



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
**U.S. Department
of the Interior**

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Media Advisory

Date: February 16, 2012

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Secretary Salazar to Visit Forestry Pilot Project in Southwest Oregon, Hold Town Hall to Discuss Next Steps in Forest Restoration

Medford Pilot Project Demonstrates Opportunities for Ecological Forestry

MEDFORD, OR—On Tuesday, Feb. 21, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar will be in southwest Oregon to view progress underway on the Medford Pilot Project, one of three ecological forestry pilot projects in the state.

In December 2010, Secretary Salazar set in motion a plan to apply the principles of active forest management, as suggested by Professors Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin, on BLM lands within the Coos Bay, Roseburg, and Medford Districts in Oregon. Drs. Franklin and Johnson believe that an active management program is needed on public lands in the Pacific Northwest to sustain local economies and restore ecological values.

Recently, the BLM released the [Forestry Pilot Project Report](#) which concludes that the three pilot projects demonstrate the character and feasibility of applying ecological forestry principles in BLM's western Oregon forests.

Following the site visit, Salazar will join representatives from the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe at a town hall meeting to discuss the next steps in implementing a comprehensive, sustainable forest restoration strategy.

WHO: Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior
Dan Ashe, Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Butch Blazer, USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources

WHAT: Forestry Pilot Project Site Visit

WHEN: Tuesday, February 21, 2012
9:00 a.m. PDT Forestry Pilot Project Site Visit

WHERE: Forestry Pilot Project Site Visit
*please see RSVP for instructions

RSVP: Media interested in attending the forestry pilot project site visit, please RSVP to Jim Whittington (BLM) at (o) 541-618-2220 or (c) 541-261-0424 to receive additional instructions on meet-up location.

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