

NORTHWEST FOREST PLAN

Fiscal Year 1999 Report

Bureau of
Land
Management

Western
Oregon and
Northern
California





INTRODUCTION



Now in its fifth year of implementation, the Northwest Forest Plan continues to demonstrate how cooperative partnerships between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Forest Service, and other federal agencies and local communities have brought in a collaborative era of natural resource management and land stewardship in the Pacific Northwest. From the beginning, the plan outlined a strategy to increase old-growth type habitat for threatened and endangered species. The Plan also provides for a sustainable yield of timber, and increased recreation opportunities for the public. The BLM remains committed to offering the allowable sale quantity of timber called for under the Northwest Forest Plan.

The BLM Districts in Western Oregon implementing the Northwest Forest Plan are; Salem, Eugene, Roseburg, Coos Bay, Medford, and the Lakeview District's Klamath Falls Resource Area. In Northern California, the Field Offices implementing the Northwest Forest plan are Alturas, Arcata, Clear Lake, and Redding.



This report provides a synopsis of major BLM programs and achievements in Western Oregon, and Northern California accomplished during FY 1999 within the geographic area of the Northwest Forest Plan.

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

The Northwest Forest Plan brought with it an unprecedented level of citizen involvement. The two primary formal groups that involve the public in the management of federal forests are the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC) and the Provincial Advisory Committees (PACs).

The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee is the group that fosters and receives advice at the regional level from the States of Oregon, Washington and California, the Tribes, and the Counties. There are 12 Provincial Advisory Committees in the three states within the Northwest Forest Plan geographic area. The PACs consist of representatives of state agencies, counties, local stakeholders, interest groups, and federal agencies. Recently, they have become a key link with state watershed councils which are tasked with improving water quality and fisheries habitat through coordinated approaches.

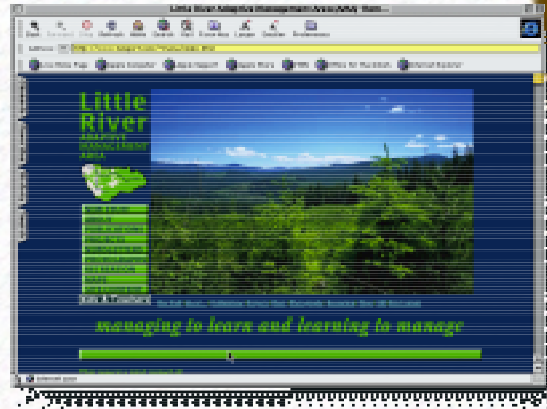
ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AREAS

The Northwest Forest Plan created ten Adaptive Management Areas (AMAs) to foster innovative methods for ecosystem-based management, and for collaboration between managers, scientists, and communities. More than 260 research and monitoring projects are ongoing in the Adaptive Management Areas. Building relationships between agency managers and staff, scientists, and communities is key to the success of the adaptive management program. Watershed Councils, schools, Provincial Advisory Committees, Tribal Resources Planning staffs and others are forming partnerships with Adaptive Management Area managers to accomplish assessments and studies, research and monitoring, and ecosystem restoration projects.

In March 1999, the Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area, which is jointly administered by the BLM Eugene District and Willamette National Forest, hosted a public workshop.

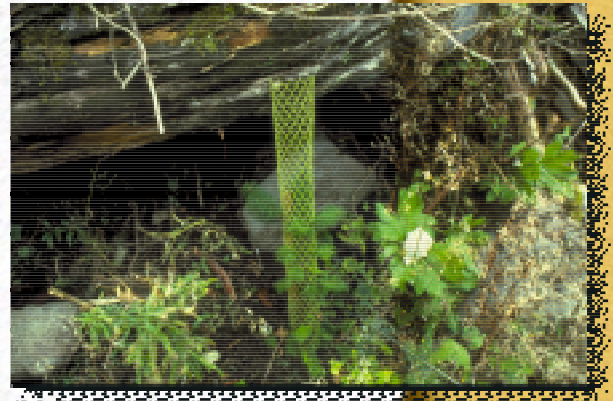


Beyond the Buzzwords: An Early Progress Report on Adaptive Management, in the Eugene-Springfield area. Approximately 20 scientists, managers and citizens presented their adaptive management findings to more than 200 attendees. These presentations and the 40 displays in the poster session addressed the workshop goals of: (1) sharing information and results from monitoring and adaptive management projects within Western Oregon and across the Adaptive Management Area (AMA) network, (2) demonstrating how monitoring and adaptive management projects have been or will be used to affect management practices within Western Oregon and across the AMA network, and (3) sharing information on how adaptive management has linked people and communities with ecosystem-based management.



