



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Medford District

3040 Biddle Road

Medford, Oregon 97504

Spring 2003



Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Report

for Fiscal Year 2002



President George Bush reviews the rehabilitation plan for the Squires Peak Fire with Luis Ramirez (l) and Steve Armitage. (Photo by John Craig, Oregon State Office)

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

BLM/OR/WA/PL-03/036+1792

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INTRODUCTION

This *Annual Program Summary* is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management for the period of October 2001 through September 2002. The program summary is designed to report to the public, local, state and federal agencies a broad overview of activities and accomplishments for fiscal year 2002. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, Jobs-in-the-Woods, forestry, recreation, and other programs. Included in the *Annual Program Summary* is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

In April 1994, the “Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl” was signed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior. The Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) was approved in April 1995 and adopted, and incorporated the Standards and Guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) in the form of Management Actions/Directions.

Both the Northwest Forest Plan and the Resource Management Plan embrace the concepts of ecosystem management in a broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land use allocations covering all federal lands within the range of the spotted owl were established in the NFP. Analyses such as watershed analyses and late-successional reserve assessments are conducted at broader scale and involve landowners in addition to BLM. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been developed for implementation at the regional level.

Implementation of the NFP began in April 1994 with the signing of the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision. Subsequently, with the signing of the RMP Record of Decision in April 1995, the Medford District began implementation of the RMP which incorporates all aspects of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The Medford District administers approximately 859,000 acres located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos and Curry counties. Under the NFP and RMP/ROD, management of these lands are included in three primary land use allocations: the Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur; Late-Successional Reserves, where providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized; and Riparian Reserves, where maintenance of water quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized. The RMP established objectives for the management of 17 resource programs occurring on the district. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in a detailed manner in the *Annual Program Summary* because of the overlap of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource programs is not included in the *Annual Program Summary* to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in RMP/ROD and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both of which are available at the Medford District Office. For your convenience, the *Annual Program Summary* is available on our website on the Internet at www.or.blm.gov/Medford/

RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2002 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
Forest and Timber Resources				
Regeneration harvest (acres offered)	Acres	524	3,681	10,400
Commercial thinning/density management/ uneven age harvest (acres offered) (HLB)	Acres	9,561	48,749	44,900
Commercial thinning/density management/ uneven age harvest (acres offered) (Reserves)	Acres	85	1,131	N/A
Timber volume offered (HLB)	MM board feet/ MM cubic feet	83.06/ 13.76	345.39/58.88	571/96.90
Timber volume offered (reserves)	MM board feet/ MM cubic feet	.186/ .299	8.39/ 13,502	N/A
Pre-commercial thinning (HLB)	Acres	1,997	30,884	78,000
Pre-commercial thinning (Reserves)	Acres	3,637	N/A	N/A
Brushfield/hardwood conversion	Acres	0	0	N/A
Site preparation (prescribed fire)	Acres	76	34,329 ¹	24,000 ²
Site preparation - other (specify)	Acres	0	N/A	N/A
Fuels Treatment Acres (prescribed fire)	Acres	6,169	34,329 ¹	24,000 ²
Fuels Treatment Acres (mechanical and other methods)	Acres	13,200	30,969	N/A
Planting - regular stock	Acres	0	7,664	2,700
Planting – genetically selected	Acres	702	2,841	10,300
Fertilization	Acres	0	2,222	57,000
Pruning	Acres	2,050	5,290	18,600
Noxious Weeds				
Noxious weeds chemical control	acres	168	991	N/A
Noxious weeds, by other control methods	acres	1261	7,629	N/A
Rangeland Resources				
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Annual leases/ 10 yr renewals	63 / 0	N/A	N/A
Animal Unit Months (actual)		9,799	N/A	N/A
Livestock fences constructed or maintained	Units / miles	7 / 2.2	30 / 21	N/A

¹Cumulative acres for Site Prep burning and Fuel Treatment burning have been combined.

²Decadal estimates for Site Prep burning and Fuel Treatment burning have been combined.

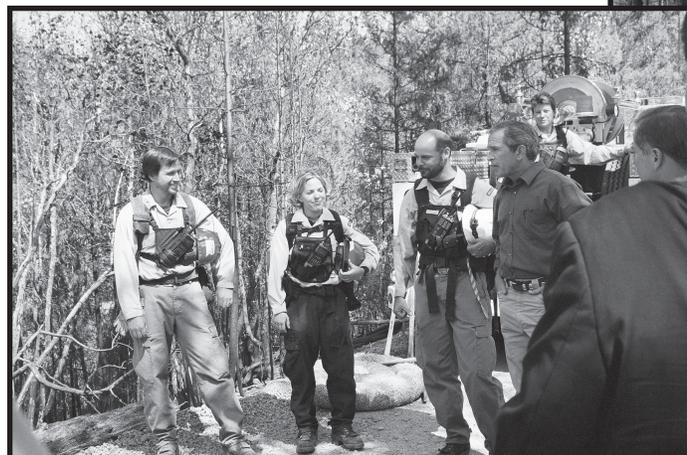
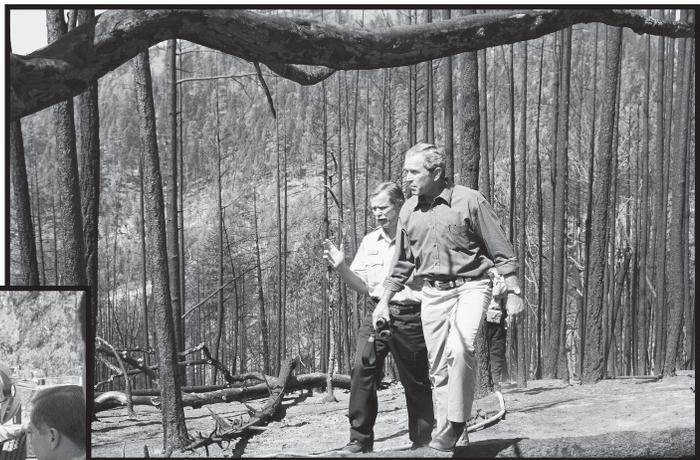
RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2002 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
Realty Actions				
Realty, land sales	Actions/acres	0	1 / 120	N/A
Realty, land purchase	Actions/acres	0	3 / 314	N/A
Realty, land exchanges	Actions/acres acquired/ acres disposed	0	3 / 7657 / 3306	N/A
Realty, R&PP leases/patents	Actions/Acres	0	0	N/A
Realty, road rights-of-way acquired for public/agency use	Actions/miles	9	58	N/A
Realty, road rights-of-way granted	Actions/miles	61	209	N/A
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted	Actions/ miles	5	44	N/A
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted (communication sites)	Actions/acres	1	5	N/A
Special Use Permits	Actions	7	29	N/A
Realty, withdrawals completed	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Realty, withdrawals revoked	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Energy and Minerals Actions				
Mineral/energy, total oil and gas leases	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral/energy, total other leases	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mining plans approved	Actions/acres	1	1	N/A
Mining claims patented	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral materials sites opened	Actions/acres	0	1	N/A
Mineral material sites closed	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Recreation and Off-highway Vehicles				
Maintained off-highway vehicle trails	Number/miles	2 / 105	5 / 1,013	N/A
Maintained hiking trails	Number/miles	8 / 114	43 / 402	N/A
Recreation sites maintained	Number/acres	8 / 200	30 / 1,497	N/A
Cultural Resources				
Cultural resource inventories	Sites/acres	38 / 2,503	414 / 54,079	N/A
Cultural/historic sites nominated	Sites/acres	0 / 0	21 / 608	N/A
Hazardous Materials				
Hazardous material sites, identified	Sites	39	133	N/A
Hazardous material sites, remediated	Sites	19	91	N/A

BUDGET

The Medford District receives its annual operating budget from both congressionally appropriated and non-appropriated sources. All BLM appropriated funds are identified in the Interior Appropriations and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill or emergency supplemental appropriations. In fiscal year 2002, the Medford District received a total of \$22,650,000 in Oregon and California Land Grant appropriations, \$2,714,000 in Management of Lands & Resources appropriations, and \$19,294,000 in special appropriations, fire related appropriations and non-appropriated funds. Special appropriations include emergency fire rehabilitation, fuels treatment and hazard reduction, emergency flood repair and land acquisition funds. Non-appropriated sources include funding from forest ecosystem health and recovery funds, timber sale pipeline restoration funds, road use fee collections, recreation fee demonstration collections, reimbursements for work performed for other agencies, trust funds, appropriated funds transferred to BLM from other agencies, and other miscellaneous collection accounts. Unspent funds for previous years that were carried forward in fiscal year 2002 are also included. The total available monetary resources in fiscal year 2002 to the Medford District were \$44,658,000.

Appropriation	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002
Oregon and California Land Grant	1,604,5000	19,532,000	21,532,000	22,650,000
Management of Lands & Resources	702,000	1,227,000	1,867,000	2,714,000
Special Appropriation and Other Non-appropriated Funds	13,102,000	12,043,000	11,989,000	19,294,000
Total	29,849,000	32,802,000	35,388,000	44,658,000

President George Bush (third from right, below) talks to local wildland firefighters during his tour of the Squires Peak Fire site.



District Manager Ron Wenker (left, above) discusses wildland fire issues with President George Bush during the President's tour of the Squires Peak Fire site.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

Lands administered by the BLM will be managed to maintain or restore healthy, functioning ecosystems from which a sustainable production of natural resources can be provided. Ecosystem management involves the use of ecological, economic, social, and managerial principles to achieve healthy and sustainable natural systems.

The building blocks for this strategy are composed of several major land use allocations: riparian reserves; late-successional reserves; adaptive management areas; matrix, which includes general forest management areas and connectivity/diversity blocks; and a variety of special purpose management areas such as recreation sites, wild and scenic rivers, and visual resource management areas.

The Medford District has the following major land allocations:*

Congressional Reserves	14,267
Late-Successional Reserves	178,467
Late-Successional Reserve within AMA	32,937
Marbled Murrelet Reserve	3,478
District Defined Reserves	1,290
Connectivity/Diversity Blocks	27,237
Applegate Adaptive Management Area	113,912
Reserved Habitat Area	16,732
General Forest Management Area	470,776
Total	859,096

*Allocations do not have any overlapping designations. Approximately 369,200 acres are riparian reserves.

AQUATIC CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) was developed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and the aquatic ecosystems contained within them on public lands. The strategy is to protect salmon and steelhead habitat on federal lands managed by the BLM. This conservation strategy employs several tactics to approach the goal of maintaining the “natural” disturbance regime. The ACS strives to maintain and restore ecosystem health at watershed and landscape scales to protect habitat for fish and other riparian-dependent species and resources and restore currently degraded habitat.

Silvicultural practices have been implemented within riparian reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. These silvicultural practices include tree planting, precommercial thinning, and density management thinning.

Watershed analysis is required by the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) Record of Decision. Watershed analysis includes:

- Analysis of the at-risk fish species and stocks, their presence, habitat conditions and restoration needs;
- Description of the landscape over time, including the impacts of humans, their role in shaping the landscape and the effects of fire;

- The distribution and abundance of species and populations throughout the watershed; and
- Characteristics of the geological and hydrologic conditions.

