

# Bureau of Land Management Coos Bay District Planning Update

Fall 2017

Public Lands USA:  
Use, Share and Appreciate



# *Coos Bay District BLM Planning Update*

Fall 2017

The *Planning Update* is published to provide current information about ongoing and future projects planned by the Coos Bay District of the Bureau of Land Management. It is our intent to increase the public's awareness of BLM activities and to seek ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our resource management programs. Your ideas, comments, and participation help us make informed decisions and implement better projects. Please send written comments, including the specific project and field office name, during that project's public comment period to: 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, OR 97459 or to [BLM\\_OR\\_CB\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_CB_Mail@blm.gov).

Thank you for your continued interest in public land management.

The *Planning Update* is also available under the "Frequently Requested NEPA Documents" section at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/plans-in-development/oregon-washington>

Sincerely,

/s/ Kathy Westenskow  
Coos Bay District Manager

USDI - Bureau of Land Management  
Coos Bay District Office  
1300 Airport Lane  
North Bend OR 97459  
[BLM\\_OR\\_CB\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_CB_Mail@blm.gov)  
(541) 756-0100

## ***ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES AND NEW PROJECTS***

Pages three through ten contain a summary of projects on the Coos Bay District. Some projects were previously listed and are still in the process of being completed, while others are in the process of being implemented. Projects that have been dropped from consideration, have a signed decision, or are completed will not be listed in future issues.

This publication allows you to see a brief explanation of ongoing and proposed projects and decide if you wish additional information about any of them.

The contact people listed with the projects are available to answer questions and provide additional details. They are interested in information you wish to share concerning any of the projects or project areas. You may contact these people by mail, by telephoning our office at 541-756-0100, or emailing us at: [BLM\\_OR\\_CB\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_CB_Mail@blm.gov).

### **Categorical Exclusions**

Required analysis for categorically excluded activities is generally completed within a one to four-week time frame. This frequently occurs in between publications of the *Planning Update*. These types of projects are generally routine activities or require timely processing. A listing of completed categorical exclusions may be found on the National *ePlanning* website. Current ongoing or planned Categorical Exclusions are included in this issue.

# District-Wide

## Coos Bay District Invasive Plant Management EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C000-2017-0003-EA

**Description:** The action is to utilize additional herbicides to treat noxious and invasive weeds species. Additional site-specific EAs will be completed for limited application for general vegetation control around facilities and for habitat improvement. The action does not include aerial application of herbicides or herbicide use for timber or livestock production.

In 2007, the BLM completed the Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on Bureau of Land Management Lands in 17 Western States Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and related Record of Decision, making 18 herbicides available for a full range of vegetation treatments in 17 western states, including Oregon. The BLM completed a statewide EIS and Record of Decision in 2010, *Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon*. This EA tiers to those broader-scale environmental impact statements.

**Location:** Throughout the District.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – Completed.  
Analysis – Ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Record – TBD.

**Implementation:** Following Decision.

For further information, please click on the following link <https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=renderDefaultPlanOrProjectSite&projectId=76469> or contact Jeanne Standley.

## Helipond and Pump Chance Maintenance EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C000-2016-0002-EA

**Description:** The project would maintain the long-term utility and function of heliponds and pump chances at approximately 29 heliponds and 36 pump chances.

**Location:** Various locations throughout the District.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – Completed.  
Analysis – ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Record – FY 2018

**Implementation:** Following Decision.

For further information, please click on the following link <http://tinyurl.com/glv7kca> or contact Heather Partipilo.

## **Programmatic Aquatic Restoration EA**

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C000-2017-0001-EA

**Description:** The project would conduct a suite of aquatic restoration project types, including: instream log/boulder placement, tree falling, culvert replacement, road decommissioning/improvements, riparian vegetation treatments (e.g., planting, manual maintenance), and channel reconstruction.

**Location:** Various locations throughout the District.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – Completed.  
Analysis – Ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Site-specific DNAs and Decision Records – Starting FY 2018.

**Implementation:** Following Decision(s).

For further information, please click on the following link <http://bit.ly/2gZNZbD> or contact Heather Partipilo.

# Umpqua Field Office

## TIMBER MANAGEMENT

### West Fork Smith River EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2017-0001-EA

**Description:** The BLM proposes approximately 2,500 acres of density management treatments in the Late-Successional Reserve and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.

**Location:** T. 19 S., R. 09 W., Sections 25 and 35;  
T. 20 S., R. 09 W., Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12;  
T. 19 S., R. 08 W., Sections 30 and 31;  
T. 20 S., R. 08 W., Section 9.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – completed.  
Analysis – Ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – Starting in FY 2018.