FORESTRY

BLM manages 2.5 million acres of land in Western Oregon — lands that are managed under the standards and guidelines of the Northwest Forest Plan. Approximately 500,000 acres (or 22% of the BLM Western Oregon land base) are available for timber harvest. In FY1999, the BLM offered 61.7 MMBF in Western Oregon. This shortfall in volume offered below the 211 MMBF was due to a court ruling which found BLM to be procedurally out of compliance with two survey and manage requirements. Beginning in FY 1998, all of the BLM timber sales in the Oregon and California Revested (O&C), Coos Bay Wagon Road, and Public Domain forest lands are measured, sold, and reported in volumes of hundred cubic feet (CCF). The cubic foot measurement takes into account the taper in logs and offers a more accurate, consistent measurement that



FY1999 Western Oregon Reforestation

Site Preparation in Acres	3,862
Acres Planted	4,219
Plantation Maintenance in Acres	18,837
Underburning Acres	11,103



accounts for lumber, chips, and the sawdust that is produced from logs of all sizes. Volumes in million board feet (MMBF) will continue to be reported.

The BLM continues reforestation and forest development efforts to meet resource management objectives of the Northwest Forest Plan. Reforestation includes site preparation, tree planting, and protection. Successful reforestation is the major activity following timber harvest and natural disturbances.



TIMBER SALE PIPELINE RESTORATION FUND

Using the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund, which became operational in 1998, the BLM will continue its efforts to regain one year's lead time in Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) timber sale preparation work as well as to reduce the backlog of maintenance at recreation sites in Western Oregon.

The Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund was established under Section 327 of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-134). The Act established separate funds for the Forest Service and the BLM using revenues generated by timber sales released under Section 2001(k) of the FY 1995 Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act. Public Law 104-134 directs that 75 percent of the Fund be used to prepare sales sufficient to achieve the total Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) and that 25 percent of the Fund be used to expend on the backlog of recreation projects after necessary payments. BLM's goal is to use the Fund to regain one year's lead time in ASQ timber sale preparation work (211 million board feet) over a five to seven year time frame.



AQUATIC CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS), a key component of the Plan, is a framework for managing federal lands, with an emphasis on restoring aquatic and riparian resources. The ACS provides the foundation for

the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, and provides the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service a benchmark to ascertain protection of aquatic species on federal lands within the range of the northern spotted owl.

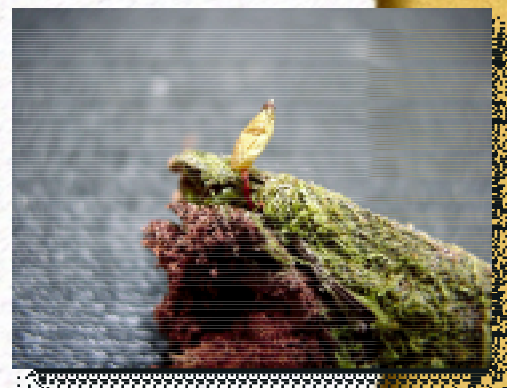
The BLM has worked cooperatively with the Forest Service and private and state landowners to conduct Watershed Analysis—a systematic procedure to characterize the aquatic, riparian and terrestrial features within a watershed and a key component of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy. Watershed Analysis provides information at the watershed scale as the foundation for implementing stream and river enhancement projects, timber sales, and road building and decommissioning projects. The BLM has completed Watershed Analysis on more than 80 percent of BLM lands in Western Oregon

SURVEY AND MANAGE

Survey and Manage standards and guidelines are mitigation measures, developed as part of the Northwest Forest Plan, for approximately 400 old-growth related species where there was concern for well distributed populations across the range of these species, but where little knowledge existed on the species themselves. None of these species are listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The agencies have learned a considerable amount about the species by collecting site data and preparing management recommendations and survey protocols. However, the agencies have encountered problems in developing appropriate survey protocols for a few of the survey species. Examples of problems include incomplete taxonomic descriptions, species that can only be identified by one or a few experts, species that require laboratory work for identification, and species whose life cycle-require five years of survey.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was published October 7, 1998 proposing a change to delay the schedule for 32 species until October 1, 1999. Habitat conditions for one or more of these species occurred in almost all FY 1999 land management projects. A Finding of No Significant Impact and a Plan Implementation Document were signed on March 3, 1999 authorizing the delay of surveys for the 32 species. Work continued to complete the protocols and management recommendations. The sensitivity and urgency of implementing the EA stems from the necessity to accomplish the two primary goals of the Northwest Forest Plan. These two goals are continued production of goods and services and maintaining and restoring healthy old-growth systems.



An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared to modify the survey and manage standards and guidelines for Survey and Manage and Protection Buffer species based on an accumulation of four years of new information. The BLM and Forest Service are expected to complete the draft environmental impact statement on the survey and manage program by the end of the 1999 calendar year.

