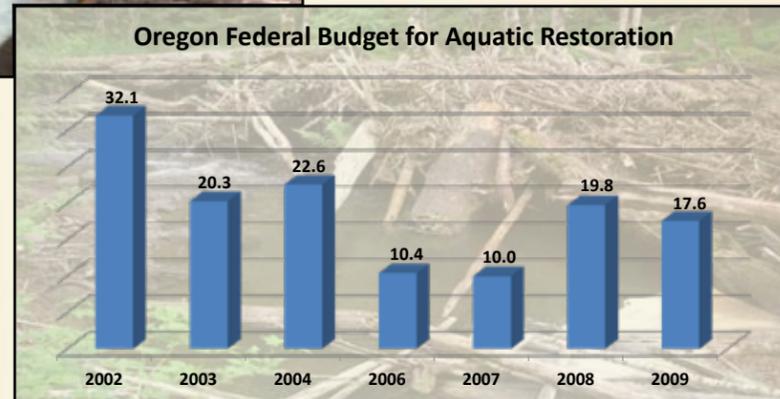




Oregon/Washington BLM will continue to work strategically with partners to determine the most appropriate criteria for prioritizing watersheds and subbasins and focus projects in those areas.

Funding opportunities will be sought through multiple sources in order to best concentrate and leverage the available resources for watershed restoration in high priority areas throughout Oregon.



From 2003 to 2009 Oregon/Washington BLM:

- Completed 62 water quality restoration plans
- Allocated over \$80 million dollars to active restoration projects
- Re-established 1,600 miles of road and removed 484 miles
- Applied riparian vegetation treatments to 452 miles of waterways
- Improved in-stream restoration structures on over 750 miles of waterways
- Completed fish passage projects on 478 miles of waterways
- Restored 4,807 acres of freshwater wetlands and 1,500 acres of coastal wetlands
- Treated 32,000 acres in upland areas and 25,000 acres in riparian areas across the region

RESTORING AQUATIC AND RIPARIAN RESOURCES THROUGHOUT THE REGION

Through active management, BLM strives to achieve resilient aquatic and riparian habitats, conserve listed species and their habitats, and maintain water quality and availability for its many beneficial uses.



BLM has identified Priority Watersheds as part of its 2015 Strategic Plan to focus on future restoration needs with the available workforce and budget.

Priority Watersheds were developed through participation in the Whole Watershed Restoration Initiative (WWRI). The WWRI process included criteria relying heavily on partnerships as well as selections made through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, EcoTrust, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and US Forest Service.

Proposed projects have been matched to the Priority Watersheds in order to concentrate the available restoration resources to mutually agreed upon high priority areas.

For more information, please contact:



Bureau of Land Management

Oregon State Office

Division of Resource Planning, Use and Protection
PO Box 2965, Portland, Oregon, 97208-2965
503-808-6056 or www.blm.gov/oregon



OREGON/WASHINGTON BLM PRIORITY WATERSHEDS - SELECTION OF PROPOSED PROJECTS

NESTUCCA

East Beaver Creek Watershed Restoration- This project includes riparian habitat restoration and road decommissioning and stabilization. Over the last two decades, this watershed has sustained severe storm events resulting in numerous road washouts that have contributed large amounts of sediment into the stream system. Aquatic and riparian habitat has been severely degraded due to these inputs. Proposed project activities would improve water quality by dramatically reducing road failure-related sediment input to East Beaver Creek and the Nestucca River. Salmon populations, including the listed Oregon coast coho, would also benefit from this restoration work.



UPPER SMITH RIVER

Upper Smith River Tributary Instream Habitat Restoration- Over the past several years, the BLM Coos Bay District, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Smith River Watershed Council – with support from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, have partnered on instream restoration projects within the Upper Smith Watershed. Restoration work would focus on North Sisters Creek and its tributary Russell Creek. These streams currently support populations of coho salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout, but are deficient in stream habitat complexity. Instream log and boulder placement would help improve gravel retention and floodplain connectivity, and provide winter refugia for juvenile salmonids. Approximately 4 miles of instream habitat would be improved.



