral stages to define the boundaries of the areas. The ½-mile radius circle should be centered on either the location of the observed occupied behavior or within ½-mile of the behavior location, whichever maximizes an interior old-growth habitat. When occupied areas are close to each other, the ½-mile circles may overlap. In such a case, delineate a boundary between each with an attempt to distribute the designated habitat equally. Include all locations with occupied murrelet behavior as of September 30, 2002, in this delineation effort.

Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites that include any General Forest Management Areas, Connectivity/Diversity Blocks, and/or Adaptive Management Areas should be mapped completely, even if they partially include an area in an LSR, Congressionally Reserved, and/or AMR. Sites which are totally encompassed within LUA theme categories – Congressional Reserved, LSRs, and/or AMR – should not be represented in this data.

Attachment 2 - 4

3) Known Spotted Owl Activity Centers (KOAC theme)

The Known Owl Activity Centers data was last updated corporately as part of the Third Year Evaluation in 1998. <http://web.or.blm.gov/records/ib/98/b98346.htm> The name of the theme is being changed from Norther Spotted Owl Core (NSOCORE) to Known Owls Activity Centers (KOAC) to be consistent with the language in the NWFP.

Since Known Owl Activity Centers are based on sites as of January 1, 1994, and these sites have been mapped previously, no additional sites should be added to this data set. Refinement of boundaries may occur to better tie to readily identifiable ground features for implementation purposes.

3A) Definition

This theme is designed to map Late-Successional Reserves associated with known spotted owl activity centers in Matrix and AMAs (as of January 1, 1994). The criteria for such mapping are identified on pages C-10 and C-11 of the NWFP S&Gs.

The RMPs for the western Oregon districts specified that 100 acres of the best spotted owl suitable habitat will be retained as close to the nest site or owl activity center as possible for all known (as of January 1, 1994) spotted owl activity centers. Mapping of these areas was completed in 1998 as part of the third year evaluation of the RMPs.

3B) Delineation Criteria

Designate the 100-acre areas by delineating the stand of trees containing the center of activity as identified in the Spotted Owl Database and additional Habitat 1 or 2 in the vicinity until approximately 100 acres are delineated. If there is insufficient Habitat 1 or 2 to meet the acreage target, then delineate the next best quality habitat selecting from stands that exceed 50 years of age. Do not go out farther than 3/8-mile to capture habitat acres. If 100 acres are not available within this distance, then designate only that habitat that is available within

the 3/8-mile. The center of activity does not need to be located in the geometric center of the delineated area. The 100-acre areas should be as contiguous as possible using the stand the activity center occurs in, additional Habitat 1 or 2, and other stands older than 50 years. Use landscape features such as roads, ridge tops, and streams to define the boundaries of the 100-acre areas.

Known Owl Activity Centers that include any General Forest Management Areas, Connectivity/Diversity Blocks, and/or Adaptive Management Areas should be mapped completely, even if they partially include an area in an LSR, Congressionally Reserved, and/or AMR. Centers which are totally encompassed within LUA theme categories – Congressional Reserved, LSRs, and/or AMR – should not be represented in this data.

Attachment 2 - 5

Attachment 3 - Large Administratively Withdrawn Areas; Review of Key Watersheds

The data requested in this attachment will be supplied to the Regional Ecosystem Office to meet the interagency standards for large administratively withdrawn areas and Key Watersheds. The interagency standards for large administratively withdrawn areas are fairly broad, and there is no parallel BLM corporate standard data. The intent of the interagency standard was to capture the large areas under these categories and not the entire spectrum of fine scale administratively withdrawn data. Below are definitions for each of the three categories of administratively withdrawn categories. The districts are requested to compile whatever existing data they have which meets these definitions. This is a one time data request for the interagency data request, and this data will not become BLM corporate data.

The interagency standard for large administratively withdrawn areas also addresses Areas of Critical Environmental and Wild and Scenic Rivers. Work is ongoing to create corporate standards for the BLM's management of this data. A request for this data will come in a separate memo when the draft data standards are developed in the next month or so.

Standard Interagency watersheds boundaries have been established at the 5th and 6th field scales. The Oregon State Office will edit the Key Watershed to make the lines coincident with the standard 5th and 6th field lines as appropriate. This revised data will be sent out for review by the districts and forests in the near future. Discussions are underway with the Forest Service on joining in on this effort for the entire Northwest Forest Plan area.

1) Interagency - Large Administrative Withdrawn - Recreation

Definition

This data comprises recreation areas such as back country/near natural areas/large recreational areas or scenic/recreational corridors as managed in current individual land management plans. Include only the portions of such areas in which management emphasis precludes scheduled timber harvest and that are not included in calculations of ASQ (e.g., backcountry semi-primitive recreation, winter recreation, developed recreation, and recreational corridor land allocations). **At a minimum**, include areas that are 40 acres or greater in size and occur in the LUA theme categories of AMA, any types of GFMA, Connectivity, District Defined Reserves, and Monument. Inclusion of areas less than 40 acres in size or that occur outside of these LUA categories mentioned above is optional.

Attachment 3 - 1

2) Interagency - Large Administrative Withdrawn - Wildlife

Definition

This data comprises wildlife areas such as species-specific areas (areas identified for the conservation of bald eagles, mountain goats, lynx, etc.) and specifically designated wildlife habitats as managed in current individual agency land management plans. Include only the portions of such areas in which management emphasis precludes scheduled timber harvest and that are not included in calculations of ASQ. **At a minimum**, include areas that are 40 acres or greater in size and occur in the LUA theme categories of AMA, any types of GFMA, Connectivity, District Defined Reserves, and Monument. Inclusion of areas less than 40 acres in size or that occur outside of these LUA categories mentioned above is optional.

Additional Notes

Do not submit the data covered by the Occupied Marbled Murrelet Sites (OMMS), Known Owl Activity Centers (KOAC), and/or any sites being managed for Survey and Manage Species.

3) Interagency - Large Administrative Withdrawn - Nationally Designated Areas

Definition

Nationally Designated Areas (excluding areas covered in LUA theme as congressionally reserved) with congressional or administrative national designation and areas proposed and managed as for such designation in existing individual land management plans. Include only the portions of such areas in which management emphasis precludes scheduled timber harvest and that are not included in calculations of ASQ (e.g., national recreation areas, national monuments, and national highway corridors, but not scenic byways). Include proposed wilderness areas and proposed wild river segments as managed in individual land management plans (but do not include established wilderness areas or established wild river segments, as these should be in the Congressionally reserved category of the LUA theme). Do not include proposed scenic or recreational segments, proposed research natural areas, proposed special interest areas, or proposed experimental forests; these will be covered in other interagency themes.

Additional Notes

Medford - submit the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument category from the LUA theme for this portion of the data request.

Attachment 3 - 2

Attachment 4 - Documenting Changes to Land Use Allocations

Management Decisions Resulting in Changes to Allocations.

To document the changes to allocations since 1994, a list of management decisions that have resulted in changes to allocations is needed. The intent is to list only actual changes to the land use designations that have resulted from land tenure actions, and/or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decisions to change allocations. It is not intended to describe changes to allocations resulting from refined mapping or interpretations of the 1994 FSEIS data as the BLM developed the RMP maps. The description of changes to allocations are limited to those categories described in the LUA theme.

For each management action provide the following:

- 1) Description of the management decision.
- 2) Description of which of the allocations was changed from the list of the BLM categories in the LUA theme.
- 3) Acreage changed.
- 4) Date of the decision.

Please provide this information by email in a Word document to Chris Cadwell at ccadwell@or.blm.gov.