OREGON PLAN FOR SALMON AND WATERSHEDS



During FY 1999, BLM continued to make significant contributions to the successful implementation of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. The Oregon Plan is focused on restoring native populations, and the aquatic systems that support them, to productive and sustainable levels that will provide substantial environmental, cultural, and economic benefits. Achieving the habitat restoration components of the plan relies on involvement, ownership, and commitment through community based watershed groups. The state recognizes the Northwest Forest Plan as a key component for the Oregon Plan habitat restoration strategy. BLM continues to provide technical support for watershed council activities, and cooperates with the state on monitoring, aquatic education and outreach. In addition to the restoration activities completed on federal lands through the Jobs-in-the-Woods Program, the Wyden Amendment has given BLM the authority to invest in cooperative watershed projects on private lands if they directly benefit federal fish and wildlife resources on public lands.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (JOBS-IN-THE-WOODS)

The Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative was designed to assist workers, businesses, tribes, and communities in Washington, Oregon, and northern California affected by reductions in timber harvests. The Jobs-in-the-Woods program is the part of

the initiative that improves watershed health while at the same time providing economic assistance to local communities. Districts have focused their Jobs-in-the-Woods projects to support Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watershed efforts. Providing short-term employment for displaced workers is accomplished through contracts with businesses in local communities. Much of the watershed restoration work under the Northwest Forest Plan has been completed through the Jobs-in-the-Woods program.

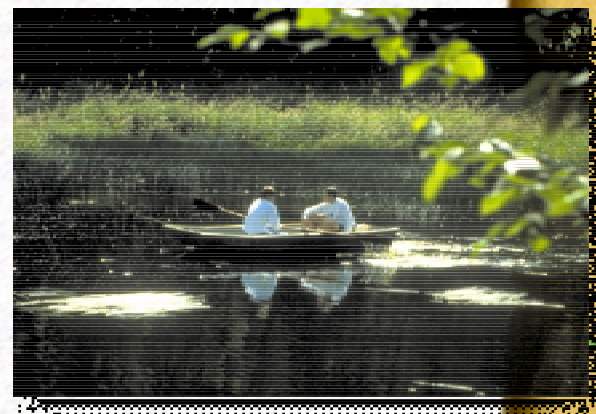


FY1999 WESTERN OREGON/NORTHERN CALIFORNIA JOBS-IN-THE-WOODS PROGRAM

DISTRICT	Obligated	Projects
Coos Bay	\$781,011	29
Eugene	\$999,912	24
Lakeview	\$215,606	4
Medford	\$777,351	23
Roseburg	\$773,096	19
Salem	\$808,378	26
NORCAL	\$823,044	25
Total	\$5,178,398	150

WILLAMETTE RESTORATION INITIATIVE (WRI)

The Willamette Restoration Initiative is a new public/private partnership designed by Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber to promote, integrate and coordinate efforts to protect and restore the health of the Willamette watershed. WRI will work closely with state and federal agencies, while bringing a new focus to exploring the



restoration interests and capabilities of businesses, landowners, non-profit organizations, local governments, and watershed councils in the basin. One of the first tasks of the WRI is to lead the development of the Willamette River strategy to serve as “Chapter Three” of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.

BLM and the Forest Service manage about one third of the lands located primarily in the upper portions of the Willamette River watershed. Elaine Zielinski, State Director for Oregon/Washington BLM, was named by Governor Kitzhaber to represent federal agencies on the WRI Board. The Board, comprised of more than 25 community leaders, has been tasked with guiding the development of a strategy for addressing issues related to water quality and listed salmon in the Willamette River Basin. In support of the WRI, BLM provided \$25,000 in Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999; the position for the Willamette River Navigator; and has hired a staff member to assist in WRI-related work.

MONITORING

The Northwest Forest Plan identifies three different types of monitoring requirements; Implementation Monitoring, Effectiveness Monitoring, and Validation Monitoring.

Implementation Monitoring has been done to determine the degree that the Northwest Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines are being followed in project implementation (timber sales, roads, and restoration projects) has been conducted on an annual basis. Implementation monitoring has been conducted every year since 1996, the first full year of plan implementation. Subsequent analyses of the Provincial Monitoring Team findings by scientists from the Forest Service, BLM, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Regional Ecosystem Office have found Northwest Forest Plan actions 95% compliant with the Plan’s standards and guidelines.

Effectiveness Monitoring modules for late successional and old-growth forests, the northern spotted owl, and the marbled murrelet have been developed by interagency teams to determine how well the Standards and Guidelines are working.

The Research and Monitoring Group is currently testing the scientific assumptions or hypotheses under which the Standards and Guidelines were developed through *Validation Monitoring*.