This information was obtained from a variety of sources, including field inventory and observation, history books, agency records, and old maps and survey records.

A supplemental environmental impact statement has been written to clarify the Aquatic Conservation Strategy. The intent is to clarify the wording in the NWFP Record of Decision to better convey the intent of the scientists who originally framed the ACS. The draft is out for comment and review. The final is planned for August of 2003 and a Record of Decision for September.

Watershed Analysis

First iteration watershed analyses have been completed for 96 percent of the BLM-administered lands in the Medford District. No new watershed analyses were completed in FY 2002. Completed watershed analyses may be found on the Medford District web site (<http://www.or.blm.gov/medford>)

Watershed Restoration and Jobs-in the-Woods Projects

In FY 2002 watershed analysis continued to assist in the identification of the district's watershed restoration projects and BLM projects were coordinated with local watershed associations projects and priorities to supplement district projects. "Jobs-in-the Woods" funding is part of the regional collaborative effort to improve the health of the land and restore watersheds while at the same time providing economic assistance to local communities.

The Medford District, in coordination with other federal, state, and local governments, continued to participate in the "Jobs-in-the-Woods/Watershed Restoration Program". The program provides on-the-job training opportunities for people displaced from forestry related work.. In addition to hiring crews, funds from this program were used to hire local area contractors to do restoration work.. In fiscal year 2002, "Jobs-in-the-Woods" dollars funded \$817,346 in projects for three counties.

Watershed Council Coordination

The district coordinates and offers assistance to a number of watershed associations. This provides an excellent forum for exchange of ideas, partnering, education and promoting watershed-wide restoration. The district is active with approximately 14 watershed associations.

AIR QUALITY

All prescribed fire activities conformed to the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. No intrusions occurred into designated areas as a result of prescribed burning and fuels treatment activities on the district. The prescribed program on the Medford District has adapted to the ecosystem management under the RMP. Air Quality considerations in prescribed burn plans include burning when good smoke mixing and dispersal exists, and prompt mop-up of burned units to reduce residual smoke.

WATER AND SOIL QUALITY

Watershed Analysis

First iteration watershed analyses have been completed for 96 percent of the BLM-administered lands in the Medford District. No new watershed analyses were completed in FY 2002. Completed watershed analyses may be found on the Medford District web site (<http://www.or.blm.gov/medford>).

Water Quality Limited — 303(d) Streams

Approximately 100 stream segments included on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's 1998 Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Waterbodies cross BLM-administered land in the Medford District. These streams are primarily listed as water quality limited due to temperature, but some stream segments are listed for additional reasons such as flow modification, habitat modification, and sedimentation. These stream segments are evaluated as part of the watershed analysis process. The Medford District is working cooperatively with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to develop Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) and Total Maximum Daily Loads for 303(d) listed streams on BLM-administered lands.

Monitoring

Riparian assessments for functioning condition status were conducted on 169 stream miles. These stream miles plus an additional 160 stream miles were surveyed for stream and channel characteristics. This information is being used for project planning and the hydrography theme update (see below). Summer stream temperature was monitored using recording instruments at 150 sites; streamflow, turbidity, and precipitation were measured at 28, 25, and 6 sites respectively; aquatic macroinvertebrates were sampled at 37 sites; and channel cross sections were surveyed at 15 sites.

Hydrography Geographical Information System (GIS) Theme Update

The hydrography theme update project is ongoing across the Medford District and is part of a larger effort between State and Federal agencies in the Pacific Northwest. The objective of this effort is to create a single high-resolution hydrography network that will be co-managed and web-accessible via a server at the Regional Ecosystem Office (REO). The Medford District is responsible for providing an accurate portrayal of the spatial density of the stream network, polygon features (e.g. lakes and ponds), and point features (e.g. springs and wells) in addition to capturing pertinent attribute information such as stream type (fish bearing, perennial, or intermittent) and fish species for water bodies within the District. The hydrography update has been completed for 21 percent of the District. More information on this project may be found at the BLM State Office and REO web sites:

http://www.or.blm.gov/gis/projects/water_resources/index.asp

<http://www.reo.gov/reo/projects/clearinghouse/Hydro/index.htm>

TERRESTRIAL HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Green Tree Retention

Timber sales in the south General Forest Management Area (GFMA) maintain 16 to 25 large green trees per acre in harvest units. Units in the north GFMA maintain 6 to 8 trees per acre.

Snags and Snag Recruitment

Snags are left standing in units if they do not conflict with Occupational Safety and Health Administration safety guidelines and if they do not conflict with prescribed burning.

Coarse Wood

In conformance with the Northwest Forest Plan, all timber sale units maintain a minimum of 120 lineal feet of downed logs (greater than or equal to 16 inches diameter) per acre, assuming there are downed logs on the site. Additional reserve standing trees provide coarse wood recruitment for future decades.

Connectivity

Designated connectivity blocks are spaced across the district. Twenty-five to 30 percent of each block (640 acre section) is to be maintained in late-successional forest managed on a 150 year rotation. Harvest areas are to maintain a minimum 12 to 18 green trees per acre. Additional connectivity is provided by the riparian management network (100 to 300 feet on each side of the creek) and by 250 owl cores (100 acre LSRs).

Special Habitats

As part of the salamander surveys, talus habitat in project areas is being mapped. Entrances to caves and old mine adits are being buffered in upcoming sales. Abandoned mine entrances are having grates installed to minimize human disturbance to bat colonies. Butte Falls Resource Area installed three bat gates. Meadows receive a 300-foot no-harvest buffer to maintain edge cover. Prescribed fire projects have been undertaken to maintain historic fire-dependant oak woodlands (see Big Game Habitat). BLM continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and their associated vernal pool habitat. Critical habitat has been proposed for the fairy shrimp and plants that occur in the vernal pools.

Nest Sites and Activity Centers

Surveys were completed at historic detection areas for northern goshawks, a Bureau Sensitive Species. Helicopter surveys monitored osprey productivity at Lost Creek Reservoir and along the Rogue River. Almost 1,600 neotropical migratory birds were banded during the nesting season and during the fall migration at a Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) mist netting station in a long-term Partners-In-Flight project begun in 1995 in the Grants Pass Resource Area. Twenty-nine different species of concern were banded during the breeding and migration season. Another 615 birds, of which 445 were new captures, were banded at a second MAPS station initiated in 2000 in the Glendale Resource Area. Glendale has banded 53 species, of which 13 were species of conservation concern.

Big Game Habitat, and Furbearers

Brush fields and oak woodlands were broadcast burned, under-burned or treated with the Slashbuster as habitat improvement for deer and oak woodland restoration. Two bait stations with cameras were established in the Glendale Resource Area to survey furbearer presence. Twenty-six sites in Glendale were monitored for approximately four weeks, each for a total of 58 photographs of ten different wildlife species. Eight sites in the Grants Pass Resource Area were monitored for 16 weeks and resulted in 15 photographs of seven different wildlife species

Peavine Helicopter Landings Rehabilitation

The Peavine Helicopter Landing Rehabilitation project was completed. This project included six primary phases:

- Existing shrubs and trees pulled with 21 local Boy Scout Volunteers.
- Logging debris piled by contractor.
- Piles burned by BLM
- ODFW provided equipment and labor for lime and fertilizer application.
- Sites ripped by BLM.
- Native Idaho fescue planted.

The project rehabilitated 13 acres of forage for elk and other wildlife in May 2002.



Steve Godwin (r) and Jeff Stephens, wildlife biologists, fit a radio pack on a female great gray owl to track her range.

Bats

In cooperation with Bat Conservation International, Boise Corporation, Southern Oregon University, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service and volunteers, the Glendale Resource Area continued testing three artificial bat roost designs in forested areas across southwestern Oregon. Nine replicate sites were installed to make a total of 15, with two more planned in 2003. Bat populations were monitored at two caves and eight mine sites in the Grants Pass Resource Area.



Glendale wildlife biologists install three artificial bat roosts to determine which type of roost area bats prefer.

Survey and Manage (S&M)/Protection Buffer Species

Medford plans thousands of acres of projects each year that require clearances. To meet protocol standards for S&M species, annual surveys cover far more area than the final project acres. Many protocols require more than one visit or multiple year surveys. Data on presence/absence is entered into the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS) data base.

Red Tree Vole. Red tree voles surveys are required on all four Medford resource areas, although Ashland has limited habitat. Suspected nest trees are climbed. Annually, thousands of acres are surveyed and several thousand trees are climbed for confirmation. Overall, few of the trees that are climbed support red tree vole nests. The district is following interagency guidance for project mitigation.

Molluscs. Four S&M mollusc species are expected to occur on the Medford District, although not all species occur in each resource area. Thousands of acres of surveys are conducted annually, but few sites have been documented. The 2002 annual species review dropped *helminthoglypta hertleini* and changed the range for *pristiloma arcticum crateris* and *monademias chaceana*. *Droceras reticulatum* slug was added to the Ashland Resource Area survey requirements.

Salamanders. Surveys for Del Norte salamanders were begun in 1996, but the 2001 SEIS dropped the species from the S&M list.

Great Gray Owl. Upcoming sale units in suitable habitat (within 1,000 ft of meadows) have been surveyed to interagency protocol standards. Several nests are located each year, even though the district is on the fringe of the species' range. Historic detection areas were monitored. Conforming to Northwest Forest Plan guidance, a 300-foot buffer around meadow habitat is being maintained and seasonal restrictions are imposed within a quarter mile of nest sites. A draft great gray owl survey protocol has been reviewed, but is not yet final. Among other changes, it proposes to include the lower elevations areas where great gray owls have been confirmed on the Medford District.

Threatened/Endangered Species

The Medford District joins with the Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on projects within the Rogue Basin to be sure that these projects are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. A biological assessment for fiscal years 2001, 2002, and 2003 projects was completed.

Bald Eagle. Historic nest sites on BLM and on adjacent non-federal lands were monitored for occupancy and productivity. The species is undergoing review by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for possible federal delisting.

Marbled Murrelet. The Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas cooperated with the Siskiyou National Forest in the development and validation of a landscape-scale sampling effort to address whether there is a need for continued surveys for murrelets prior to habitat-disturbing activities further than 25 miles inland in the Rogue Basin. As a result, Zones C and D in the murrelet survey protocol are no longer included in the required areas to survey, increasing the efficacy of surveys and reducing the expenditure of wildlife funds in areas now known to be out of the species' range. No murrelets have ever been detected on the district since the project began in 1993.

Northern Spotted Owl. The Glendale Resource Area intensively surveyed 58 historic owl sites in a 110,000-acre density management study area (multiple ownerships) as part of the long-term Klamath demographic study (begun in 1997) as part of effectiveness monitoring mandated by the Northwest Forest Plan. An adaptive management monitoring study of owls in the Ashland Resource Area continued into its fourth year in conjunction with the National Council of Paper Industry for Air & Stream Improvement (NCASI). Medford BLM, in cooperation with Boise Cascade Corporation, opportunistically monitored historic sites (active and inactive) to verify site location and continue gathering demographic data. The Table Rock and Biscuit wildfires affected several historic owl sites in the Butte Falls and Grants Pass Resource Areas, and the district is seeking research funding and partnerships to monitor spotted owl response to wildfires.

