

HEADWATERS HEADLINES

Updates from the Headwaters Forest Reserve
Winter 2014

BLM

2013 IN REVIEW



California Conservation Corps members assist with trail stabilization by digging a drainage ditch along the Elk River Trail.



BLM Park Ranger Julie Clark channels Maggie, the Falk camp cook, during an OLLI local history field trip.



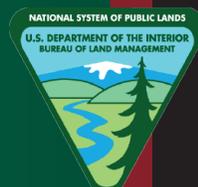
Jon Gates, author of "Falk's Claim", prepares for his lecture as part of the Headwaters 2013 lecture series.



BLM geologist Sam Flanagan and contractor Chris Herbst visit one of the removed abandoned logging roads.

The BLM accomplished a lot at Headwaters in 2013. Here is a look at some of the highlights:

- ✿ 120 acres of second-growth forest thinned
- ✿ 1 mile of abandoned logging roads removed and restored
- ✿ 8 miles of trails maintained
- ✿ 400 acres of weeds inventoried and removed
- ✿ 36 guided field trips
- ✿ 8 lecture series events at the Headwaters Education Center



Arcata Field Office

MEET THE HEADWATERS FOREST ECOLOGIST



David LaFever started as the Headwaters Forest Ecologist in the Fall of 2009 after he and his wife served for two years as peace corps volunteers in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco. In this position, David leads an active forest restoration program that involves thinning and replanting, inventory and monitoring, and coordinating science and research. David holds Master's degrees in Wildlife Science and Education from Texas A&M University. At Texas A&M, David studied the effects of sea-level rise on endangered species in the Florida Keys, taught 8th grade science and coached high school soccer. Outside of work, David enjoys backpacking and hiking, cooking, ecological construction, homesteading his tiny backyard and being dad to his 3-year-old daughter Madeleine. With a second child on the way, changes are ahead for David and family!

FIRST ROUND OF RESTORATION THINNING COMPLETE

In 2013, the BLM and its contractors thinned a 120-acre stand of second growth forest in the Alicia Pass area of Headwaters. These acres represented the last of 1,800 acres indetified for a first round of treatment in the 2004 Headwaters Management Plan. The completion of this first round marks a major turning point in the BLM's restoration of Headwaters.

Thinning treatments have accomplished multiple goals for restoring second-growth forests in Headwaters. These include:

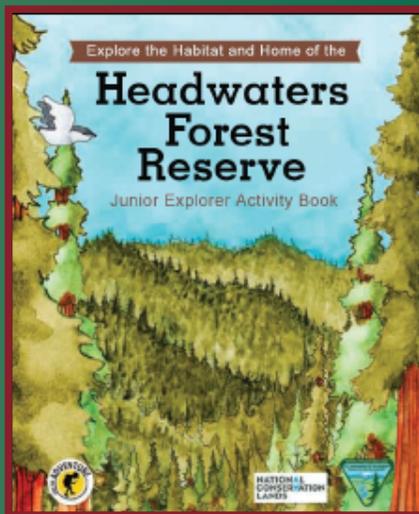
1. Returning the forest to a more "natural" mix of Douglas fir, redwood and other tree species.
2. Increasing forest growth rates, which accelerate the development of mature forest capable of supporting species such as the northern spotted owl, Pacific fisher, and marbled murrelet.



This image of a second-growth forest in Headwaters shows a dense un-treated forest stand on the right next to a treated stand on the left.

BLM land managers are working closely with partners at the National Park Service, California State Parks, US Geological Survey, and Humboldt State University to study the effectiveness of redwood restoration treatments throughout the region. By doing so, land managers ensure that these treatments rely on the best available science regarding restoration. As results come in, the BLM adjusts project design, a process called adaptive management. In 2014, the BLM will begin a second round of treatments as specified in the 2004 Headwaters Management Plan.

WELCOME JUNIOR EXPLORERS AND FAMILIES!



Adventure awaits at Headwaters Forest Reserve! In collaboration with our partners, two new and exciting outdoor activities will be available this spring. Look for these publications in April 2014.

For more information please contact the BLM Arcata Field Office at (707) 825-2300.

You can also find out more on our website, <http://blm.gov/gpld>. Send us an email and join our mailing list at: Headwaters@blm.gov.



Visit our website!



Or the Quest website
Redwood EdVentures