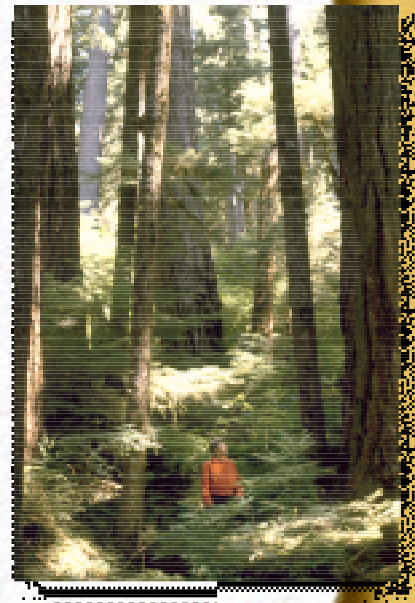
PREScribed FIRE

The BLM uses prescribed fire and mechanical treatments to reduce hazardous fuels and the risk of wildfire, improve wildlife habitat and riparian zones, and improve watershed and grassland conditions. Fire exclusion from suppression efforts has resulted in a lack of periodic, natural fire in our forests and grasslands. The absence of periodic, low intensity fires has increased the risk of large, catastrophic fires and has negatively impacted the health of our forests and grasslands. As part of an effort to use fire as a resource management tool, BLM has reviewed existing resource management and land management plans to better integrate the use of fire into our stewardship efforts. Prescribed fire is used only under appropriate conditions and in appropriate sites. Prescribed fires are implemented only when weather and fuel conditions allow for minimized smoke impacts on air quality and when fire can be controlled. BLM works closely with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Washington State Department of Ecology to ensure the public air quality is protected. The prescribed fire programs are generally conducted in the spring and fall. BLM's largest prescribed fire programs are in Central and Eastern Oregon, and in Southwestern Oregon in the Medford District.



LATE SUCCESSIONAL RESERVE ASSESSMENT

The Northwest Forest Plan is built in part around a system of late-successional reserves to protect old-growth dependent species. The BLM and Forest Service have developed an interagency process for reviewing proposed actions in reserves and LSR Assessments. The assessments are to guide future agency actions in the LSRs. LSR Assessments have been developed and reviewed by the Regional Ecosystem Office for over 5.5 million LSR acres (74 percent of the LSR acres). The National Park Service has pointed out that four of its parks are adjacent to LSRs and that they will contribute to the parks' biological diversity, wildlife viability, and ecological integrity.



RECREATION



In FY1999, the BLM continued ongoing recreation initiatives, including wild and scenic river management, watchable wildlife, backcountry byway, and forest interpretation. The BLM is promoting "Gateway" communities (those towns that historically have depended on forest products). The Row River Trail near Cottage Grove provides a destination trail for hikers, bikers and horseback riders. As part of the Rails to Trails initiative, the BLM has contributed \$2 million to turn the 13-mile old railroad track into a paved trail. On the Wild and Scenic Rogue River, the BLM issues permits to raft and guide outfitters. The collected fees are used to clean up and maintain facilities on the river.

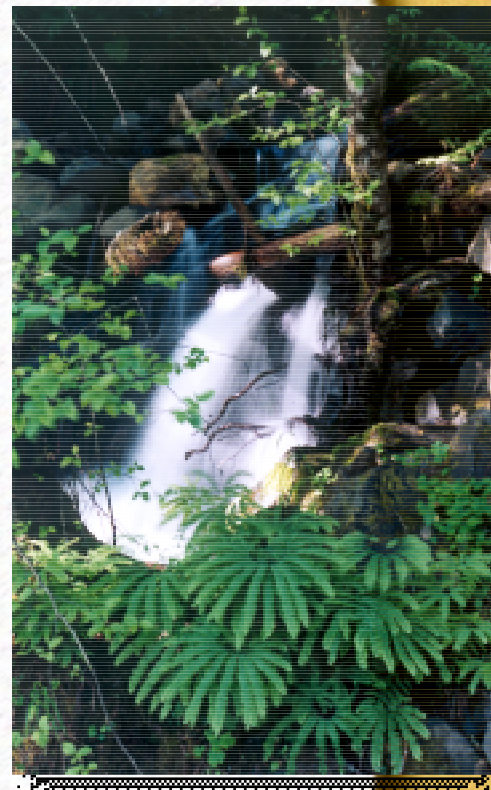
This year, the Timber Sale Pipeline Fund was used to reduce the backlog of maintenance at recreation sites and address crucial unresolved visitor services or recreation management needs in Western Oregon.

THIRD YEAR EVALUATION

The BLM's Western Oregon Resource Management Plans (RMPs) are scheduled to be formally evaluated at the end of every third year after implementation. The first evaluations are scheduled for completion in Spring 2000. The evaluations include the Salem, Eugene, Coos Bay, Roseburg, Medford Districts and the Klamath Falls Resource Area of the Lakeview District. Coordination of the evaluations will occur among all BLM Districts, the Oregon State Office, and regulatory agencies.

The purpose for the evaluations are to determine whether there is significant cause for amendment or revision of any or all of the approved plans. Evaluations include a cumulative review and analysis of monitoring records, with the broader purpose of determining if the RMP's goals and objectives are being met, and whether the goals and objectives were realistic and achievable.

If an evaluation concludes that the plan's goals are not achievable in the anticipated time frames, a plan amendment or revision will be initiated, including appropriate environmental analyses and public involvement. As part of these third year evaluations, the allowable timber sale quantity will be reevaluated to incorporate results of watershed analyses, monitoring of our activities and projects in the first three years, further inventory, and site specific or province level decisions. Cumulative information was summarized and published in the series of 1998 Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Reports.



FY1999 O&C APPROPRIATED DOLLARS

Forest Management

\$22,488,000

Design and administer timber sales; monitor ecological trends, impacts, and effectiveness of management of the ecosystem; ensure compliance with federal and state laws and regulations; support the research, protection, and management of habitat for wildlife species; assist development and implementation of recovery plans for threatened and endangered species; implement best management practices on watersheds.

