



*yet fully complied with survey requirements of the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines may, at the discretion of the line officer responsible for the project decision, continue under those standards and guidelines or comply with the Special Status Species Policies for those Survey and Manage species that were added to the Special Status Species Programs. Former Survey and Manage species that are included in the Agencies' Special Status Species Programs will have their known sites managed under Special Status Species Policies. For Survey and Manage species not included in Special Status Species Programs, surveys will not need to be completed and known sites will be released for other management uses after the effective date of this Record of Decision.*

***“Surveys have not been started. Projects that are initiated after the effective date of this Record of Decision will comply with Special Status Species Policies.”***

The following information is intended to assist the field in evaluating the status of projects and answer key questions regarding implementation of this decision.

### **1. Projects with surveys in progress:**

Surveys for former S&M Species not included on Special Status or Sensitive Species Lists. You may immediately discontinue pre-disturbance surveys and other activities associated with the S&M Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines.

Surveys for former S&M Species added to Special Status or Sensitive Species Lists. For species that have had surveys completed, no further action is needed. These surveys should satisfy the requirements for either S&M or SSS Policies. For those species where surveys are in progress, at the discretion of the line officer responsible for the project, you may continue to use S&M Survey Protocols or you can comply with SSS Policies. -

The use of S&M Survey Protocols is no longer required and any future application of survey protocols will be decided by the line officer. Pages 5 and 6 of the ROD describe tools available for determining the presence of a species or its habitat (completing pre-project clearances) and the analytical assumptions used in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) regarding use of these tools. These assumptions were meant to represent a reasonable projection of what would occur under SSS Policies so as to describe effects to species in the SEIS. If project surveys for a species were practical under the Survey and Manage standards and guidelines, then this would be one option, if needed, to assess project impacts. If project surveys for a species were not practical under the Survey and Manage standards and guidelines (most Category B and D species), or a species' status is undetermined (Category E and F species), then surveys will not be practical or expected to occur under the Special Status/Sensitive Species policies either. Instead, other options for pre-project clearances would be used, such as evaluation of a species' habitat associations and the presence of suitable or potential habitat; review of existing occurrence records, surveys and inventories; use of research information, literature, or habitat models; or use of documentation or rationale provided by internal or external professional expertise. The methods used for accomplishing pre-project clearances are recommended by the biologist or botanist, and decided by the line officer in consultation with local staff.

### **2. Interagency Species Management System (ISMS)/data management:**

For all units except for the Forest Service in Region 5, continue to enter the sites and areas surveyed into ISMS for former S&M Species that have been added to the agencies' SSS Lists. Please refer to BLM Information Bulletin No. OR-2004-106 (<http://web.or.blm.gov/records/ib/2004/ib-or-2004-106.htm>), "Data Management Decisions for S&M and Special Status Species Programs."

Region 5 will accelerate their transition from ISMS to the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) by entering data either directly into the NRIS FAUNA module or into an interim rare plant database. This database is being refined and is expected to be operational in the next few months.

### **3. Known site management:**

Project has been completed. If a project has been completed, the requirement to manage known sites was fulfilled during the project. Any future projects in the area will follow SSS Policies. Known sites for former S&M Species that were not added to SSS Lists are released and will no longer need to be tracked; however, do not remove them from the ISMS database.

Project planning is in progress (no decision). Known sites for former S&M Species that were not added to SSS Lists are released for other uses. Management of former S&M Species that were added to SSS Lists will occur according to SSS Policies.

Future projects. Species will be managed according to SSS Policies.

The use of S&M Management Recommendations is no longer required. Management Recommendations are no longer management direction. Page 6 of the ROD describes the analytical assumptions used in the Final SEIS regarding known site management. These assumptions were meant to represent a reasonable projection of what would occur under SSS Policies so as to describe effects to species in the SEIS. Species management is determined by the line officer in consultation with local staff.

### **4. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) considerations:**

We recognize there are numerous NEPA analyses in various stages of completion that are potentially affected by the ROD. The method for determining whether or not a change is needed in your existing NEPA analyses should be decided by the responsible official using Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR 1502.9) which pertains to Draft, Final, and Supplemental Statements.

For projects with signed NEPA decisions or decision documents before the effective date of this decision, if it appears the project objectives would be better achieved by implementing the new ROD, the responsible official can choose to withdraw the current decision and issue a new decision, in which case appropriate actions consistent with NEPA should be completed. As a general rule (and at the discretion of the responsible official) projects with decisions that have been on the shelf for longer than five years that have not been implemented should be re-examined to determine if criteria in CEQ 1502.9 compel preparation of a supplement (CEQ 40 questions).

**5. SSS List updates:**

Transmittal letters signed by the Regional Foresters that officially update the Region 6 and Region 5 SSS Lists are forthcoming. California BLM has already updated their list and Oregon BLM has issued a draft.

**6. Contacts:**

The following personnel are available to answer questions regarding implementation of the ROD and transition plans:

| Subject                                | Name   | Phone  |
|--|--|--|
| SSSP Transition and ROD Implementation | Kathy Anderson,<br>(kanderson03@fs.fed.us)       | (503) 808-2256                                     |
| OR BLM Special Status Species Policies | Barb Hill<br>Joan Seevers                        | (503) 808-6052<br>(503) 808-6048                   |
| R6 Sensitive Species Policies          | Sarah Madsen                                     | (503) 808-2673                                     |
| CA BLM Special Status Species Policies | Edward Lorentzen                                 | (916) 978-4646                                     |
| R5 Sensitive Species Policies          | Anne Bradley<br>Mike Gertsch<br>Diane Macfarlane | (707) 562-8938<br>(707) 562-8797<br>(707) 562-8931 |
| Survey and Manage                      | Rob Huff   | (503) 808-6479                                     |
| ISMS/Data Management                   | Janis VanWyhe                                    | (503) 808-6296                                     |

/s/ Nancy M. Diaz  
for ELAINE M. BRONG  
State Director, OR/WA  
USDI Bureau of Land Management

/s/ Linda Goodman  
LINDA GOODMAN  
Regional Forester, R6  
USDA Forest Service

/s/ James Wesley Abbott  
for MICHAEL J. POOL  
State Director, CA  
USDI Bureau of Land Management

/s/ Jack A. Blackwell  
JACK A. BLACKWELL  
Regional Forester, R5  
USDA Forest Service

Authenticated by  
Mary O'Leary  
Management Assistant

1 Attachment

1 - [Overview of Interagency Transition Strategy Work in Progress](#) (1p)

BLM Distribution

WO-230 (Room 204LS)  
CA-330 (Paul Roush)  
OR-010 (Lucile Housley)  
OR-930 (Mike Mottice, Debbie Pietrzak)  
OR-931 (Nancy Duncan, Mike Haske, Russell  
Holmes, Rob Huff)  
OR-932 (Janis VanWyhe)

FWS

Barry Mulder  
Laura Finley  
Barbara Amidon  
Steve Morey  
Jay Watson

cc:

Region 5

Kathy Anderson, Paula Crumpton,  
Kent Connaughton

Region 6

Kathleen Cushman, Judy Harpel,  
Richard Helliwell, Carol Hughes,  
Peggy Kain, Pat Ormsbee,  
Deb Quintana-Coyer,  
Marty Stein, Roger Sandquist

PNW

Brian Biswell, Randy Molina,  
Dede Olson, Nan Vance