

Bureau of Land Management Coos Bay District Planning Update

Summer 2021

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Coos Bay District BLM Planning Update

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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 feedback from those who may be affected by our resource management programs. Your feedback helps 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.

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/ Steve Lydick
Coos Bay District Manager

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ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES AND NEW PROJECTS

Pages three through eight 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.

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.

District

Late Successional and Riparian Reserve Management Programmatic EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2021-0004-EA

Description: The goal of this EA is to address the need to apply treatments to previously managed stands within the Late Successional and Riparian Reserves to accelerate the development of spotted owl foraging, roosting, and nesting habitat as well as murrelet nesting habitat, along with meeting Management Direction for Riparian Reserves. This EA will present a range of treatment options with modeled stand responses, allowing managers and specialists the flexibility to tailor prescriptions based on current stand conditions. Management actions may include selection harvest, commercial thinning, or non-commercial treatments.

The analysis area for the EA includes approximately 123,000 acres of LSR and RR Land Use Allocations (LUA) within the Coos Bay District. There would be an average of 2,000 acres of treatments conducted in any given year with 80% of the acres in the 40–60-year-old age class and the remaining 20% in the 70–80-year-old age class.

Scoping and other information are located at

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2012984/510>

For further information contact Aimee Hoefs and refer to the LSR Programmatic EA.

Location: Various locations across the Coos Bay District.
Planning Status: Scoping competed.
Decision: summer 2023.
Implementation: Early 2024.

Coos Bay District Recreation Site, Trail, and Facility Maintenance

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C000-2021-0002-CX

Description: The Coos Bay District proposes to conduct routine maintenance activities at all recreation sites, designated as either Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMA) or Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMA), and at all developed district facilities including the Coos Bay District Office compound and maintenance shops and yards. Proposed actions would occur annually and year-round to existing facilities, features, and infrastructure.

Facilities include, but are not limited to restrooms, pavilions, benches, tables, kiosks, interpretive displays, maintenance sheds, boat launches, gates, fences, fee and information boards, storage boxes, pump houses and shelters, and service systems and lines (water, power, lighting, septic, satellite, phone). **Features and infrastructure** that include, but are not limited to lawns, steps, tent pads, volleyball courts, softball fields, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, disc golf baskets, grills and fire rings, wastewater sumps, barrier work (rock, log, post, railing), asphalt, concrete, gravel walkways and roads, trails, bridges, puncheons, and landscaped areas. For further information, contact Aimee Hoefs and refer to the Facilities Maintenance EA.

Location: Various locations across the Coos Bay District.
Planning Status: Planning and Analysis
Decision: Fall 2021
Implementation: Fall 2021

Umpqua Field Office

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Catching EA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2019-0003-EA

Description: The BLM proposes approximately 817–841 acres of commercial timber harvest in the Harvest Land Base.

Location: T. 27 S., R. 12 W., Sections 19, 27, and 33
T. 27 S., R. 13 W., Section 13

Planning Status: Scoping – Completed
Analysis – Completed

Decision Date: Decisions – Starting in FY 2021

Implementation: Timber Sales planned for FY 2021 through FY 2024

For further information, click on the following link [DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2019-0003-EA](#), or contact Heather Partipilo

West Fork Smith River (WFSR) EA

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

Description: The BLM proposed approximately 2,500 acres of thinning 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 – Completed.

Decision Date: Decisions – FY 2019 through FY 2022.

Implementation: Timber sales planned through FY 2022.

For further information, click on the following link [DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2017-0001-EA](#), or contact Heather Partipilo

Upper Slide Creek WFSR Add-on Thinning Acres DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2020-0005-DNA

Description: The BLM proposes to commercially thin approximately 37 additional acres of Douglas-fir stands adjacent to the West Fork Smith River Project <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/admin/project/68000/510>.