Reforestation and Forest Development

\$24,914,000

Maintain sustainability of forest resources and timber harvest levels through successful reforestation, utilizing site preparation, tree planting, young stand maintenance and protection, genetic tree trait conservation, and growth enhancing and forest health practices; develop site specific and watershed level prescriptions using silvicultural techniques; maintain up-to-date inventories of sites available for reforestation and forest development.

Other Forest Resources Management, including Watershed Analysis, Wildlife Habitat and Fisheries Management

\$30,593,000

Conduct watershed analysis; comply with Clean Water Act; use smoke management to comply with air quality rules; monitor Threatened and Endangered species, develop protocols for and conduct field inventories of more than 400 Survey and Manage species.

Facilities Maintenance

\$ 4,687,000

Maintain 300 buildings and 104 recreation sites.

Transportation Systems Maintenance **\$ 5,267,000**

Maintain 14,000 miles of roads, 353 bridges and thousands of culverts in Western Oregon. (roads, trails, airstrips).

Planning **\$ 1,108,000**

Maintain viability of resource management plans (RMP) through plan monitoring, incorporation of new data and amendments to the RMPs.

Data System Operation and Management **\$2,110,000**

Convert existing Geographic Information System (GIS) data from Map Overlay and Statistical System to commercial software; operation of the data system at each BLM Western Oregon district office.

Construction and Acquisition **\$ 279,000**

Access easements across private land to allow management of federal lands, and for construction of roads, bridges, buildings and other facilities.

Jobs-in-the-Woods **\$ 5,591,000**

Hire displaced timber workers, provide training, and assist communities while accomplishing watershed restoration.

Total **\$97,037,000**



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FIELD OFFICES

Accomplishments of the Northern California Field Offices (Norcal) were highlighted by two major land acquisitions; the Headwaters Forest Reserve by the Arcata Field Office, and the Payne Ranch acquisition by the Ukiah Field Office. The Headwaters Forest Reserve came under BLM management, in cooperation with the State of California on March 1, 1999. The acquisition was completed after years of negotiations between the landowner, and environmental groups which culminated in federal and state legislation appropriating \$250 million and \$130 million respectively for purchase. The 7,400 acre



tract contains the largest remaining privately owned stand of old-growth redwood forest including a single contiguous stand of 3,000 acres which Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt predicted would, "... go down in history with Yellowstone and Yosemite as among the greatest preservation achievements in U.S. history". BLM will begin a long-term planning process in early 2000. Major issues are expected to include compatibility of visitor use with the threatened and endangered species management, watershed restoration, and research.

The Payne Ranch acquisition added 13,000 acres to the Cache Creek Management Area and an additional 1,675 acres purchased by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Total acquisition funding through 1999 is \$1.9 million. The Cache Creek Management Area located in Yolo, Colusa, and Lake counties, now includes 66,000 acres of rolling blue oak woodlands and 13 miles of riparian habitat supporting many upland species and a major winter population of bald eagles.

The Arcata Field Office continued a systematic program of watershed restoration and Late Successional Reserve enhancement utilizing a variety of partnerships which have been established since the inception of the Northwest Forest Plan. These partners in 1999 included local watershed groups such as the Mattole Restoration Council and Mattole Salmon Group, local non-profit agencies such as Redwood Community Action Agency, Humboldt State University Foundation, Humboldt County Department of Public Works, and the Hupa Tribe in addition to a variety of open market contracts.

Redding Field Office projects continue to focus on key issues of the drier, fire-prone east side Cascade region. Fuel breaks, fuel reduction and fuels inventories were completed through established mechanisms such as the Hayfork Watershed Research and Training Center, Western Shasta Resource Conservation District, and Trinity County RCD. A newly established partnership with the Siskiyou County Ecosystem Management Technician Training Program worked to stabilize archaeological sites and cabins along the Klamath River dating from the turn of the century. Students gained an exposure to the archaeological science including site testing and excavation as well as site stabilization.



Ukiah Field Office projects continue the program of work started in 1998 utilizing the Lake County Careers Center to construct a bridge and stormproof trails in the Cow Mountain area of the Russian River watershed, and enhance spawning habitat for coho salmon. These projects created 85 short-term jobs for the Careers Center.

NORCAL

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	3
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Timber Value - Harvested	\$768,000
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Acres Planted	40
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Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	20
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SALEM DISTRICT



A two million dollar “pipeline” recreation fund provided the Salem District money to complete a backlog of maintenance and long-needed infrastructure replacement, public safety improvements and accessibility upgrades at virtually all of the District’s heavily visited recreation sites. Improvements included trail and building accessibility upgrades to meet the American Disability Act (ADA) standards, resurfacing and paving all major recreation sites, and development of the Larch Mountain environmental education site to safely accommodate school children. The pipeline funding also allowed the District to replace volunteer housing and restrooms, upgrade water and septic systems, improve safety and access at campgrounds and day-use sites, replace security gates and fences, stabilize or replace bridges, and numerous other projects.