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp. In cooperation with the Oregon Natural Heritage Program and The Nature Conservancy, surveys for fairy shrimp continued in ephemeral pool habitat at the Table Rocks. This species was first discovered here in 1998, a 100-mile northward extension of the known range. Critical habitat for fairy shrimp was proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the Table Rocks in 2002, in a small area encompassing the vernal pools.

Peregrine Falcon. The species was federally delisted in August 1999, but remains listed by the State of Oregon. Under the Federal delisting guidelines, agencies agree to continue monitoring peregrines following delisting. District personnel continued monitoring three sites on BLM and two sites on adjacent private lands. An additional new site was discovered on BLM land last year. Wildfires were close to some of the sites and monitoring in 2003 will evaluate how these sites fared post-fire.

Consultation

Formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was initiated and completed for the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan EIS to reduce potential impacts to bald eagles while offering the public recreational opportunities along the Rogue River.

The timber sale programmatic biological assessment was amended to update timber sale information and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service completed the consultation.

Leadership in the Wildlife Profession

Team Contribution. Three biologists contribute to the protocols and management guidelines for special status species taxa teams. One biologist serves as chairperson of and another is an active contributor to the Oregon Bat Working Group.

Professional Papers. Three biologists presented papers at the Wildlife Society's Oregon Chapter annual meeting.

Outreach

Ashland Resource Area was active in outreach during 2002. Members of the wildlife group

- Coordinated a partnership between BLM and a local elementary school. During the 2002 school year, partnership activities included judging 200 science projects, Xmas tree cutting, and a field trip to a wildfire area for 100 students. Additional outreach activities at other local schools included conducting a wildlife discovery hike for 46 kindergartners and judging senior projects at the high school.
- Attended six hunter safety training sessions to give presentations on wildlife in the area.
- Coordinated the 5th Annual CAST for Kids Fishing Day at Hyatt Lake, a day of fishing and fun for kids with disabilities and their families. This year, we initiated an innovative approach to agency event planning by piloting a successful effort to involve the community in the planning of the event. We coordinated the efforts of 15 community and organization members to successfully plan the event using this new approach. This enabled BLM to continue to sponsor and participate in the event, while greatly lessening the agency's workload. The event involved 40 kids with disabilities and their families. More than 200 people attended, including over 20 business sponsors, organizations and service clubs.
- Gave a presentation to a BLM stream survey crew to facilitate information sharing on local amphibians and reptiles, and sightings of other wildlife of interest.
- Helped resolve a wildlife problem on a starthistle pulling contract. The contract was in danger of default because three people had been bitten by rattlesnakes while working. This was a prison crew contract. A wildlife biologist was called in to meet with the county's program manager. The program manager was advised on rattlesnake natural history items and safety. Problems were identified in contract administration which were causing a likelihood of snakebites. The manager followed our recommendations and the contract was completed successfully (with no further snakebites!).
- Initiated interagency coordination for BLM with the Salmon Watch organization on BLM involvement in a proposed Bear Creek Nature Park in Medford.
- Developed a presentation for North Mountain Park in Ashland on "The Effects of Fire on Wildlife." The power point program is designed with a script so others can easily present it.



Karen Gillespie (left) accompanies one of the CAST Day participants during his fishing trip on Hyatt Lake.



Wildlife biologist Vicki Arthur (below) shows kids from Little Butte School how to “build a beaver” during their field day at McGregor Park.

AQUATIC/MARINE HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

A variety of activities to maintain or enhance fisheries and fish habitat were conducted in fiscal year 2002. The primary focus of the fisheries program was impact assessments for timber sales, road work and fuels treatment activities. Additionally, Endangered Species Act consultations, Jobs-in-the-Woods projects and transportation management objectives analyses were completed. These activities represent the majority of the workload and also require considerable time in field visits and meetings. The following are other activities performed by fisheries personnel on the Medford District:

Watershed Council Cooperation

The district provided technical assistance to six different watershed councils in support of our commitment to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Using the Wyden Amendment authority, BLM provided funding to watershed councils for various projects, including a lamprey monitoring study with the Applegate River Watershed Council. The Bear Creek Wetland Monitoring project was funded in cooperation with the Rogue Valley Council of Governments. A new funding source, known as Title II, was also used for the first time this year to assist watershed councils with restoration projects and watershed assessments.

Fish Passage

Fish passage is a high priority and an ongoing need in the Medford District. A small dam was removed on Maple Gulch in the Evans Creek watershed to provide passage for steelhead and cutthroat trout, opening up an additional 1-1/2 miles of habitat. Eight culverts were replaced on coho salmon and steelhead streams to allow upstream migration to spawning grounds and additional rearing habitat.

Population Monitoring

Approximately twenty miles of coho and steelhead spawning surveys were conducted according to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) protocol. Snorkeling to estimate fish populations was completed on four miles of stream. Six smolt traps were operated to determine juvenile fish species composition, size, abundance, and timing of outmigration. Information was collected from the traps on five species including chinook and coho salmon, steelhead/rainbow and cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. The traps were monitored by BLM, Forest Service, and ODFW employees as part of a cooperative Challenge Cost Share project. Presence/absence surveys were completed on approximately 85 miles of stream throughout the Rogue Basin in cooperation with ODFW. Surveys for Pacific lamprey were completed on five miles of stream. Sensitive aquatic mollusk species monitoring totaled two acres of habitat. A cooperative study on sucker spawning was initiated with Southern Oregon University.

Instream Habitat Improvement

Boulder weirs were constructed in West Trail Creek to collect gravels for improved fish spawning habitat. Whole trees with rootwads attached were placed into Sucker Creek and anchored with boulders to provide cover and increased stream habitat complexity.

Riparian Habitat Improvement

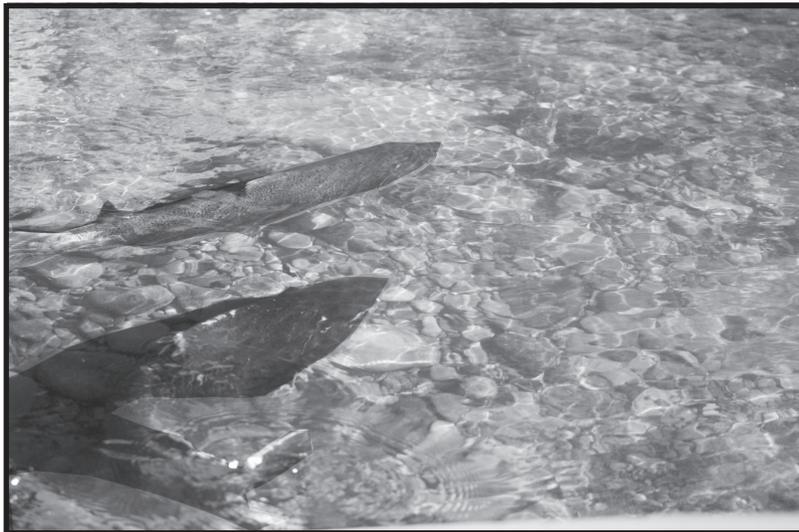
Ten acres of trees were planted along Sucker Creek. Livestock enclosure fences were reinforced and repaired on Beaver Dam Creek to protect cutthroat trout and riparian habitat. Two additional enclosures were built for riparian protection and one was built to protect a sensitive aquatic mollusk site.

Endangered Species Act

The district submitted nine biological assessments to the National Marine Fisheries Service for consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Emergency consultation was initiated for the Biscuit, Timbered Rock and Wall Fires suppression and stabilization/rehabilitation activities.

Public Outreach

Many educational presentations were conducted for watershed councils, schools, and various other community groups. Fisheries personnel taught schoolchildren about water quality, riparian vegetation, macroinvertebrates and salmon life cycles at several of Oregon Trout's Salmon Watch events held around the Rogue Basin. Free Fishing Day and CAST for Kids Day events were held at BLM's Hyatt Lake Campground, providing loaner fishing gear, boat rides and educational activities for the public. Examples of some of the other outreach activities in which fisheries personnel were involved include National Public Lands Day, the Junior Achievement Program and the Little Butte School Field Day.



These spawning fish were seen during the Little Butte School Field Day.

PATHOGEN, DISEASE AND PEST MANAGEMENT

Seed Orchard EIS

The Medford District is presently analyzing methods of pest management at the seed orchards in the district, Charles Sprague and Provolt. This Integrated Pest Management Plan is needed primarily because of a significant loss of seed to cone insects and other pests. Insecticide use and other alternatives would be considered to control the pests. We intend to complete the pest management plan in FY 2004.

Port Orford Cedar (POC)

The Medford District continues to follow the RMP guidance for managing Port Orford cedar by pursuing strategies that mitigate damage caused by the root disease *Phytophthora lateralis*. Port Orford cedar trees near roads and streams on the district are at a high risk of infection. Mitigations required by the district to lessen the spread of this disease have included timber sale purchasers washing vehicles used in tree cutting activities, sanitizing roadside Port Orford cedar, gating roads, upgrading surfacing of roads to minimize mud spread, restricting seasonal use of roads, mandating sequence of harvesting, and excluding the cutting of Port Orford cedar boughs.

Presently an environmental impact statement is being developed to analyze the impacts of *Phytophthora lateralis* on Port Orford cedar in the Coos Bay, Roseburg and Medford Districts. Completion of the EIS is planned for FY 2004.

Sudden Oak Death

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is caused by the fungal-like organism *Phytophthora ramorum*. The disease causes stem canker, leaf spotting and plant mortality. Known hosts where mortality is common are tan oak, coast live oak, black oak, rhododendron, evergreen huckleberry, and Shreve's oak. Madrone trees have not been commonly killed by the disease. Disease pathologists do not completely understand how the disease is spread, however, early evidence from the disease centers in California strongly suggests that it may be transferred in rain splash and wind-driven rain as well as in soil and plant material that is moved from place to place.

BLM is a partner with private land owners, Oregon Department of Agriculture and U.S. Forest Service in the eradication project currently underway. The project involves the felling and burning of host material in the infected and surrounding buffer areas with follow-up effectiveness monitoring. The cooperating state and federal agencies will continue to survey sites in Oregon and collaboratively adapt management strategies to maintain a healthy, functioning ecosystem.