MYRTLE CREEK

South Myrtle Fish Habitat Enhancement- Restoration would occur on BLM land and adjacent private land in collaboration with the Partnership for Umpqua Rivers. Project work would focus on improving habitat for the benefit of Oregon coast coho salmon and improving water quality mainly through placement of large wood in South Myrtle Creek. Currently, South Myrtle Creek lacks key habitat features such as adequate riparian cover, pools, and low gradient riffles. The stream is incised in locations and has steep and unstable banks which contribute to inputs of fine sediment to the detriment of spawning salmonids. Placement of large wood will build upon already completed restoration activities in nearby tributaries.

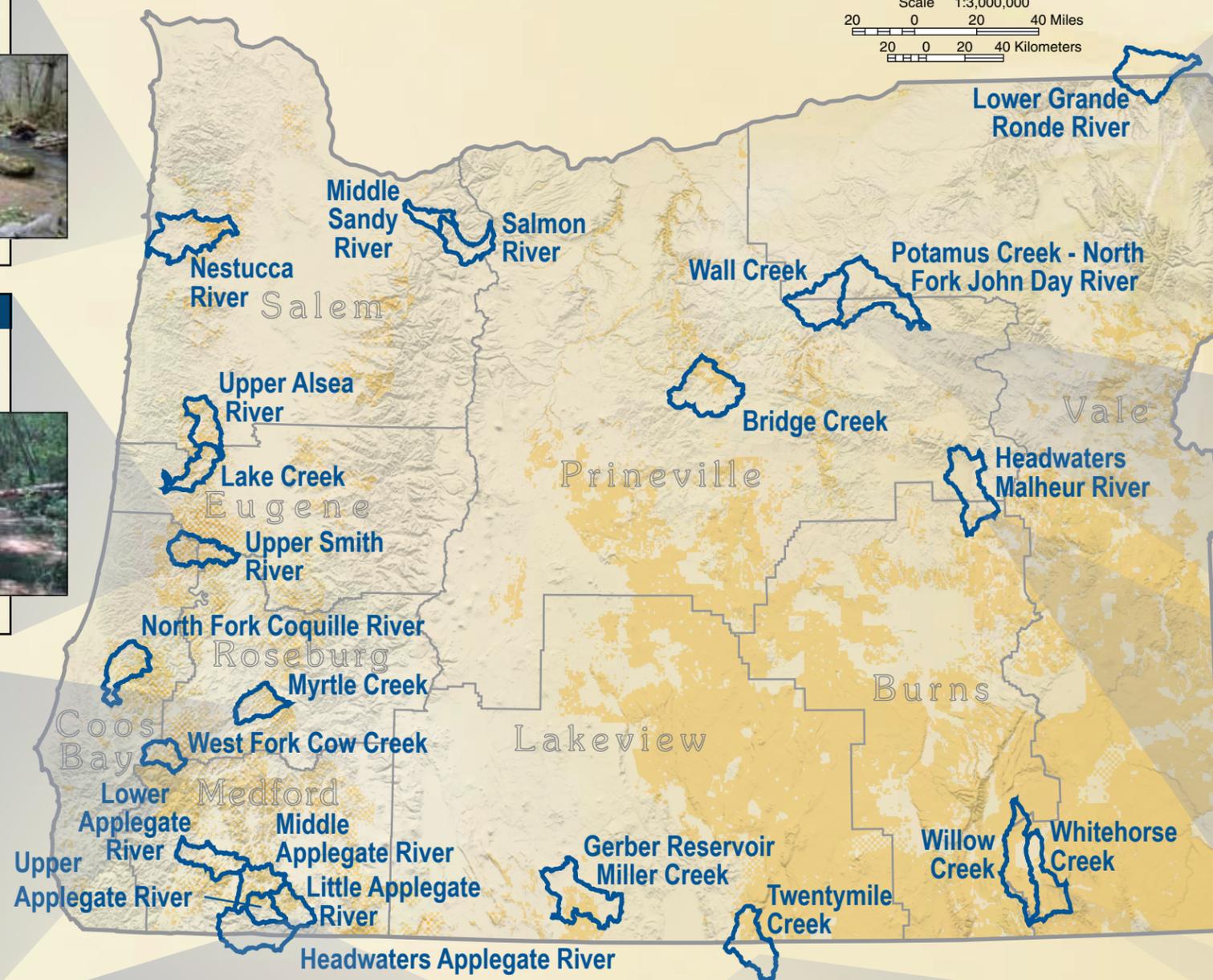


LITTLE APPLAGATE RIVER

Applegate Road Stormproof- The Applegate Subbasin has an extensive road network on BLM managed lands. Many stream crossing culverts are undersized, in poor condition, and are barriers to aquatic passage. This has resulted in a road system that is highly vulnerable to large storm events resulting in road deterioration and delivery of large volumes of sediment to the stream system. This project will upgrade culverts and improve aquatic passage and road drainage, primarily at road/stream crossings. Both short and long term improvements to water quality and aquatic habitat will be realized.



Scale 1:3,000,000
20 0 20 40 Miles
20 0 20 40 Kilometers



LOWER GRANDE RONDE RIVER

Grande Ronde River Riparian Restoration- The main objective of this project is to restore riparian habitat along the Willowa and Grande Ronde Rivers and their tributaries. This restoration of riparian habitat would ultimately increase stream bank stability, decrease sediment, increase shade, and provide for a supply of future large woody debris available to the streams. Over the past few years, the BLM has partnered with Willowa County, Grande Ronde Model Watershed Program, and Willowa Resources to achieve a number of restoration accomplishments. This next phase of work would treat noxious weeds and seed native grasses at these sites. Monitoring and maintenance of existing enclosures, which protect over eight miles of river, would occur as well as monitoring of riparian habitat and the restoration work of previous efforts.



WALL CREEK