Through the Jobs-in-the-Woods program, the Salem District placed trees and logs in 4.25 miles of streams to improve rearing habitat for at-risk stocks of salmon and steelhead. The District completed forty one acres of riparian enhancement projects to restore conifers along alder dominated streams. Forty three miles of roads were decommissioned. Road decommissioning is a tool used to reduce the potential for sediment delivery to streams, wildlife harassment and to reduce the maintenance costs of roads not presently needed for management operation.

Salem District wildlife biologists completed:

- 20,000 acres of northern spotted owl surveys through cooperation with private land owners and the State of Oregon.
- 3,000 acres of bald eagle surveys
- 5,000 acres of northern goshawk surveys
- 1,000 acres (four stations) of monitoring forest carnivores
- 3,500 acres of Northwest Forest Plan Survey and Manage mollusk surveys
- 1 MAPS-Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship station, migratory bird banding station with 10 visits.
- 15,000 acres (three routes) of Neotropical Migratory Bird Surveys



The Salem District issued approximately 550 contracts for Special Forest Products in FY1999 and received \$25,400 in payment. A total of 12,900 pounds of mushrooms; 25,300 cubic feet of firewood; and 136,000 pounds of floral greenery (mainly salal) were sold.

The Salem BLM District and the Hebo Ranger District of Siuslaw National Forest share the management of the Northern Coast Range Adaptive Management Area (AMA), and have active partnerships with three watershed councils, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the Nestucca Valley School District. These partnerships are working to integrate planning, implementation, and monitoring of forest management activities across multiple ownerships within watershed areas. The school partnership includes Simpson Timber Company and local small woodlot owners, and helps students to learn about natural resource issues as they help survey, implement, and monitor various resource activities on AMA lands.

SALEM

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	27.0
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Timber Value - Harvested	\$10,700,000
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Acres Planted	676
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Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	298
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EUGENE DISTRICT

The Eugene District focused projects and activities on ecosystem restoration efforts consistent with the Northwest Forest Plan. Several large contracts were initiated to complete efforts in reforestation, aerial fertilization, noxious weed/plant removal, recreation site improvements and fishery habitat restoration. Additionally, the District initiated additional inventory efforts for several Survey and Manage species such as mollusk and non-vascular plants.

The District continues their involvement as an active partner and member on the Central Cascades Adaptive Management Area, numerous Watershed Councils and the West Eugene Wetlands Executive Team. In addition, the District is a member of the Willamette and Coast Province Advisory Committees. All of these organizations were created to allow for public participation, coordination between agencies, and to assist with the implementation of planning decisions.



Major efforts were undertaken to improve riparian and aquatic habitat on tributaries to the Siuslaw and Willamette Rivers. Projects were initiated to enhance anadromous fish spawning and/or rearing areas. Actions included the placement of logs and boulders in streams and the replacement of under sized or damaged culverts. The District coordinated efforts with private land owners, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Lane County and the Siuslaw Watershed Council on these restoration projects. Also connected to this effort was the popular Salmon Watch program. Students from around the area visited the Whittaker Creek Watchable Wildlife Site to view spawning fish and learn about their life cycle and habitat needs from trained staff.

Several projects directed at improving the District's recreation facilities will benefit public land visitors in the future. New shelters for group use were constructed at Clay Creek Campground. The two spacious shelters feature large stone fireplaces and sturdy counter space for food preparation and storage. The Mosby Creek Trailhead on the Row River Trail was constructed and provides visitors; parking, restrooms and interpretive information. In the Coburg Hills, members of the Northwest Youth Corps, working with BLM staff, constructed erosion control structures on several Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails. And at the Whittaker Creek Recreation Site, a new vault restroom was installed adjacent to the Old Growth Ridge Trailhead.

The West Eugene Wetlands project continues to acquire, manage and restore wetland habitat in a partnership effort with the City of Eugene and The Nature Conservancy. The Project acquired an additional 100 acres and now owns and manages over 1200 acres. In a cooperative effort, more than 50 pounds of native plant seed was collected and gleaned for several re-seeding projects on newly created wetlands. A new interpretive trail was built by volunteers in conjunction with National Public Lands Day and Boy Scouts constructed an elevated boardwalk at a wildlife viewing site.



EUGENE

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	33.8
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Timber Value - Harvested	\$12,300,000
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Acres Planted	791
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Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	302
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ROSEBURG DISTRICT

The Roseburg District continued to implement the Northwest Forest Plan with projects and activities across both the Swiftwater Resource Area and the South River Resource Area. As part of the Jobs-in-the-Woods program, projects included replacement of four big culverts for sediment prevention and fish passage, one diversion dam to facilitate upstream fish migration, road decommissioning, and rock stockpiling for road improvement.



The District increased its efforts in FY99 to address fisheries issues related to Threatened and Endangered anadromous salmonids. Major duties were divided between aquatic habitat inventory, restoration, Watershed Analysis, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, timber sale review and Section 7 Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service

(NMFS). The District continued to operate six rotary screw smolt traps to assess juvenile populations and fisheries personnel reviewed approximately 300 stream miles to determine the presence, absence, and relative abundance of salmon and trout species within priority areas. Efforts to identify and eliminate barriers and/or impediments to salmon and trout migration are ongoing.