**Implementation:** Timber Sales planned for FY 2018 through FY 2020.

For further information, please click on the following link <http://tinyurl.com/zcurez4> or contact Heather Partipilo.

### Big-Vincent EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2011-0003-EA

**Description:** The BLM proposes approximately 6,300 acres of commercial thinning, density management, and hardwood conversion treatments in the Matrix, Late-Successional, and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.

**Location:** T. 21 S., R. 07 W., Sections 7 and 18;  
T. 21 S., R. 08 W., Sections 1, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 29;  
T. 21 S., R. 09 W., Sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 23, 27, 29, and 32.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – Completed.  
Analysis – Completed.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – through FY 2018.

**Implementation:** Timber Sales planned through FY 2018.

For further information, please click on the following link <https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=renderDefaultPlanOrProjectSite&projectId=52995&dctmId=0b0003e8808fbae7> or contact Heather Partipilo.

## REALTY

### OR 61122 Port of Coos Bay Rail Line Extension Right-of-Way EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2017-0008-EA

**Description:** An applicant has applied for an amendment to an existing right-of-way grant for a rail line extension on public land in Coos County. The requested right-of-way is approximately 700 feet in length and 75 feet wide.

**Location:** T. 25 S., R. 13 W., Section 07 Lot 6.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – complete.  
Analysis – Fall 2017/Winter 2018

**Decision Date:** Decision Record – Winter 2018

**Implementation:** Following Decision.

For further information, please click on the following link <http://bit.ly/2tLagPK> or contact Joanne Miller.

## OTHER

### Blue Ridge Beam Path DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2018-0002-DNA

**Description:** The BLM proposes to cut trees along one of the beam paths (Beam Path 6) analyzed in the Blue Ridge Communication Site Beam Path Maintenance and Fuels Reduction Environmental Assessment (EA) ([DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2010-0007-EA](#)). The beam path on BLM-administered lands is approximately 4,650 feet long and 40 feet wide (approximately 4.3 acres).

**Location:** Willamette Meridian, Oregon— T. 26 S., R. 12 W. Section 35 and T. 27 S., R. 12 W., Sec. 02

**Planning Status:** Analysis/Review—Fall 2017–Spring 2018

**Decision Date:** FY 2018

**Implementation:** Summer 2018

For further information, contact Heather Partipilo.

# Myrtlewood Field Office

## TIMBER MANAGEMENT

### Six Twigs

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2013-0003-EA

**Description:** This project includes 217 acres of regeneration harvest in the Matrix land use allocation.

**Location:** T. 31 S., R. 14 W., Sections 7, 14, 15, 18, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32;

**Planning Status:** Scoping – Completed.  
Analysis – Completed.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – completed.

**Implementation:** Ongoing.

For further information, please click on the following link <http://1.usa.gov/23rZUnT> or contact Ryan Desliu.

### Lone Pine

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2011-0006-EA

**Description:** This project includes 3,727 acres of commercial and density management thinning in the Matrix and Riparian Reserve land use allocations.

**Location:** T. 27 S., R. 11 W., Sections 21 and 35; T. 27 S., R. 12 W., Section 35;  
T. 28 S., R. 09 W., Section 17; T. 28 S., R. 10 W., Section 22;  
T. 28 S., R. 11 W., Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 17, 19, 29, 31, and 32;  
T. 28 S., R. 12 W., Sections 1, 13, 23, 25, 27, and 35;  
T. 29 S., R. 11 W., Sections 5 and 7; T. 29 S., R. 12 W., Section 12.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – Completed.  
Analysis – Completed.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – Ongoing.

**Implementation:** Timber sales planned for FY 2014 through FY 2018.

For further information, please click on the following link <http://1.usa.gov/1hHAc8v> or contact Jeff Davis.

### Upper Rock Creek

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2016-0007-EA

**Description:** This project includes approximately 1241 acres of forest management through regeneration harvest and commercial thinning in the Harvest Land Base and Riparian Reserve within the Middle Fork Coquille River 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed.

**Location:** T. 29 S., R. 09 W., Sections 7, 17, 21, 29;  
T. 30 S., R. 09 W., Sections 5, 17.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – completed.  
Analysis – ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – starting FY 2018.

**Implementation:** Timber sales planned for FY 2019 through FY 2021.

For further information, please click on the following link <https://goo.gl/bJVT7Q> or contact Ryan Desliu.