WEED MANAGEMENT

Management and treatment of noxious weed infestations on Medford District administered lands in five counties (Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, Curry) using an integrated pest management approach continues to be a critical element of all resource programs. Currently, the Medford District is emphasizing control of 13 species of exotic plants (yellow starthistle, purple loosestrife, puncturevine, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, Dalmatian toadflax, spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed, leafy spurge, tansy ragwort, Canada thistle, Scotch broom, and Spanish broom). The number of sites targeted for treatment each year is subject to change, depending upon new infestations, funding, cooperation from adjacent landowners, and effectiveness of control methods

The following is a partial list of accomplishments completed in 2002:

- **Education/Awareness**
 - Numerous weed control presentations with individuals, high schools, universities, agricultural extension groups, and other interest groups
- **Prevention**
 - Require equipment cleaning on all soil disturbing activities. Create contract stipulations requiring contractors to clean equipment prior to bringing it on BLM administered lands.
- **Inventory**
 - Noxious Weed inventory conducted during vascular plant surveys (35,983 ac.)
- **Herbicide application**
 - Spray noxious weeds in numerous rock quarries throughout the district
 - Spray 1 acre of distaff thistle in Sunny Valley (down from 5 acres in 2001)
 - Continued work with Jackson County to treat puncturevine
 - Spray diffuse knapweed / Canada thistle in Hobson Horn quarry
- **Handpulling**
 - Illinois Valley Weed Control Contract (handpulling 400+ ac. of yellow starthistle, scotch broom, knapweeds)
 - Control of Yellow starthistle and Scotch Broom in Rogue River Wild & Scenic campgrounds with students from SOU (35 ac.)
 - Clip and remove cutleaf teasel along Butte Falls / Prospect highway
- **Biological Control**
 - Released the following insects:
 - 500 *Larinus minutus* (flowerhead weevil) on meadow knapweed
 - 2,000 *Eustenopus villosus* (hairy weevil) on Yellow starthistle on Quail Creek burn
 - 1,000 *Urophora cardui* (gall fly) on Canada thistle in Soda Mt. area
 - 400 *Nanophyes marmoratus* (seed weevil) on Purple Loosestrife in Bear Creek & Prospect areas
 - 1,500 *Galerucella californiensis*/*G. pusilla* on Purple Loosestrife between Whitehorse Park and Hog Creek
 - 2000 *Hylobius transversovittatus* (root weevil) on Purple Loosestrife at Whitehorse Park, Robertson Bridge, Graves Creek, Bear Creek

BOTANICAL SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

SPECIAL STATUS AND SPECIAL ATTENTION SPECIES

Rare Plant Surveys

The Medford BLM Botany team surveyed 69,570 acres last year in support of the timber, fuels, range, hydrology, wildlife, fisheries, botany, engineering, and silviculture programs (see chart). The vast majority of project surveys were accomplished by contract, searching for Federally listed, State listed, Bureau Special Status, and Survey and Manage plant species. The acres claimed are acres walked, and not ones remotely sensed or assessed.

Resource Area	Vascular Surveys	Non-vascular Surveys	Total Surveys	Vascular sites Found	Non-vascular Found	Total sites Found
Butte Falls	9,682	8,443	18,125	146	411	557
Ashland	13,402	14,601	28,003	46	251	297
Grants Pass	4,500	6,000	10,500	45	151	196
Glendale	5,820	7,122	12,942	72	104	176
Total	33,404	36,166	69,570	309	917	1,226

Nearly all of the vascular sites found were either Federal/State listed, or Bureau Sensitive/Special Status species (not Survey & Manage). A large percentage of the non-vascular sites found were S&M, mostly *Bryoria tortuosa* and *Dendriscoaulon intricatum*, but some were Bureau Special Status non-vascular plants (lichens/mosses).

Fritillaria gentneri—In 2002, 17,774 acres were surveyed by contract specifically looking for the listed *Fritillaria gentneri* across all resource areas. We found 16 new sites, bringing the total number of sites on Federal land (all Medford BLM) to 79 occurrences containing a total of 925 reproductive plants. Seven new sites were found in the Applegate drainage on the Ashland Resource Area, six in the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, and three were in Butte Falls Resource Area. No fritillaria sites were found in Grants Pass or Glendale Resource Areas. The 79 sites make up the majority of all known occurrences and plants known for the species range wide.

Special Site Surveys—In 2002, certain special areas (ACEC's/RNA's/LSR) were surveyed for rare plants to better understand the diversity and distribution of these organisms in these unique areas. Systematic surveys and plant community mapping were done in the Table Rocks and French Flat Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). About 1,200 acres in the Elk Creek, Azalea, and Munger Butte late successional reserves were surveyed as part of the State office 'purposive' S&M surveys. Surveys and plant community mapping in the North Fork of Silver Creek RNA were scheduled and Challenge Cost Share funds obligated for the work. Because of the fire hazard and the Biscuit Fire, however, these surveys will be done in 2003. Most of the RNA did burn this summer, so surveys will capture the first-year post-burn vegetation and effects to previously documented rare plant populations.

Federal Listings—While not an accomplishment by, two Bureau Special Status plant Species were federally listed as endangered this year, Cook's lomatium (*Lomatium cookii*), and large-flowered wooly meadow foam (*Limnanthes floccosa sp. grandiflora*). Both species are Rogue Valley endemics, but only

Cook’s lomatium is known to still occur on federal land. Critical habitat designation for both species is due out within the year. The Medford BLM now has four plant species that are federally listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Native Grass Production—In 2001, the Medford District competed for funds from the Washington Office for native plant propagation. These funds were received and put to good use in 2002. Forty-one seed lots representing 16 native grass species were sown in the fall of 2001 at Stone Nursery. Another approximately 1,500 pounds were produced at the Phipps (State) Nursery. The gross yield of seed is shown below. This was a record amount of grass produced for the Medford BLM and sowings have taken place for next year’s production which is estimated to be 37,760 pounds (18.8 tons) gross yield. Nearly all the seed produced was used this year for wildfire rehabilitation and for district projects.

2002 Production at Stone Nursery

Resource Area	Number of Species ¹ /lots	Gross Yield (lbs)	Native Straw Bale(#)
Ashland	8/13	4,830 lbs	388
Butte Falls	15/20	5,865 lbs	429
Grants Pass	4/4	2,907 lbs	218
Glendale	4/4	1,510 lbs	165
Total	16 species/41 lots	15,112 lbs	1,200

¹Some resource areas produced crops of the same species.

2002 production at Phipps

Resource Area	Number of Species ² /lots	Gross Yield (lbs)
Ashland	2/4	662 lbs
Butte Falls	2/3	932 lbs
Total	2 species/7 lots	1,594 lbs

¹Some resource areas produced crops of the same species.

New Indefinite Quantities Seed Grow-out Contract—Our native grass specialists also worked this year to develop a multi-year indefinite-quantity grass-growing contract with the Oregon State Office. All Federal agencies in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, and beyond will be able to write task orders against it. It is the first of its kind for native grass production and provides the ability to grow variable amounts of multiple native specie with commercial grass growers throughout the PNW region. All one has to do is provide the wild collected foundation seed, have the funds and issue a task order. The response from the commercial arena was well received and we now have an instrument that can produce native seed for use on federal lands at affordable market prices. The more you grow, the cheaper it is. As more native seed is produced in the commercial arena, through time the availability will increase and the price will fall. Commercial seed companies have realized there is a new market for source-identified native seed and are responding. We anticipate continuing to use Stone Nursery in out years for smaller crops, harder to grow crops and for one-year seed increase prior to going into the commercial IDIQ contract. Monies are starting to be obligated into this contract west-wide by the BLM and the Forest Service.

Monitoring/Studies—A number of rare plant monitoring projects and studies were completed in 2002, many with challenge cost-share funds. Below is a summary of the projects. For detailed results, contact your local resource area botanist.

- ***Fritillaria gentneri* site revisits.** Annual revisits to 42 of the 79 Gentner's Fritillary populations, performing census counts, documenting vigor, habitat condition, and threats. This represents a sample of 53% of all known sites of federal land. This study has been ongoing since 1998 and represents the longest running study for this listed endangered plant. Data continue to show a wide fluctuation in population numbers ranging from an average of 2.8 – 22.02 mature plants per population in any given year, with a range from 0 (dormant?) – 306 actual counts per site. Total population counts were up this year to a total census of 925 plants on the 42 sites. Monitoring of the 42 sites is proposed to continue in 2003, and is an action item in the Draft recovery plan.
- ***Fritillaria gentneri* demographic study.** The annual monitoring in the Jacksonville woodlands population, performing demographic, age class monitoring, and tracking individual plants through the various life stages (including dormancy). This information continues to be critical to understanding the species and provided the data in the formulation of population thresholds utilized in the draft Recovery plan due out later this year. Monitoring is proposed to continue in 2003.
- ***Fritillaria gentneri* augmentation study.** Initial trials were started this year, following guidelines outlined in the draft recovery plan for Gentner's fritillary. Collection permits were obtained from the USFWS, and vegetative bulblets were removed from mature *Fritillaria* bulbs at 5 locations across the range of *Fritillaria*. Bulblets have been removed to OSU greenhouses in an attempt to produce more vegetative material for out-planting back into the original population to increase population numbers. This study is also being done in conjunction with a pollination/crossing study that for the first time in 3 years produced viable seed from hand pollination crosses. This study is proposed to continue and expand in out-years until the population numbers exceed the pre-determined levels for de-listing.
- ***Fritillaria gentneri* DNA study.** Leaf samples and DNA extracts from 5 populations throughout the range of *Fritillaria gentneri* were obtained and are currently being analyzed at Southern Oregon University. The objectives of the project are to determine the relatedness between populations, and the relatedness to the common scarlet fritillary (*Fritillaria recurva*). Some have hypothesized that the listed species is a hybrid. The final results are not due out until later this year.
- **Cook's *Lomatium* monitoring.** This represents the 9th year that monitoring has occurred for *Lomatium cookii* at three locations in the Illinois Valley, including the largest population on federal lands. This just listed endangered plant continues to experience declines, and threats from habitat conversion. Monitoring is proposed to continue in 2003.
- **Red-root yampah monitoring.** Monitoring of augmented populations of red-root yampah (*Perideridia erythrorhiza*), planted in 1999, and 2001, continued this year for 2 sites augmented with greenhouse grown bulbs, and direct seeding. This study is paired with an identical study on Roseburg BLM. The study also is (inadvertently) capturing data on cattle grazing of this rare species. Initial results show positive growth and reproduction, and provided valuable data on long term establishment of transplanted tubers, especially at the Roseburg site. The cattle grazing on the Medford site however, has introduced an unintended disturbance level and appears to be inhibiting the establishment of the population. There is a significant difference between the percentage of transplants returning, flowering plants, and fruits. Cattle exclusion of the Medford study site is proposed for 2003, and monitoring is proposed to continue in 2003.