Recreation projects kept both areas busy this year. The Swiftwater Area built two new pavilions in the Tyee and Rock Creek Campground and also constructed a parking lot, repaired trails for water restoration and improved the viewing area at Susan Creek Falls. The South River Area has acquired land for the Cow Creek Kiosk site which is now published in the 1999 Scenic Byway Guide as an Oregon State Tour Route. A new day use area including picnic tables, a parking lot and restrooms have been built at the Island Creek Area along the Tour Route. And four current and proposed recreation sites have been withdrawn for mineral entry to allow for protection of resources but will remain open for use by the public.

The District expanded its noxious weed control program including surveys that located three new weed species which now brings the total to 24 undesirable plants. Control work included locating, pulling and spraying weeds which in turn enhanced wildlife habitat, preserved native plant communities, protected rare plant sites, improved safety and provided work for the Northwest Youth Corps and area contractors. Two focal points of the year were the introduction of a new weevil that eats Scotch broom seeds and the discovery of Portugese broom, a new invader to Oregon.

District Botanists conducted surveys on approximately 3,500 areas, including 500 Acres of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). A total of 492 Survey & Manage sites were located bringing the total number of sites on the District to 1,437. A total of 16 special status plants were located bringing the total number of sites to 332 on District. Prescribed burns were conducted at two locations to improve habitat for two special status plants, *Calochortus umpquaensis* and *Calochortus coxii*.



This year the District has actively sought to create partnerships and job opportunities with agencies and organizations that are helping young people develop knowledge and skills for their future. The Northwest Youth Corps has helped in a variety of areas including planting Port Orford Cedar, pruning and tagging Douglas fir trees, dismantling undesirable structures and pulling noxious weeds in accordance with our Integrated Weed Management program. The District sponsored two foreign exchange students, one USDI diversity intern student, two “Mentor Program” students and one “Resource Apprentice Program” student through the Umpqua Training and Employment organization, one volunteer through Umpqua Community College Jobs Program, a crew from the Phoenix School that focuses on environmental education and resource management and a crew from Oregon Youth Conservation Corps. Each participant in both our student and volunteer programs had an opportunity to explore and learn along side professionals in several disciplines, enriching their choices and opportunities for the future.

ROSEBURG

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	38.9
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Timber Value - Harvested	\$18,500,000
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Acres Planted	628
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Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	311
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Coos Bay District

The Coos Bay District continues its close working relationship with local watershed associations and councils. Through these cooperative efforts, many on-the-ground projects were accomplished on federal, state and private lands to improve watershed health. Watershed improvement projects included in-stream structures to improve habitat, the replacement of traditional stream-crossing road culverts with culverts



that allow the passage of fish and other aquatic organisms, and other habitat improvement projects. Also, several projects important to overall watershed health were accomplished with federal funds on state and private lands. This was made possible through authorization under the "Wyden Amendment."

In partnership with the Coos County Trails Initiative, several miles of new recreational trails were completed in FY 1999 on public and private lands on Blue Ridge, southeast of Coos Bay. One section of new BLM trail passes through a stand of trees recently thinned under the standards and guidelines of the Northwest Forest Plan. These trails enable visitors to experience a well-managed second growth forest on public lands. Much of the work on the new trail system was completed by crews with the AmeriCorps Program.

With last year's completion of the South Coast - North Klamath Late Successional Reserve (LSR) Assessment, the District is moving ahead to begin project-level plans and survey efforts to soon begin on-the-ground projects in the LSRs. The projects are being designed to protect LSR values and move even-aged stands more quickly toward stands with old-growth characteristics.

The District is also moving ahead with the very thorough work necessary to prepare future timber sales including environmental analysis, surveys for designated species, and timber sale design and layout.

And finally, as the year ended, many recreation site improvements were underway including water system and boat ramp upgrades at Loon Lake, and several campsite rebuilding projects throughout the District.



COOS BAY

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	35.5
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Timber Value - Harvested	\$14,200,000
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Acres Planted	576
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Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	299
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MEDFORD DISTRICT

Jobs-in-the-Woods projects included in-stream fish enhancement such as removal of a 100-year old concrete irrigation dam on East Evans Creek that was impeding fish migration and replacement of large culvert structures to allow for anadromous fish passage. Projects also included production of native seed for restoration needs, road decommissioning, streamside vegetation planting to reduce erosion, and road stormproofing and rehabilitation to minimize the likelihood of flood damage and improve resistance to erosion.



The District again participated with the Forest Service, Rogue Community College, Rogue Institute of Ecology and Economy, Southern Oregon Women's Access to Credit, and Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. to support the Ecosystem Workforce Training Partnership. This program provides local people the opportunity to learn skills in ecosystem forest management and small business management. Projects accomplished included the hand placement of large wood in Draper Creek, fencing the perimeter of a wetland to exclude livestock, fencing around remote springs to protect threatened and endangered species, performing road inventories as a part of the watershed analysis process, maintaining existing fish structures, performing stocking surveys of existing forest land, removal of a small irrigation dam on Elliot Creek that was impeding fish migration, and planting native grass and willows to prevent erosion.