Location: T. 20 S., R. 9 W., Section 13

Planning Status: Scoping – Completed

Review – Completed

Decision Date: Decisions – FY 2021

Implementation: Planned for FY 2021 or after

For further information, click on the following link [DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2020-0005-DNA](https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/admin/project/68000/510) or contact Heather Partipilo and refer to the Upper Slide Creek WFSR Add-on Thinning Acres DNA project.

OTHER

Franklin and Wasson Wild and Scenic Rivers Comprehensive River Management Plan (CRMP)

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2021-0003-EA

Description: The US Forest Service's (USFS) Siuslaw National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Coos Bay District are proposing to adopt a comprehensive river management plan for Wasson Creek and Franklin Creek Wild and Scenic Rivers. The scoping packet and other information is also available for review on the Forest Service project website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59324>

Location:

Wasson Creek – Headwaters in T. 21 S., R. 9 W., Sec. 9 to terminus in T. 22 S., R.10 W, Sec. 22

Franklin Creek – Headwaters in T. 22 S., R. 10 W., Sec. 2 to private land boundary in T. 22 S., R. 10 W, Sec. 8

Planning Status: Analysis and planning

Decision Date: To be determined

Implementation: After decisions

For further information see the above Forest Service web site or contact Jodi Leingang at 509-930-4014 or jodi.leingang@usda.gov

Blue Ridge Beam Paths DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2021-0002-DNA

Description: The BLM received requests to clear trees on or near the Blue Ridge Communications Site to provide unobstructed beam paths for radio communications. This DNA is associated with the Blue Ridge Beam Paths EA <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/admin/project/2012903/510>

Location: T. 26 S., R. 12 W., Secs. 25, 35, and 36, and T. 27 S., R. 12 W., Sec. 02

Planning Status: In process

Decision Date: Decisions – FY 2021

Implementation: Planned for FY 2021

For further information, click on the following link [DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2021-0002-DNA](https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/admin/project/2012903/510) or contact Heather Partipilo and refer to the 2021 Blue Ridge Beam Paths DNA project.

FY 2022 Fireline Construction CX

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2021-0005-CX

Description: The BLM received a request to create fire lines along BLM boundaries with private landowners in support of prescribed burning operations. The checkerboard ownership pattern often necessitates that an adjacent landowner locate fire lines on neighboring BLM lands.

Location: Various locations within Douglas County

Planning Status: In process

Decision Date: Decisions – FY 2021

Implementation: Planned for FY 2021

For further information, click on the following link [DOI-BLM-ORWA-C030-2021-0005-CX](#) or contact Heather Partipilo and refer to the FY2022 Fireline Construction project.

Myrtlewood Field Office

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Big Weekly Elk Forest Management Project

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2019-0006-EA

Description: The proposed actions include regeneration timber harvest, commercial thinning, commercial restoration treatments, non-commercial restoration treatments, fuels treatments, transportation management, and snag creation within the Harvest Land Base (HLB), Late Successional Reserve (LSR), and Riparian Reserve (RR) land use allocations.

Locations: T. 28 S., R. 10 W., Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29
T. 28 S., R. 11 W., Sections 02, 16, 17, 18, 23, 27, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36
T. 29 S., R. 10 W., Sections 06, 07, 08, 09, 17, 28, 29, 30
T. 29 S., R. 11 W., Sections 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 09, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 31
T. 29 S., R. 12 W., Sections 23 and 24
T. 30 S., R. 11 W., Sections 01, 04, 06, 08
T. 30 S., R. 12 W., Sections 01 and 12

Planning Status: Analysis – Ongoing.

Decisions: Starting 2022

Implementation: Timber Sales planed for FY 2022 through 2024.

For further information, please click on the following link <https://go.usa.gov/xmtMF> or contact Ryan Desliu

Preacher Man DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2020-00XX-DNA

Description: The BLM proposes to include 10 additional acres of the Harvest Land Base LUA to the Preacher Man Timber Sale and to construct 675 ft. of new road through the proposed area. This new road construction will eliminate the need for 3880 ft. of road improvement and 220 ft. of new construction that was analyzed in the EA. With the roads that are currently planned, approximately 430 ft. of new construction, which was not analyzed, would still need to be added for operational feasibility. Furthermore, the proposed road eliminates the cost to the government to buy into the existing private road and the costs to improve the road to support all-season haul. Approximately 100 ft. of the proposed road will be within a riparian buffer.

This Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) is associated with the Upper Rock Creek Environmental Assessment.

Location: T. 29 S., R. 09 W., Section 31

Planning Status: Appealed, Stay Denied by IBLA, Appeal Response complete.

Implementation: Sold, Under Full Force and Effect

For further information, contact Ryan Desliu.

OTHER

Baker Creek Quarry Development

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2021-0002-EA

Description: The Coos Bay District Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Myrtlewood Field Office is in the process of planning the Baker Creek Quarry Development project. The 40-acre designation as a Community Pit would grant the federal government a superior right the mineral resources within the designation and allow for government agencies, private industry, individuals, and nonprofit organizations to extract rock products from the Baker Creek Quarry. The mineral material products produced from the quarry include jetty stone, rip rap, road base rock, and fill material. This action is expected to provide mineral materials and provide a staging area and material storage and stockpiling area for multiple natural resource management activities in the region over the next 25 years. The BLM will begin the appropriate NEPA documentation later this year to study the effects of the projected actions. The scoping letter has been posted on the BLM internet site: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2014920/510>

Location: T. 31 S., R. 12 W., Sec. 17
Planning Status: Scoping ongoing to 8/26/2021.
Decision Date: To be determined
Implementation: Following Decision.
For further information, contact Ryan Desliu.

The following DNAs (Determination of NEPA Adequacy) are associated with the Programmatic Aquatic Restoration EA <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/admin/project/70143/510> .

Panther Creek DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2020-00XX-DNA

Description: The BLM proposes the following actions:

- Conduct wood placement in approximately 0.5 miles of aquatic habitat; and
- Plant approximately 13 acres of riparian area

Location: T. 39 S., R. 12 W., Sec. 08
Planning Status: In process.
Decision Date: Summer 2021
Implementation: Following Decision.
For further information, contact Ryan Desliu.

Sandy Creek Tributary Culvert Replacement DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2020-00XX-DNA

Description: The BLM proposes replacing a failing stream crossing at milepost 0.85 of road number 29-10-14.2 on BLM-managed lands. Mechanized removal and replacement of the culvert will be accomplished using an excavator or other similar heavy equipment. Existing road fill will be stockpiled along the existing road prism and used to fill in around the new culvert after installation. All project work would take place during work periods identified during internal project review, such as outside wildlife breeding/nesting seasons. The BLM anticipates that internal BLM review and public scoping will identify project design features and any potential issues related to this project.

Location: T. 29 S., R. 10 W., Sec. 15
Planning Status: In process

Decision Date: Summer 2021.
Implementation: Following Decision.
For further information, contact Ryan Desliu.

South Fork Elk Creek Culvert Replacement DNA

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2020-00XX-DNA

Description: The BLM proposes replacing a perched stream crossing at milepost 0.1 of road number 28-11-26.0 on BLM-managed lands with a bridge that the BLM has stored off-site. Mechanized removal and replacement of the culvert will be accomplished using an excavator or other similar heavy equipment. Existing road fill will be stockpiled along the existing road prism and used to fill in around the new culvert after installation. All project work would take place during work periods identified during internal project review, such as outside wildlife breeding/nesting seasons.

Location: T. 28 S., R. 11 W., Sec. 26
Planning Status: In process
Decision Date: Summer 2021.
Implementation: Following Decision.
For further information, contact Ryan Desliu.

SOD CX (2021)

DOI-BLM-ORWA-C040-2020-00XX-CX

Description: The BLM proposes to cut, pile, and burn infected and host plants to prevent the spread of Sudden Oak Death.

Location: BLM-administered lands in Curry County, Oregon.
Planning Status: In process
Decision Date: Late Summer 2021.
Implementation: Following Decision.
For further information, contact Ryan Desliu.