- **Tall bugbane monitoring.** This project ongoing annually since 1997 has tracked demographic changes in 3 populations of the rare plant *Cimicifuga elata* on the Medford District, as well as populations further north in the Cascades, following a conservation strategy signed in 1996. The results for Medford are encouraging, and show that this species is stable and slightly increasing in two of the three populations, and important information has been learned with regard to annual fluctuations in population numbers, age classes, reproduction, persistence, response to disturbance, and herbivory (deer). A number of new (and large) populations have recently been discovered for this species on the Medford BLM, and the level of concern that prompted the conservation strategy has diminished in the Rogue valley. Populations further north in the cascades do tend to be fewer, and smaller, and the concern for persistence still exists. Monitoring on Medford BLM is now proposed to go onto a periodic schedule, with readings taken ever few years, rather than annually.
- **Umpqua swertia monitoring.** Population monitoring for *Frasera umpquaensis* has been ongoing since 1995 following a conservation strategy signed in 1993. Monitoring of 3 of the 6 known sites on the Medford BLM for 8 years shows annual fluctuations in age class distributions and population numbers. Important information has been learned with regard to flowering cycles, seedling recruitment, and reproductive success. Generally, these populations are stable, with large fluctuations year to year in different age classes. Reproduction and seedling recruitment appears to be episodic, and strongly influenced by climatic conditions. Incidentally, the age of individual plants was also determined by counting bud scars on the tubers, and this species has been found to be long-lived, capable of switching between reproductive and vegetative plants through time. A small sample (8 plants) were aged, and the oldest was found to be 89 years old. It is thought that plants could be as old as the overstory trees around them. Monitoring was proposed to continue, but on a periodic schedule rather than year to year. However, several of the plots burned this year on BLM in the Biscuit fire, and there is a real need and interest to document the response of the population from this stochastic event. Funding is being sought for 2003.
- **Clustered lady's slipper monitoring.** Thirty-nine sites of *Cypripedium fasciculatum* across the Medford BLM representing 892 plants were monitored in 2002 as part of an agreement with CFER (Cooperative Forest Ecosystem Research - OSU). This was the fourth year of monitoring. The Medford BLM has the most occurrences of this Bureau Sensitive and Survey and Manage species in Oregon (over 500 sites), however most of the sites are small, with fewer than ~20 plants on average (a few 'large sites' exist with over 200 plants). This monitoring is the only landscape scale monitoring occurring for this species across its range, looking at population demographics, reproduction and recruitment, flowering cycles, dormancy, seed germination trials, pollination studies, grazing evaluations, and thinning treatments, in multiple plant communities in different successional states (young to old). Unfortunately, CFER is discontinuing this important monitoring project, and the Medford District is proposing to continue a scaled back 'maintenance' version of the study in 2003, depending on allocated funding, in anticipation of alternative funding sources for 2004 that could continue this project.
- **Calochortus greenii monitoring.** Baseline monitoring of plots set up in 2001 for the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument Grazing study were not re-measured in 2002 due to delays in building the paired grazing enclosures. Following construction of the structures, monitoring inside and outside enclosures will commence in 2003 to evaluate effects of grazing on this rare endemic lily compared to the baseline data collected in 2001.

- **Serpentine Fen Monitoring.** In conjunction with the Forest Service and the USFWS, the ongoing serpentine fen project was completed this year exhausting the National Fish and Wildlife grant and other federal funding. The evaluations of the serpentine fens and monitoring of several rare species (associated with them) were completed, and a draft conservation agreement has been prepared to proactively protect potentially threatened and endangered plants (former candidates), and their habitat in serpentine fens in Josephine county Oregon, and adjacent Delnorte Co., California on BLM and USFS lands. Five critical fens on Medford BLM have been identified. Some of the fens burned in 2002 in the Biscuit fire (on USFS), and population (and recovery) monitoring are proposed. Development of a final conservation agreement between the US Fish and Wildlife, the US Forest Service (Siskiyou and Six Rivers National Forests), and the Medford BLM is scheduled to be completed in 2003.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Below is a summary of events/actions that occurred with regard to Areas of Environmental Concern, (ACECs) and Research Natural Areas (RNAs) on the Medford District.

New Proposals: The Medford BLM evaluated five major proposals for ACECs this year:

- 5,900 acres in the Applegate drainage,
- 11,000-acre expansion in the same area,
- 640 acres in the West Fork of the Illinois,
- 2,250 acres in the Waldo-Takilma area (serpentine), and
- 2,800 acres in Whiskey Creek for an RNA cell for Douglas-fir/Tan-oak series.

Of the five proposals, the two proposed in the Applegate were evaluated and found not to meet the criteria for ACECs. These were submitted under the public comment period for a timber sale, and included all the lands in the sale area. The West Fork of the Illinois and the Waldo-Takilma proposals were evaluated and found to meet the criteria for ACEC nomination, however no decisions have been made on actual designations. The Whiskey Creek ACEC/RNA proposal has been reduced to a 91-acre area representing a Douglas-fir/Tan-oak plant community and is part of an ongoing EIS analysis. A decision on this proposal should be out in 2003.

Management Plans: several management plans (Round Top RNA, Bobby Creek RNA) that were written last year have been finalized and EAs are due out in 2003 implementing these plans.

ACEC Surveys: Systematic plant surveys and plant community mapping were done for the French Flat, Upper Table Rocks, and Poverty Flats ACECs in 2002 (a total of 1,925 acres). This information was needed to move forward and develop management plans for these areas.

ACEC Actions: The Poverty Flat ACEC is also included in a proposed fuels reduction project (29 acres of the ACEC). We think that the fuels treatment (by hand) will not detract from the values for which the ACEC was proposed and will benefit the communities and rare plants that exist at this site. At the Table Rocks ACEC, the parking lot was expanded this year and interpretive signs for the unique features of this popular ACEC are being installed. At French Flat ACEC, a fence was reconstructed to keep OHV's out of the federally listed *Lomatium cookii* meadows and law enforcement patrols were increased to insure that OHV impacts to this listed species were stopped. A draft conservation agreement is being finalized with the USFWS to help protect the populations in the French Flat ACEC. Plant walks were also conducted at several ACECs (see below).

Wildflower Walks

Various botanists conducted plant walks and talks across the district. Public wildflower hikes were given at Rough and Ready ACEC and Table Rocks ACEC (in conjunction with the Nature Conservancy), and a special walk for the Jacksonville Garden Club was conducted at the Table Rocks ACEC. BLM botanists lead two hikes during the annual Native Plant Society meeting that was held in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument this year—one into Dutch Oven Creek to observe *Fritillaria gentneri* and other rare plants, and another trip to several serpentine fens in the Illinois valley. One BLM botanist also co-taught a serpentine fen class for the Siskiyou Field Institute.

APPLEGATE ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AREA

Since Applegate Adaptive Management Area (AMA) is now in its eighth year, the Medford District has taken a look back to see how well the intent of the AMA has been implemented. The *Applegate AMA Guide*, completed in 1998, identified over 100 strategies and actions to address nearly 50 questions about ecological, social and economic effects of resource management in an adaptive management setting (that is, “do it, learn, do it better”). The review of all accomplishments within the AMA will lead to more focused learning in the future. The review (which will be available early 2003 in a report entitled “AMA Stakeholders’ Report”) indicated:

- Goals identified by the Northwest Forest Plan (which initiated the concept of Adaptive Management Areas) are being addressed by the various projects within the AMA.
- There is a wide range of perception regarding successful implementation of AMA principles.
- Well over 50 studies have occurred in the last 8 years, most of which were designed to monitor the anticipated effects of projects such as timber sales, fuels treatments and road construction. Studies have addressed questions such as:
 - Were minimum canopy retention standards met after timber harvest?
 - Were air quality standards met during hand pile burning in Thompson Creek?
 - Does commercial thinning in riparian zones alter riparian zone temperature and relative humidity?
 - Did downed wood reduce scouring in streams during the 1997 flood?
 - What is the population trend of coho salmon in Star Gulch, Yale Creek and Ninemile Creek?
 - Are willow flycatchers nesting at higher elevations?
 - Are the various populations of Siskiyou mountain salamander genetically different?
 - Does using the Slashbuster reduce ground impacts?
 - What are the main sources of slides on roads that occurred in the 1997 flood?
 - Does thinning and burning reduce pathogen populations that cause Port Orford root disease?
 - Does thinning increase tree growth? Canopy growth?
 - Can a partnership help to gain wider acceptance of resource utilization and reduce tension between the community and the federal agencies?
 - Is adaptive management working in the Applegate AMA?

- Of the 20 or so highest priority questions in the *Applegate AMA Guide* (determined by public responses to projects, lawsuits, appeals, protests, agency priorities, etc.), three have been addressed well, about another 10 have been partially addressed, and the remaining strategies/ actions have yet to be addressed.
- Those strategies and actions which have been well addressed include:
 - *Develop a strategic plan to reduce the hazard or risk of fire*—the Applegate Community Fire Plan was the result of the Applegate Partnership and a host of federal, state, county, and private partners working together to produce a watershed-wide strategy for reducing fire risk and hazard.
 - *Share what has been learned*—Bureau of Land Management employees contributed to “AMA Learning Summaries” in 1997-1999; provided numerous articles that shared learning experiences in the *Applegator* community newspaper; presented numerous program presentations to the public at the Applegate Partnership; hosting numerous public field tours (including President Bush’s field visit to the Squires Peak fire in August 2002).
 - *Better engage the communities in local problem solving*—while interest and opposition to various forest management programs remain high and often contentious, the BLM has provided increasing opportunities for community members to become involved. Highlights include: meeting with residents in small, intimate groups, often at resident’s homes, to discuss pending projects; providing feedback to publics on how their concerns are considered; strengthening relationships with community partnerships; collaborating with homeowners to treat fire hazards across ownership boundaries; monitoring intent of the AMA to make sure role of community involvement is being fulfilled.

The fact that only a few of the more than 100 strategies and actions have been accomplished is not an indication that the BLM is weak on commitment to the AMA. It is simply an indication that many of the questions being addressed by these strategies and actions are complex, don’t have an ending point, or require tremendous financial and other resources to complete.

For example, the completion of the Applegate Community Fire Plan, which had extensive BLM involvement and support, indicates the tremendous effort required to address fire risk and hazard in a collaborative setting. While the strategic portion of the strategy has been completed (production of a documented strategy), implementation and monitoring of fuels reduction projects, both on private and federal lands, is just beginning.

Planning and implementation of projects within the AMA continues. However, the details of these accomplishments (acres treated, etc.) are reflected in the reporting for the program summaries as a whole. Projects included tree harvesting, thinning, brush treatment, road construction and closures, stream rehabilitation, wildfire area stabilization, and prescribed fire.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The cultural resources program provides environmental history information addressing the role of human beings in the evolution of the landscape to Resource Areas when requested to do so for watershed analyses. This information is synthesized from a variety of sources including reports, maps, photos, and historic documents, and several overview studies done on this subject in past years. The program continues to solicit tribal input for important projects such as the Bristol Silica Quarry and to keep an updated list of interested tribes. Public outreach and education goals were addressed through various means including: continuing the assistance agreement with Southern Oregon University for student intern assistance in site inventory and recording projects; collaborating with Southern Oregon University for the development of an interpretive display based on previous years' field school results; and participation of District personnel in a number of public presentations.



Lisa Brennan shows students from a local elementary school how to peel and grind acorns as the Native Americans did. This is just one of the public outreach events in which the Medford District cultural resources program participates.

VISUAL RESOURCES

Visual Resource Management guidelines are implemented through individual projects on the district.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Objectives</u>
VRM Class I	preserve the existing character of landscapes
VRM Class II	retain the existing character of landscapes
VRM Class III	partially retain the existing character of landscapes
VRM Class IV	allow major modification of existing character of landscapes

Classification of lands in the Medford District is as follows:

<u>VRM Class</u>	<u>Acres</u>
VRM Class I	14,330
VRM Class II	113,880
VRM Class III	393,100
VRM Class IV	337,220

RURAL INTERFACE AREAS

The objective of the resource management plan for the rural interface areas is to consider the interests of adjacent and nearby rural residential land owners during analysis, planning and monitoring activities occurring within managed rural interface areas. These interests include personal health and safety, improvements to property, and quality of life.

