

## Issue Paper: Wildlife

### Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon



#### **Background:**

More than 200 wildlife species were considered in the analysis for the Resource Management Plans (RMP) for Western Oregon's plan revision. Within the planning area, there are currently 16 wildlife species listed, proposed, or candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

#### **Key Points:**

**Gray Wolf:** The amount of habitat for gray wolves would not change under the alternatives and the Proposed RMP, given the plasticity of gray wolves in using the landscape and their resilience to different land-use management regimes. The opportunities for conflicts between gray wolves and livestock would be reduced under the action alternatives and the Proposed RMP.

**Marbled Murrelet:** All alternatives and the Proposed RMP would result in an increase in the amount of marbled murrelet high-quality nesting habitat and total nesting habitat in 50 years in the decision and planning areas.

**Oregon Spotted Frog:** Under all alternatives and the Proposed RMP, implementation of management direction and associated rangeland health standards would prevent negative effects to Oregon spotted frog eggs, tadpoles, or adults at occupied sites. All alternatives and the Proposed RMP

would control invasive species infestations (e.g., reed canary grass) and avoid development in wetlands that would lead to Oregon spotted frog habitat loss.

**Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp:** Overall, there would be no effects to any designated critical habitat or to 96 percent (293 acres) of vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat due to the protections provided by the Table Rocks Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) under the alternatives and the Proposed RMP. There would be no effects to the remaining 4 percent (14 acres) of fairy shrimp habitat due to the protections provided by the Riparian Reserve management direction. There would not be any negative effect to designated critical habitat or to vernal pool fairy shrimp habitat due to protections provided by the Table Rocks ACEC, and effects would not vary among the alternatives or the Proposed RMP.

**Western Snowy Plover:** Under all alternatives and the Proposed RMP, there would be no negative effects to designated critical habitat or to western snowy plover habitat due to protections provided by the New River ACEC and North Spit ACEC.

**Fisher:** All action alternatives and the Proposed RMP would have a slight loss of fisher habitat in the first two decades, but additional habitat would develop in subsequent decades that would eventually surpass current conditions.

**Greater Sage-grouse:** There would be no discernable difference in effects to greater sage-grouse among the No Action alternative, Alternatives A, B, and C, or the Proposed RMP, and effects from livestock grazing would remain the same as under the current conditions.

**North Oregon Coast Distinct Population Segment of the Oregon Red Tree Vole:** All alternatives and the Proposed RMP would lead to an increase in habitat for red tree voles within the North Oregon Coast DPS in 50 years.

**Bald Eagle & Golden Eagle:** All alternatives and the Proposed RMP would lead to an increase in bald eagle and golden eagle nesting habitat in 50 years.

**Black-tailed Deer & Roosevelt Elk:** The No Action alternative, Alternatives A, B, and C, and the Proposed RMP would increase the amount of high-quality forage habitat for deer and elk on BLM-administered lands in 50 years, but there would be an overall decrease in forage habitat in the planning area.

The Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon will determine how the BLM-administered lands in western Oregon will be managed to produce a sustained yield of timber products, to further the recovery of threatened and endangered species, to provide for clean water, to restore fire-adapted ecosystems, , to provide for recreation opportunities, and to coordinate management of lands surrounding the Coquille Forest with the Coquille Tribe.

For more information, please visit the BLM's Resource Management Plans of western Oregon website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon/index.php>.