JV Ranch Restoration- The project would comprise of repairing or constructing up to seven miles of fence line, seeding and planting nearly 100 acres of riparian meadow, and performing restoration activities on approximately two miles of stream channel through adjustments to channel geometry and riparian plantings. These restoration efforts will help to improve water quality and temperature for summer steelhead habitat.



HEADWATERS MALHEUR RIVER

Headwaters Malheur Restoration- Due to the restriction of natural fire cycles, Bluebucket Creek, has become a closed canopy, dense stand of low and mid-story conifers with little or no vegetative understorey. Approximately 200 acres will be treated to protect legacy trees by thinning and hand piling. Treatment of juniper and other encroached conifers in riparian areas would restore the riparian zone to more historic conditions, improving habitat for Redband Trout. By reducing high fuel loads the risk of a large-scale wildland fire would be greatly reduced, which will protect water quality and enhance watershed function.



TWENTYMILE CREEK

Warner Sucker Passage and Screening- The project would provide fish passage for Warner sucker and redband trout, among other native fish, at the Dike Diversion site; and screen the associated irrigation diversion ditch. The Dike Diversion is a barrier to upstream fish passage and the associated diversion ditch is unscreened, resulting in fragmented habitats, isolated fish populations, and fish entrapment in irrigation ditches. This is a cooperative project with the Ruby Pipeline Project, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Warner Basin Watershed Council.



WHITEHORSE CREEK

Fish Habitat Restoration and Water Gap Rehabilitation- The project would rehabilitate three 1200 foot water gaps for livestock watering on Little Whitehorse Creek by narrowing them and hardening the crossings with angular rock. The new water gaps would promote restoration of riparian vegetation and bank stabilization along approximately one-half mile of stream, and would greatly reduce sediment sources. The project would allow attainment of Rangeland Health Standards for streams in the Trout Creek/Oregon Canyon Mountains as part of the Trout Creek Geographic Management Area, and would significantly improve habitat conditions for Lahontan cutthroat trout.