The BLM manages rural interface areas encompassing approximately 136,000 acres within one-quarter mile of private land zoned for 1-5 acre or 5-20 acre lots. These lots are located throughout the Medford District.

In the past year, the BLM has worked with numerous local people and groups such as watershed councils, fire protection groups, area citizen groups, and environmental coalitions to mitigate many features of land management that are in close proximity to private residences.

Gates and other barricades are used to stop unauthorized use of public roads and dust abatement measures to mitigate impacts to neighbors. The BLM is also attempting to reduce fuels hazards on public lands adjacent to private properties.



When areas around structures in the interface are properly cleared, the structures are less likely to suffer catastrophic damage.



Slashbuster clearing underbrush to prevent fires from using the brush as a ladder to take hold in the crowns of adjacent trees.

SOCIOECONOMIC

Payments in Lieu of Taxes, O&C Payments, and Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) payments were made in FY 2002 as directed in current legislation. The specific amounts paid to the counties under each revenue sharing program in FY 2002 are displayed in the following tables.

Fiscal Year 2002 was the second year that payments were made to counties under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-393). Counties made elections to receive the standard O&C and CBWR payments as calculated under the Act of August 28, 1937 or the Act of May 24, 1939, or the calculated full payment amount as determined under P.L. 106-393. All counties in the Medford District elected to receive

payments under the new legislation. Beginning last Fiscal Year (2001) and continuing through 2006 payments are to be made based on historic O&C and CBWR payments to the counties. Table 1 displays the statewide payments made under each Title of P.L. 106-393 as well as the grand total. Table 2 displays the payments made under each Title of P.L. 106-393 for this district. Actual payments for 2002 were made November 1, 2002.

Title I payments are made to the eligible counties based on the three highest payments to each county between the years 1986 and 1999. These payments may be used by the counties in the manner as previous 50-percent and “safety net” payments.

Title II payments are reserved by the counties in special account in the Treasury of the United States for funding projects providing protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resource objectives as outlined in P.L. 106-3983. BLM is directed to obligate these funds for projects selected by local Resource Advisory Committees and approved by the Secretary of Interior or her designee.

Title III payments are made to the counties for uses authorized in P.L. 106-393. These include: 1) search, rescue, and emergency services on Federal land, 2) community service work camps, 3) easement purchases, 4) forest-related educational opportunities, 5) fire prevention and county planning, and 6) community forestry.

Medford District—24

Payments in Lieu of Taxes, Oregon, 2002		
COUNTY	PAYMENT	TOTAL ACRES
Baker County	\$675,881.00	1,020,753
Benton County	\$3,276.00	20,327
Clackamas County	\$83,996.00	521,085
Clatsop County	\$426.00	359
Columbia County	\$0.00	1
Coos County	\$10,900.00	67,619
Crook County	\$824,141.00	939,376
Curry County	\$95,219.00	590,707
Deschutes County	\$348,437.00	1,433,965
Douglas County	\$152,759.00	947,666
Gilliam County	\$39,890.00	34,616
Grant County	\$347,883.00	1,744,725
Harney County	\$518,880.00	4,539,024
Hood River County	\$33,161.00	205,723
Jackson County	\$74,344.00	461,202
Jefferson County	\$104,401.00	297,057
Josephine County	\$56,433.00	350,091
Klamath County	\$348,281.00	2,160,621
Lake County	\$489,334.00	3,703,035
Lane County	\$220,670.00	1,368,964
Lincoln County	\$29,517.00	183,116
Linn County	\$76,732.00	476,022
Malheur County	\$1,244,109.00	4,302,798
Marion County	\$32,934.00	204,312
Morrow County	\$158,929.00	149,973
Multnomah County	\$12,216.00	75,783
Polk County	\$0.00	435
Sherman County	\$62,910.00	53,672
Tillamook County	\$14,985.00	92,962
Umatilla County	\$440,521.00	417,254
Union County	\$640,353.00	624,346
Wallowa County	\$313,148.00	1,166,171
Wasco County	\$35,620.00	220,977
Washington County	\$3,099.00	2,608
Wheeler County	\$99,743.00	302,646
Yamhill County	\$4,157.00	25,790
TOTAL	\$7,597,285.00	28,705,781

Table 1. FY 2002 O&C Payments to Counties (Payments were made November 1, 2002)

County	Title I Paid to County	Title III Paid to County	Total Paid to County	Title II Retained by BLM	Grand Total
Benton	\$2,617,839.01	\$230,985.80	\$2,848,824.81	\$230,985.80	\$3,079,810.61
Clackamas	\$5,170,464.96	\$793,818.44	\$5,964,283.40	\$118,616.55	\$6,082,899.95
Columbia	\$1,919,127.53	\$226,908.61	\$2,146,036.14	\$111,760.96	\$2,257,797.10
Coos	\$5,496,530.32	\$126,096.87	\$5,622,627.19	\$843,879.07	\$6,466,506.26
Coos (CBWR)	\$688,125.83	\$15,786.42	\$703,912.25	\$105,647.56	\$809,559.81
Curry	\$3,400,395.87	\$432,050.30	\$3,832,446.17	\$168,019.56	\$4,000,465.73
Douglas	\$23,336,963.46	\$1,029,571.92	\$24,366,535.38	\$3,088,715.75	\$27,455,251.13
Douglas (CBWR)	\$124,397.28	\$5,488.12	\$129,885.40	\$16,464.35	\$146,349.75
Jackson	\$14,598,411.87	\$1,288,095.17	\$15,886,507.04	\$1,288,095.17	\$17,174,602.21
Josephine	\$11,253,912.92	\$1,469,628.63	\$12,723,541.55	\$516,356.00	\$13,239,897.55
Klamath	\$2,179,979.82	\$192,351.16	\$2,372,330.98	\$192,351.16	\$2,564,682.14
Lane	\$14,225,765.75	\$1,280,318.92	\$15,506,084.67	\$1,230,110.33	\$16,736,195.00
Lincoln	\$335,381.51	\$19,531.04	\$354,912.55	\$39,653.93	\$394,566.48
Linn	\$2,459,464.40	\$217,011.57	\$2,676,475.97	\$217,011.57	\$2,893,487.54
Marion	\$1,360,158.35	\$204,023.75	\$1,564,182.10	\$36,004.19	\$1,600,186.29
Multnomah	\$1,015,460.69	\$179,198.94	\$1,194,659.63	\$0.00	\$1,194,659.63
Polk	\$2,012,289.06	\$355,109.84	\$2,367,398.90	\$0.00	\$2,367,398.90
Tillamook	\$521,704.58	\$30,381.62	\$552,086.20	\$61,683.89	\$613,770.09
Washington	\$586,917.64	\$77,680.28	\$664,597.92	\$25,893.43	\$690,491.35
Yamhill	\$670,763.02	\$118,369.95	\$789,132.97	\$0.00	\$789,132.97
Totals	\$93,974,053.87	\$8,292,407.35	\$102,266,461.22	\$8,291,249.27	\$110,557,710.49
				CBWR	\$955,909.56
				O&C	\$109,601,800.93
					\$110,557,710.49

Table 2. FY2002 O&C Payments to Counties in Medford District (Payments were made November 1, 2002)

County	Title I Paid to County	Title III Paid to County	Total Paid to County	Title II Retained By BLM	Grand Total District RAC	Title II Medford
Curry	\$3,400,395.87	\$432,050.30	\$3,832,446.17	\$168,019.56	\$4,000,465.73	\$84,009.78
Douglas	\$23,336,963.46	\$1,029,571.92	\$24,366,535.38	\$3,088,715.75	\$27,455,251.13	\$401,533.05
Douglas (CBWR)	\$124,397.28	\$5,488.12	\$129,885.40	\$16,464.35	\$146,349.75	\$2,140.37
Jackson	\$14,598,411.87	\$1,288,095.17	\$15,886,507.04	\$1,288,095.17	\$17,174,602.21	\$1,275,085.41
Josephine	\$11,253,912.92	\$1,469,628.63	\$12,723,541.55	\$516,356.00	\$13,239,897.55	\$516,356.00
Klamath	\$2,179,979.82	\$192,351.16	\$2,372,330.98	\$192,351.16	\$2,564,682.14	\$192,351.16
Totals	\$54,894,061.22	\$4,417,185.30	\$59,311,246.52	\$5,270,001.99	\$64,581,248.51	\$2,471,475.76
					CBWR	\$146,349.75
					O&C	\$64,434,898.76
						\$64,581,248.51

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations” directs all federal agencies to “...make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing ...disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities.”

New projects with possible effects on minority populations and/or low-income populations will incorporate an analysis of Environmental Justice impacts to ensure any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects are identified and reduced to acceptable levels if possible.

RECREATION

The Medford District’s recreation management program continues to be one of the most diverse in the state. Developed sites include campgrounds at Hyatt Lake, Tucker Flat, Elderberry Flat and Skull Creek. Day use sites are maintained at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, Kenny Meadows, Hyatt Lake and along the Recreation Section of the Rogue River. Interpretive trails and sites are maintained at Eight Dollar Mountain, Table Rocks, Hyatt Lake, Gold Nugget, Rand Administrative Site and three National Register Sites—the Whisky Creek Cabin, the Rogue River Ranch and Rand on the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River. A hang gliding site is maintained at Woodrat Mountain and a winter tubing hill is maintained at Table Mountain. More people than ever before were taken on guided interpretive hikes on the Table Rocks in FY2002, with over 3000 school children and 2000 adults participating.

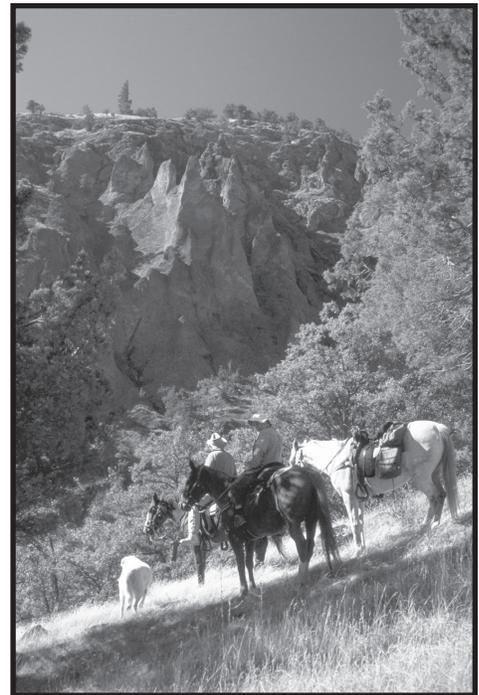
In addition, the district maintains two nationally designated trails—The Rogue River National Recreation Trail and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

The district also manages forty-seven miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, administering both the commercial and private permits.

For users who enjoy driving for pleasure, the district manages three Back Country Byways and three designated Off Highway Vehicle areas. For non-motorized cyclists, the 74-mile Glendale-to-Powers Bicycle Recreation Area is maintained.

The 5,867 acre Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area continues to be managed under the non-impairment criteria of the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review, pending Congressional action.