Funding also supported projects with local watershed councils and other agencies. Projects focused on stream restoration and irrigation inlet improvements which removed gravel push-up dams on private lands that diverted water and fish into irrigation ditches.

The District continued its involvement as an active partner in the Applegate Adaptive Management Area (AMA). Overly dense conifer forests were thinned to enhance stand vigor and increase resistance to insects, disease, and large scale, stand replacing wildfires. Over 3,000 acres of commercial stands were thinned in the Applegate AMA producing over 20 MMBF of timber while reducing stand density. Oak woodlands and dense brush fields contributing to the risk of high intensity and large scale wildfires were treated concurrently. Over 6,000 acres were treated with fuels modification, precommercial thinning, or density understory reduction work during the fiscal year. The Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund was successfully applied for and

funding was used to complete a major portion of the density management work. Also in the AMA, a major flood damage repair project was initiated along the main stem of the Applegate River and a portion of Williams Creek and restoration plantings were undertaken at Slagle Creek, China Gulch, and Applegate Slides.

The District's two seed orchards continued production and harvest of Douglas-fir and Sugar Pine cones and seed to supply current and future requirements. Expansion of an advanced generation Sugar Pine orchard unit, able to supply the District and the Rogue River National Forest with highly disease resistant seed, continued. Greenhouse facilities produced nearly 300,000 seedlings from over 20 species of conifers, hardwoods, and shrubs for use on reforestation and other restoration planting areas. Areas of the orchards not currently needed for tree seed production were used to produce seed from 18 native grass species and rooted cottonwood cuttings for the Applegate Watershed Council to support restoration projects on other land ownerships. Funding for the cottonwood production was provided by a grant from the American Forests' "Global Releaf Forest" program.



The BLM's long standing policy of utilizing only native conifer species, produced from seed collected from known sources, in reforestation and restoration treatments is being extended to include grasses, forbs, brush, and hardwood trees species. Over 12,000

pounds of native grass seed from 16 species, and 26 species of forbs, shrubs, and hardwood trees were produced to support restoration treatments on District lands.

A total of 7,498 private users paid \$98,376 in permit fees to float the National Wild and Scenic Rogue River. Commercial permits on the wild and recreation sections of the river totaled 164, generating \$143,667 in permit fees,

MEDFORD

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	46.2
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Timber Value - Harvested	\$9,800,000
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Acres Planted	1,407
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Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	769
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with outfitters providing white water trips for 97,264 customers. In conjunction with The Nature Conservancy and the Rogue River Ranch, the District hosted another successful hiking season on the Upper and Lower Table Rocks Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Almost 3,000 students from 37 different schools across the Rogue Valley participated in the educational hikes. Finally, 27 acres of private land in the National Historic Landmark City of Jacksonville was purchased for inclusion into the Jacksonville Woodlands Historic Natural Park and Trail System.

In the Medford District, a total of 41,800 hardwood and conifer seedlings were donated to a wide range of schools, municipalities, watershed councils, and other public and non-profit organizations. The plants were used to support outdoor education and community involvement in restoration and ecosystem health projects.

LAKEVIEW DISTRICT (KLAMATH FALLS RESOURCE AREA)

The Klamath Falls Resource Area continued to focus projects and activities on forest health, mortality salvage, ecosystem restoration and recreation site improvements. Forest health treatments, implemented through timber sales, were prepared on approximately 800 acres. These forest health treatments are proactive efforts to improve forest health by reducing stand densities and fuel loads. The primary prescription includes thinning from below to reduce competition to under-represented species as well as to increase the large-tree component of all species. Small (three acres or less) patch cuts are included where needed to regenerate the less shade-tolerant species (pines and Douglas-fir). Excess trees of sub-merchantable size are cut and removed, and logging slash is treated or removed, which greatly reduces wildfire hazard and prepares the site for prescribed burning.



Harvesting of excess dead or dying timber was accomplished on approximately 900 acres. This activity has continued for several years in response to mortality of epidemic proportions resulting from extended drought, insect infestations and overstocking. Pre-commercial thinning was completed on 100 acres and pruning was completed on 43 acres.

Ecosystem restoration projects included completion of 230 acres of prescribed burning in the Klamath River canyon, award of a contract to perform 150 acres of riparian enhancement along Spencer Creek, award of contracts to thin 173 acres of woodlands to improve wildlife habitat and watershed conditions, removal of quarry tailings from the riparian reserve of Clover Creek, and obliteration of roads within riparian reserves.

LAKEVIEW

Timber Volume - Harvested (MMBF)	7.4
Timber Value - Harvested	\$1,200,000
Acres Planted	141
Seedlings Planted (Thousands)	72

Topsy Recreation Site improvements included paving, installing a RV holding tank, and replacing the 12 acre perimeter fence. At the Gerber Recreation Site, two fish cleaning stations were built. Recreation funds were also used to construct and install six interpretive panels at Wood River Wetlands. The resource area also administers 27 commercial outfitter permits for the Klamath Wild and Scenic River.



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