

**United States Department of the Interior**

Washington, D.C. 20240

**INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY**

**DATE:** Saturday, July 15      **TIME:** All Day

**FROM:** Kathy Benedetto

**SUBJECT:** Background on the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and its impact on local timber and ranching industries.

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**I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The opening sentence should clearly state the purpose of the memo (i.e. to inform/update the Secretary (i.e. to inform the Secretary about an issue, topic, or event he has a need to be aware of). Briefing memos should NOT raise issues for decision.

**II. BACKGROUND***Fast Facts*

- Original monument is approximately 65,000 acres in southwestern Oregon (designated 6/9/2000)
- Managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Expansion is approximately 42,000 acres in Oregon and 5,000 acres in California (designated 1/12/2017)

*Timber Harvest*

Approximately 80,000 acres within both the original Monument and the expansion area are designated as Oregon and California Railroad Revested (O&C) Lands (see attached map). These lands are covered by the O&C Act of 1937, which mandates that those lands determined to be suitable for timber production shall be managed for, “permanent forest production and the timber shall be sold, cut and removed in conformity with the principal [sic] of sustained yield for the purpose of providing a permanent source of timber supply, protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, and contributing the economic stability of local communities and industry, and providing recreational facilities.”

- The Presidential proclamations for both the original Monument and expansion explicitly prohibit commercial timber production and sustained yield forestry. The proclamation allows for harvest when it is part of an authorized science-based ecological restoration project for protection and old growth enhancement objectives, consistent with the purposes of the proclamation. In addition, the proclamation specifies that removal of trees from within the monument may take place only if clearly needed for ecological restoration and maintenance or public safety.



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- Within the Monument expansion, approximately 310,000 (0.310 million) board feet have been harvested from within the OR portion of the expansion area under timber sale contracts that were entered into prior to January 12, 2017. The contracts are considered valid existing rights and will be completed, including the approximately 2.9 million board feet of timber that remain to be harvested. In the expansion area, the remaining harvest to be operated under valid existing rights is approximately 511 acres across three timber sales.
- The monument expansion area within the OR portion is administered under the 2016 Southwestern Oregon ROD and RMP (signed in August 2016) and includes about 16,700 acres of Harvest Land Base (i.e. dedicated to sustained yield timber production). The expansion area likely reduces sustained yield timber production opportunities in the harvest land base by 4-6 million board feet per year, and commercial harvest in reserved land use allocations by 400,000 (0.400 million) board feet per year.

#### *Grazing*

- The original proclamation requires a study of the impacts of grazing on the ecosystem, and provides that existing authorized permits or leases may continue with appropriate terms and conditions under existing laws and regulations. It provides that if grazing is found incompatible with protecting the objects of biological interest, the Secretary of the Interior will retire the grazing allotments pursuant to the processes of applicable law.
- The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 enabled grazing leases within the original CSNM to be voluntarily retired.
- The Proclamation for the expansion describes grazing be managed under the same laws and regulations that apply to the rest of the monument, including the management provisions of the original proclamation.
- If grazing permits or leases are relinquished by existing holders, the Secretary will not reallocate the forage available under those permits or for grazing purposes unless that reallocation will advance the purposes of the monument.

#### *Tribal*

- The CSNM is culturally significant to the Grand Ronde, Siletz, Shasta and Klamath Tribes. There are 214 cultural resource sites recorded within the Monument. Many historic sites are related to early 18th century homesteading and livestock rearing activities.
- The annual Maka Oyate Sundance event is not officially associated with a Federally Recognized Tribe; however, participants in the ceremony include members of the Klamath Tribes which is a Federally Recognized Tribe.