Winter recreation use continues to increase with more than 20 miles of cross-country ski trails and 60 miles of snowmobile trails maintained in addition to the Table Mountain Tubing Hill.



Riders along the Pacific Crest Trail in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

Dispersed use throughout the district includes hunting, fishing, camping, driving for pleasure, horseback riding, hang gliding, caving, shooting, mountain biking, water play, sightseeing, hiking, rock hounding, and mushroom and berry gathering. The types as well as the amount of uses increase every year.

In addition to the activities listed above, the district issues approximately 150 special recreation permits for commercial or competitive activities. The majority of these permits are issued to commercial outfitters and guides on the Rogue River. Additional permits are issued for coonhound trials, paintball wars, hunting guides, equestrian events, bicycle events, automobile road races and OHV events.



The scenic overlook on London Peak Trail, a one-half mile barrier-free trail (rated moderately difficult for wheelchair accessibility) just five minutes from I-5, meanders along a forested ridge line to the London Peak overlook, offering spectacular views of the Rogue/Umpqua Divide.

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND TIMBER RESOURCES

Land Use Allocation	Offered FY 2001		Total 1995 -2001 (mbf)
	MBF	CCF	
AMA	0	0	71,570
North GFMA	0	0	128,540
South GFMA	0	0	56,838
Connectivity	0	0	9,150
Misc Volume	229	390	1,924
Total Volume offered from ASQ lands	229	390	268,022
LSR Volume	0	0	3,721
Riparian Reserve volume	0	0	4,563
Hardwood volume	452	770	482
Total District Volume	681	1,160	276,788
District FY Target Volume	57,075	97,000	369,628

- Data shown is for all “offered” timber sales, which included advertised and negotiated sales with associated modifications.
- Misc. volume includes special forest products sold as sawtimber.
- No sales were offered for auction due to litigation.

1) Summary of Volume Sold

Sold ASQ/Non ASQ Volume (MMBF)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	FY95-02 Declared ASQ
ASQ Volume - Harvest Land Base	199.5	62.0	261.5	399.0
Non ASQ Volume - Reserves	8.0	0.2	8.2	n/a
Total	207.5	62.2	269.7	n/a

Sold Unawarded (as of 09/30/01) ASQ/Non ASQ Volume	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total
ASQ Volume - Harvest Land Base	16.4	0.0	16.4
Non ASQ Volume - Reserves	2.6	0.0	2.6
Total	19.0	0.0	19.0

2) Volume and Acres Sold by Allocations

ASQ Volume (Harvest Land Base) (MMBF)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
Matrix	132.3	59.3	191.6	492.0
AMA	51.1	2.3	53.4	171.0

ASQ Acres (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
Matrix	17,089	3,530	20,619	23,299
AMA	9,653	2,087	11,740	6,686

Key Watershed ASQ Volume (Harvest Land Base) (MMBF)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
Key Watersheds	3.8	8.8	12.6	7.5

3) Sales Sold by Harvest Types

ASQ Volume (Harvest Land Base) (MMBF)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
Regeneration Harvest	57.4	13.3	70.7	344.0
Commercial Thinning & Density Management	118.8	39.1	157.9	222.5
Other	23.3	9.6	32.9	4.3
Total	199.5	62.0	261.5	570.8

ASQ Acres (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
Regeneration Harvest	3,527	487	4,014	11,277
Commercial Thinning & Density Management	21,864	5,680	27,544	18,584
Other	573	884	1,580	548
Total	25,964	7,051	33,138	29,985

Reserve Acres	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total
Late-Successional Reserves	465	3	468
Riparian Reserves	577	1	578
Total	1,042	4	1,046

4) Sale Acres Sold by Age Class

Regeneration Harvest (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
0-70	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0
80-140	1,146.0	73.4	1,219.4	3,577
150-190	789.0	56.8	845.8	3,007
200+	1,839.0	283.2	2,122.2	4,693
Total	3,774.0	415.4	4,189.4	11,277

Density Management , Commercial Thinning & Other (Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-02	FY95-02 Total	Decadal Projection
0-70	3,251.0	518.6	3,769.6	1,859
80-140	12,356.0	2,955.9	15,311.9	9,324
150-190	3,573.0	1,162.2	4,906.2	4,489
200+	3,050.0	1,132.3	4,182.3	3,032
Total	22,230.0	5,769.0	28,170.0	18,704

**DISTRICT ALLOWABLE SALE QUANTITY (ASQ) ACCOMPLISHMENTS
BY SUSTAINED YIELD UNIT (SYU)
MEDFORD DISTRICT**

Evaluation Period: FY 1995 thru FY 2002		Josephine SYU		Jackson SYU		Klamath SYU		District	
		CCF	MBF	CCF	MBF	CCF	MBF	CCF	MBF
ASQ Volume **1	Advertised & Sold Negotiated Modification 5450-5 (Short form)	213,746.6	127,266.9	308,131.4	174,068.0	10,755.2	5,303.0	562,633.2	306,637.9
		7,399.8	5,045.8	3,635.6	1,949.7	937.1	555.5	11,972.5	7,551.0
		5,508.0	3,247.0	22,894.1	12,874.6	942.5	556.4	29,344.6	16,678.0
		2,395.8	1,476.7	4,107.2	2,503.1	77.4	45.0	6,580.4	4,024.8
Totals:		229,050.2	137,036.4	338,768.3	191,395.4	12,712.2	6,459.9	580,530.7	334,891.7
Autonomous Program Summaries **2	Rescissions Act Replacement Key Watershed 5900 (Salvage/Forest Health)	6,108.0	4,253.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6,108.0	4,253.0
		39,150.1	25,095.3	28,313.0	16,082.0	0.0	0.0	67,463.1	41,177.3
		67,261.2	38,737.6	262,120.9	125,233.2	11,206.8	5,596.1	340,588.9	169,566.9
Planned Total ASQ for FY 1995 thru FY 2002		288,342.0	173,901.6	413,091.0	239,338.8	22,410.0	13,072.5	723,843.0	426,312.9
Planned ASQ for Key Watersheds for FY 1995 thru FY 2002		45,275.1	27,795.1	72,189.5	42,412.7	18,264.6	10,583.2	136,729.0	80,791.0
Non - ASQ Volume Negotiated Modification 5450-5 (Short form)	Advertised & Sold Negotiated Modification 5450-5 (Short form)	6,671.0	3,599.1	7,305.0	4019.0	0.0	0.0	13,976.0	7,618.1
		279.1	124.2	181.0	105.0	0.0	0.0	460.1	229.2
		159.0	105.8	88.2	70.7	490.8	289.3	738.0	465.8
		0.0	0.0	7.1	3.9	0.0	0.0	7.1	3.9
Totals:		7,109.1	3,829.1	7,581.3	4,198.6	490.8	289.3	15,181.2	8,317.0
Autonomous Program Summaries **2:	Rescissions Act Replacement Key Watershed 5900 (Salvage/Forest Health)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
		54.9	35.9	239.6	140.9	675.5	304.1	970.0	480.9
		478.0	265.0	5,923.3	3,248.8	420.7	248.7	6,822.0	3,762.0
All Volume (ASQ + Non-ASQ)	Advertised & Sold Negotiated Modification 5450-5 (Short form)	220,417.6	130,866.0	315,436.4	178,087.0	10,755.2	5,303.0	546,609.2	314,256.0
		7,678.9	5,170.0	3,816.6	2,054.7	937.1	555.5	12,432.6	7,780.2
		5,209.0	3,352.8	22,982.3	12,945.3	1,433.3	845.7	29,624.6	17,143.8
		2,395.8	1,476.7	4,114.3	2,507.0	77.4	45.0	6,587.5	4,028.7
Grand Totals:		236,159.3	140,865.5	346,349.6	195,594.0	13,203.0	6,749.2	595,711.9	343,208.7
Autonomous Program Summaries **2:	Rescissions Act Replacement Key Watershed 5900 (Salvage/Forest Health)	6,108.0	4,253.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6,108.0	4,253.0
		39,205.0	25,131.2	28,552.6	16,222.9	675.5	304.1	68,433.1	41,658.2
		67,739.2	39,002.6	168,044.2	128,482.0	11,627.5	5,844.8	347,410.9	173,329.4

**1 Volume from the Harvest Land Base that "counts" (is chargeable) towards Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) accomplishment.

**2 Autonomous Program Summaries figures are for information purposes and are included in the ASQ and/or Non-ASQ figures, respectively. Rescissions Act replacement volume did not count towards annual sale offering targets.

Silvicultural Practices

The implementation of many silvicultural practices are proportional to the District’s timber sale harvest schedule. Since there are a number of lawsuits which have held up the District’s regeneration harvest schedule, many reforestation practices, such as site preparation and tree planting, have not been needed. However the growth enhancement practices, such as stand maintenance of vegetation, pre-commercial thinning/release, and pruning are being accomplished as needed.

See the Summary Tables in the front of this document for accomplishments in silvicultural practices.

SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

The Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program in FY 2002. These sales included mushrooms, mosses, Christmas trees, wood burls, plant transplants, floral greenery and wood products such as poles or fence posts.

The record of decision does not have any commitments for the sale of special forest products. The following table shows the special forest product sales for fiscal year 2002 on the Medford District.

Product	Number of Contracts	Quantity Sold	Value
Boughs-Coniferous	26	48,883 lbs	\$1,686
Burls & Miscellaneous	32	76,420 lbs	\$6,651
Christmas Trees	868	1,308 trees	\$4,555
Ornamentals	0	0	\$0
Edibles & Medicinals	1	500 lbs	\$30
Floral & Greenery	120	139,599 lbs	\$4,245
Mosses-Bryophytes	0	0 lbs	\$0
Mushrooms-Fungi	56	5,660 lbs	\$1,608
Seed & Seed Cones	5	345	\$172.50
Transplants	1	8	\$8.00
Wood Products	610	654,720 cu. ft.	\$22,847
Total	1,719		\$41,803

ENERGY AND MINERALS

The Medford District has approximately 120 active mining notices. In 2002, 69 sites that were the most likely to have impacts on other resources were inspected. In FY 2002 the District removed five occupancies that were determined not to be reasonably incident to mining. The District processed four mining actions under the 3809 mining regulations in FY 2002, a 56% decrease from FY 2001. This decrease was attributed to the passage of new regulations early in the 2001 calendar year. Three abandoned mine physical hazard sites were remediated in FY 2002. These sites consisted of unsafe mine openings and structures.

The district continues to sell mineral materials to the public including decorative rock and quarry rock used for driveways, roads and other projects. There were a total of 68 permit sales for 12,200 cubic yards of quarry rock. These materials sales were made to business and private citizens in FY 2002. Twenty-one thousand cubic yards of quarry rocks were used from BLM quarries in support of the timber sale program and road and fish projects.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS

The District completed an RMP amendment that identified seven parcels of BLM lands that were changed from land tenure zone 2 to land tenure zone 3 lands. Those seven parcels appeared to meet the criteria in FLPMA for disposal by sale and exchange. Following the August 5, 2002, RMP amendment those lands became land tenure 3 lands and were identified as suitable for disposal by sale and exchange.