**Shark Bait DNA**

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2016-0007-EA

**Description:** This project includes approximately 69 acres of forest management through regeneration harvest within a previously thinned area of the Oceanview CT Timber Sale (ORC00-TS-2014.0034).**Location:** T. 31 S., R. 14 W., Sections 22 and 23**Planning Status:** Scoping – completed.  
Analysis – ongoing.**Decision Date:** Decision Documentation – starting FY 2018.**Implementation:** Timber sale planned for FY 2018.For further information, please click on the following link <https://goo.gl/Aa5kCC> or contact Ryan Desliu.**Chetco Bar Fire Timber Salvage CX/EA**

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-XXXX-XX

**Description:** The project would include salvaging timber impacted by the Chetco Fire.**Location:** T. 39 S., R. 13 W., Sections 1-15, 21-28, 33-35  
T. 40 S., R. 13 W., Section 4**Planning Status:** Scoping – November 2017.  
Analysis – ongoing.**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – starting FY 2018.**Implementation:** FY 2018.

The Chetco Fire area is currently being evaluated for amount of viable timber to be harvested. The project is still in the early stages of development. When scoping begins, a notification will be sent to our interested public. For further information, please contact Ryan Desliu.

## OTHER

### **New River ACEC Management Plan EA**

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2014-0004-EA

**Description:** Over that last 10 years, the New River ACEC has experienced changes in vegetation patterns, invasive species, federally protected species, and recreation use trends. The BLM has identified a need for updating the management plan in order to respond to these changes with appropriate management actions.

**Location:** T. 29 S., R. 15 W., Sections 35, and 36;  
T. 30 S., R. 15 W., Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 15, 21, 22, 28, 32, and 33;  
T. 31 S., R. 15 W., Sections 7, and 8.

**Planning Status:** Scoping – completed.  
Analysis – Ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Record – FY 2018 or 2019.

**Implementation:** Following Decision.

For further information, please click on the following link <https://goo.gl/xUYZCY> or contact Cathy Bounds.

### **Chetco Bar Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation CX**

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2018-0001-CX

**Description:** The Myrtlewood Field Office is proposing emergency stabilization and rehabilitation actions in areas affected by the Chetco Bar Fire. The fire burned on steep slopes and drainages across four watersheds totaling 185,920 acres of which 6,501 are administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team was assigned, and have created a Fire Recovery Plan assessing the potential stabilization, rehabilitation, and restoration actions needed to help protect human life and property on these BLM managed lands.

**Location:** T. 39 S., R. 13 W., Sections 1-15, 21-28, 33-35  
T. 40 S., R. 13 W., Section 4

**Planning Status:** Scoping – completed.  
Analysis – ongoing.

**Decision Date:** Decision Documentations – starting FY 2018.

**Implementation:** Timber sales planned for FY 2018.

For further information, please click on the following link <https://goo.gl/XcoqKF> or contact Ryan Desliu.

## Definitions and Abbreviations

**Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)** – Lands where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish, and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

**Categorical Exclusion (CX)** – Actions which do not have significant effects on the environment and for which an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

**Commercial thinning (CT)** – Stand thinning in which some or all of the cut trees are removed from the stand for timber. ‘Commercial thinning’ in this context does not include individual tree falling or stand thinning in which all the cut trees are left in the stand or some of the cut trees are moved for restoration purposes, or fuels reduction treatments in which cut trees are burned, chipped, or otherwise disposed of without removal from the stand for timber. ‘Commercial thinning’ may be implemented through a variety of mechanisms, including timber sale contracts and stewardship agreements or contracts.

**Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)** – Documentation of BLM’s internal analysis process that a proposed action conforms to its land use plan and is adequately analyzed in an existing NEPA document.

**Environmental Assessment (EA)** – This is a concise public document that briefly provides evidence and analysis of a proposed Federal action. It is used to determine whether further analysis needs to be done for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)** - This is a document that briefly presents the reasons why the implementation of an action will not result in “significant” environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in the *Final Coos Bay District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* (USDI 1994) or the *Final Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement for the RMPs for Western Oregon* (USDI 2017).

**Land Use Allocation** – The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the planning area, based on desired future conditions.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** – A federal law which sets the systematic interdisciplinary analysis to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences to provide for an informed decision. The process provides for public participation in the development, review and revision of certain activities on Federal Lands.

**Public Involvement/Scoping** - An early and open part of environmental analysis that allows interested public and other Federal, state and local agencies the opportunity to provide issues, concerns and opportunities relative to proposed project actions. Scoping is required by regulation for Environmental Impact Statements and is optional for Environmental Assessments.

**Regeneration harvest(ing)** – Any removal of trees intended to assist regeneration already present or make regeneration possible.

**Resource Management Plan (RMP)** – A land use plan as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act that establishes, for a given area of land, land-use allocations, management objectives, and management direction.

**Right-of-way (R/W)** – A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public lands for specified purposes, such as pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, reservoirs, and the lands covered by such an easement or permit.

**Salvage harvest(ing)** – Removal of dead trees or of trees damaged or dying because of injurious agents other than competition, to recover their economic value.