

Public Fact Sheet

Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon



Key Facts and Numbers

- **The BLM offers more timber for sale in the Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP), which will help support local communities and meet the purposes of the O&C Act.**
 - The BLM estimates that it will be able to provide 278 million board feet (mmbf) per year in total timber harvest once the plan is fully implemented. This is 75mmbf (37%) more than what the BLM is currently offering.
 - In the Reserves, the BLM would protect stands of older, structurally complex forests, which have the highest value to northern spotted owl. These stands include nearly 100% of older forests.
 - The BLM will harvest timber using the principles of ecological forestry, which incorporates principles of natural forest development, including the role of natural disturbances, in the initiation, development, and maintenance of stands and landscape mosaics.
- **The Proposed RMP offers more protection for the northern spotted owl, listed fish, and water than the Northwest Forest Plan.**
 - Under the Proposed RMP, 75% of the landscape will be in reserves to protect fish, water, wildlife, and other resource values. There is 11% more land in reserves in the Proposed RMP than in the Northwest Forest Plan.
 - Developed in collaboration with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), our Riparian Strategy would focus our protections so that they provide benefits to fish and water that are as good or better than the Northwest Forest Plan, and ensures that local communities can rely on a predictable and sustainable water supply.
 - The BLM worked closely with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to develop management strategies that would contribute to the conservation and recovery of the northern spotted owl.
- **The Proposed RMP will include principles of ecological forestry to help protect the northern spotted owl and incorporate the principles of natural forest development into land management.**
 - Ecological forestry incorporates principles of natural forest development, including the role of natural disturbances in the initiation, development, and maintenance of stands and landscape mosaics.
 - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends the use of ecological forestry in the Revised Recovery Plan for the Northern Spotted Owl.
- **The Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) offers predictable and sustainable outcomes for local communities by increasing job opportunities, tourism and recreation, and timber harvest.**
 - Under the Proposed RMP, the estimated annual harvest value would increase to \$51 million (from value of \$23 million in 2012).
 - Under the Proposed RMP, the estimated value of recreation in 2023 would increase to \$271 million (from \$223 million in 2012).

- Under the Proposed RMP, the estimated contributions to jobs would increase to 8,500 jobs (from 7,900 jobs in 2012).
- **The BLM collaborated with the public, organizations, and government agencies to assemble a plan that will work for western Oregon.**
 - Throughout the course of the planning process, the BLM held 41 public meetings, workshops and forums in western Oregon and received more than 7,000 comments.
- **The Proposed RMP would provide opportunities to implement climate change adaptive strategies and potentially reduce social and ecological disruptions.**
 - The extensive reserve system and protective strategy for riparian management would reduce risks associated with climate change and provide flexibility for managing under changing climate conditions.
 - The extensive reserve system in the Proposed RMP provides a network of habitat protection for owls, accommodation for wildlife, and other disturbances, leading to a more resilient landscape.
 - Riparian protections—including maximum protection for stream shading and wood delivery to streams—give managers flexibility to protect fish and water under changing climate conditions.
- **The Proposed RMP would increase recreation opportunities as compared to what's currently offered on BLM lands in western Oregon.**
 - 20 percent of the planning area would be designated as a Recreation Management Areas (RMAs), which is approximately 491,000 acres.
 - The BLM focused on providing close-to-home recreation access based on 30 and 60 minute travel distances from the 12 most populated communities in the planning area.
 - The BLM identified new potential recreation opportunities through a collaborative effort with members of the public, who contributed their ideas through interactive websites, design charrettes, and comments on the plan.

By the Numbers

- **278mmbf** in total timber harvest (**205 ASQ, 73 non-ASQ**)
- **75%** of land in reserves, which is **11%** more than the Northwest Forest Plan
- Land Use Allocations: **19%** in Harvest Land Base, **38%** in Late Successional Reserve, **26%** in Riparian Reserves, **11%** in Other Reserves, and **6%** in Eastside Management Areas.
- More than **7,000** comments from the public, organizations, and state and federal agencies throughout the planning process
- **41** public meetings
- **20%** of planning area designated as Recreation Management Areas (**491,000 acres**)
- **79,000** acres protected as Lands with Wilderness Characteristics
- **6** additional river segments designated as Wild and Scenic Rivers
- **9** federally recognized Tribes in the planning area
- **27** formal cooperators (given Cooperating Agency status)
- **\$25.6 million** in timber receipts