

Lakeview District 1997 Planning Update

composition, age, and site quality. From this information, options are evaluated and a treatment is prescribed to move a stand towards the desired condition. As previously described, many stands are overstocked and the treatment most commonly prescribed is thinning to reduce stress on the residual stand. These thinning operations are accomplished under timber sales.

In younger stands, surveys are done to identify condition, stocking, and growth of the trees. As in older commercial stands, options are evaluated and treatment is prescribed to move the young stand or plantation toward a desired condition (usually survival and vigorous growth). The treatments are done by private contractors under BLM supervision.

The FY96 silvicultural treatment is summarized below:

Tree planting	210 acres
Paper mulching	126 acres
Control of competing vegetation (hand grubbing)	244 acres
Precommercial thinning	51 acres
Prescribed underburning	<u>254 acres</u>
TOTAL	885 acres

In addition to its use as site preparation for reforestation, underburning is done to reduce fuel loads and improve forage.

Other silvicultural treatments included:

- Stand exams at Bear Valley Refuge (1,000 acres) and Lower Spencer Creek (6,000 acres).
- Prescriptions/marketing guidelines for Bear Valley Refuge and West Rome Salvage.
- Stocking surveys of young stands and plantations on 3,500 acres.

At the Gerber Bald Eagle Management Area, a project was initiated to cut invasive juniper to reduce competition to Ponderosa pine and to allow their development as potential perch/nest trees around Gerber Reservoir. Cutting of juniper around cultural sites will also end the long-term displacement of archaeological materials by juniper growth. This is a combined wildlife-cultural-silvicultural effort.

LANDS, REALTY, AND ROAD MANAGEMENT

These programs support other resource management programs and authorize and oversee public use of public lands for various activities. These actions could include specific land use authorizations, direct land sales, land acquisitions, control of unauthorized use, and occupancy (such as trespass), road maintenance, and road closures. The resource area is in the process of developing a transportation plan to identify open and closed roads, seasonal closures, and other road management guidance. For further information, contact Tom Cottingham (lands/realty) or Brian McCarthy (roads) at 541-885-4106.