In June 2002, the State of Oregon in-lieu selection of lands was completed transferring ownership of 144.68 acres of lands from the BLM to the State of Oregon.

ACCESS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Because public and private lands are intermingled within the district boundary, each owner must cross the lands of the other in order to gain access to their lands and resources such as timber. Throughout most of the district this has been accomplished through reciprocal rights-of-way agreements with neighboring private landowners. The individual agreements and associated permits (a total of 103 on the district) are subject to the regulations which were in effect when they were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-way have been granted for projects such as driveway construction, residence utility lines, domestic and irrigation water pipelines, and legal ingress and egress.

TRANSPORTATION AND ROADS

During 2002, the District continued developing transportation management objectives for all roads controlled by the Bureau. The process will continue through 2003. Transportation management objectives have been used to support watershed analyses and to determine candidate roads for the decommissioning process. Road inventories, watershed analyses and individual timber sale projects identified some roads and associated drainage features that posed a risk to aquatic or other resource values. Those activities identified included:

- surfacing dirt roads
- replacing deteriorated culverts
- replacing log fill culverts
- replacing undersized culverts in perennial streams to meet 100-year flood events

Other efforts were made to reduce overall road miles by closure or elimination of roads.

The district decommissioned approximately 5.5 miles of road through timber sale projects. Another 27 miles of road were closed by gates or barricades. Another 27 miles of road were closed by gates or barricades. Since the Resource Management Plan was initiated, a cumulative total of approximately 356 miles of roads have been closed and 143 miles decommissioned.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The district hazardous materials coordinator participated in a number of actions involving investigations and/or cleanup of reported hazardous waste sites including:

- Worked with the acting safety manager and district facility staff in completing recommended CASHE corrective actions at all district facilities
- Completed 11 environmental site assessments for easement acquisitions and land exchanges.
- Activated and administered the emergency response contract for five hazardous waste incidents.
- Completed preliminary site characterization activities at the Alameda Mine site.
- Field toured the Braden Mine with the DEQ and determined action priority for addressing environmental hazards.
- Recovered refrigerant and waste oils while disposing of 10 junk appliances from illegal dumping on public lands.
- Performed preliminary investigations and carried out appropriate actions on 20 reported hazmat incidents.
- Promoted waste minimization plan by organizing and conducting office clean up day.
- Recycled 55 junk tires recovered from illegal dumps on public lands.
- Provided two sessions of hazmat awareness training for new employees.

WILDFIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

The 2002 fire season was a very active season, both Nationally and in the Northwest. Throughout the U.S., more than 73,400 fires burned nearly 7.2 million acres where the five-year average is 83,000 fires for .2 million acres. Just over 1 million acres burned in Oregon in a total of 2,600 fires.

Nationally, 2002 was marked by widespread drought, the return of “el nino” and warming global temperatures. The climate of 2002 in the U.S. was characterized by warmer than normal temperatures and below average precipitation that led to persistent or worsening drought conditions throughout much of the nation.

As 2002 began, moderate to extreme drought covered one-third of the U.S., including the northwestern states. The western U.S. had record (or near record) low precipitation totals, stressing water supplies and causing devastating impacts on agriculture. The extremely dry conditions also contributed to a very active wildfire season that included the largest fires of the past century in the states of Colorado, Arizona and Oregon.

Following the national pattern, the Rogue River Valley was warmer than normal with an average annual temperature of 55.6 degrees. The average maximum temperature for the year was 68.9 degrees, also above normal. The average minimum temperature was 42.2 degrees and also above normal. The highest temperature recorded in 2002 was 108 degrees on July 25th and again on August 13th. The lowest temperature during the year was 19 degrees on October 31st. Ten days experienced temperatures equal to or higher than 100 degrees. In contrast, 83 days had temperatures of 32 degrees or lower.

Precipitation was slightly below the normal of 18.37 inches, with an annual total of 18.01 inches. The month of December contributed the greatest amount with 7.19 inches. The least occurred in August with no

precipitation recorded. Ten months of the year had less than normal precipitation with April and December being the only months with above normal amounts.

The need to prepare for an above normal fire season was recognized early. Initial attack fire suppression resources were in place and fully staffed ahead of schedule. U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the BLM jointly developed plans to provide additional resources for extended attack and large fire suppression. All three agencies requested and received additional funding to hire local contractor firefighting resources to meet the anticipated needs. These resources included engines, 20-person fire crews and helicopters.

Fire starts were an almost daily occurrence somewhere in Southwestern Oregon throughout the summer. Fire season lasted for 169 days, well above the average 140 day season. During August, up to six fire starts per day was a common occurrence.

Oregon Department of Forestry provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District through a cost reimbursable contract. For the 2002 fire season, the District experienced 194 wildfires which burned a total of 33,685 acres. Of that total, 46 wildfires were lightning caused and burned 31,613 acres and 148 human caused which burned 2,071 acres. The number of fires were 72 percent and acres burned were 1,142 percent of our 10-year average of 268 fires for 2,949 acres. 93.3 percent of all the fires were 10 acres or less.

Since the early 1990's, the U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the BLM in Southwestern Oregon have worked cooperatively in conducting joint fire training, preplanning mutual aid in attacking fires, and in fire prevention. An interagency coordination and command working team, Southwestern Oregon Coordination Group (SWOCG), meets throughout the year to find solutions jointly for fire related issues and ways to increase efficiencies.

Medford District's Fuels Management Program

The effectiveness of the District's fuels management program was demonstrated this year when two wildfires burned into areas that had been treated previously to reduce hazardous fuels. The result was a more successful and efficient suppression effort in containing both of the fires and a reduction in threat to homes in the areas. These successes at the Squires and Logtown fires were quickly recognized all the way to Washington DC. On August 23, President Bush visited the Squires fire and used the occasion to unveil the *Healthy Forests Initiative*.

The Medford District has been a leader in Southwest Oregon in aggressive fuels management since 1996, with the implementation of landscape scale projects focused on a primary goal of fire hazard reduction. Since then, many acres of hazardous fuels reduction has been accomplished on BLM lands primarily in the wildland-urban interface. In 2002, 6,245 acres were treated with prescribed fire and 13,200 acres were treated mechanically for a total of 19,445 acres. This represents about double the acres treated in 2001.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Medford District has three full time BLM rangers and, through a law enforcement agreement with the counties, the services of 3.5 deputy sheriffs from both Jackson and Josephine Counties. Law enforcement efforts on the Medford District for fiscal year 2002 included the following:

- Responding to and investigating natural resource crimes throughout the district
- Investigating occupancy trespass cases, mining occupancy and other trespasses
- Investigating drug/narcotic offenses (marijuana and methamphetamine)
- Coordinating law enforcement actions with other federal, state and local departments
- Investigating crimes against federal employees and federal property

Cases and incidents have resulted in written warnings, citations, physical arrests and the referral of cases to other agencies. Nineteen felonies and 99 misdemeanors were charged. Crimes resulted in a total value loss of \$833,557.

We had major wildfires within the district, several forest protests at the district office complex and a presidential visit to a BLM wildfire site this past year.

The Medford District Law Enforcement Office entered 1,020 incidents into the BLM LAWNET System in 2002. We expect to enter 1,100 incidents in 2003.

RANGE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The Medford District rangeland program administers grazing leases for 60 livestock operators on 104 allotments. These grazing allotments include approximately 352,313 acres of the Medford District—863,095 total acres. In addition to public lands, grazing authorizations may include several thousand acres leased from private timber company holdings.

Grazing is one of the many uses of the public lands. The primary goal of the grazing program is to provide livestock forage while maintaining or improving upland range conditions and riparian areas. To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Bureau conducts monitoring studies to help the manager determine if resource objectives are being met.

A portion of the grazing fees and operational funding is spent each year to maintain or complete rangeland improvement projects. These projects are designed to benefit wildlife, fisheries, and watershed resources while improving conditions for livestock grazing. The Medford District has conducted the long-running Jenny Creek Riparian Enhancement Projects each year since 1988 as part of the rangeland program. These projects have resulted in numerous improvements, enhanced riparian systems and have built strong partnerships with livestock operators, friends, neighbors and other organizations.

Livestock grazing regulations were revised in 1995 with the implementation of Rangeland Reform. Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health were completed for the states of Oregon and Washington in 1997. The fundamental characteristics of rangeland health combine physical function and biological health with elements of law relating to water quality, and plant and animal populations and communities. Assessments of rangeland health will be completed on grazing allotments over a ten year period.

New Bureau policy requires lease renewal applications to be filed four months prior to expiration of the existing lease. This will allow time for the authorized officer to review the application and ensure appropriate documentation in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act.

An update of the Medford District Rangeland Program Summary was completed in the year 2000 and summarizes changes which have occurred since the last update. Copies of this document are available at the Medford District Office. All future updates will be reported annually in this report, the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

Fiscal Year 2002 Accomplishments

Lease Renewals:

Grazing lease renewals now require a review of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements prior to renewal for a new ten-year term. Most grazing leases within the Ashland Area require renewal prior to 2006, while the majority of the Butte Falls leases would require renewal prior to year 2004. Lease renewals may be completed as Rangeland Health Assessments are completed to more efficiently utilize staff. This strategy also reduces lease renewal bulges in some years.

Rangeland Health Assessments completed in 2002

Ashland Field Office

Deer Creek-Reno Allotment	#10124	4,025 acres
Heppsie Mountain Allotment	#10126	4,076 acres
Lake Creek Spring Allotment	#10121	4,679 acres
Lake Creek Summer Allotment	#10143	5,561 acres
Lost Creek Allotment	#10123	80 acres

Butte Falls Field Office

Bear Mountain Allotment	#10037	1,008 acres
Brownboro Park Allotment	#10116	380 acres
Kanutchen Fields Allotment	#10017	2,415 acres
Salt Creek Allotment	#10044	463 acres
Clear Creek Allotment	#10013	3,790 acres
Longbranch Allotment	#10004	320 acres

Allotment Monitoring: Collected utilization, trend, and riparian studies on 17 high priority allotments.

Rangeland Improvements: This past October 19, 2002, was the fifteenth annual Jenny Creek Riparian Volunteer project. This year, the project was again held as part of the National Public Lands Day celebration. Federal agency participants, including BLM, have implemented this national effort to accomplish on-the-ground work while building strong public/private relationships dedicated to caring for our public lands. A total of 28 volunteers participated in this past year's project.

Projects Completed:

Ashland Field Office (*includes Jenny Creek Riparian Volunteer Projects*):

- Heppsie Mountain Spring Exclosure
- Box O Blackberry Removal
- Hyatt Lake Pole Fence Repair
- Fox Fence, two miles reconstruction on the Jenny Creek Allotment
- Small Diameter Buck and Rail Fence on Keene Creek Allotment
- Soda Mountain Corral maintenance
- Maintenance on two reservoirs and three springs in the Soda Mountain Allotment

Butte Falls Field Office:

- Reseeding 100 acres in the Elk Creek Reservoir area for yellow star thistle control
- Construction of a spring exclosure
- Maintenance of three riparian exclosures

Fiscal Year 2003 Planned Work

Rangeland Health Assessments:

Ashland Field Office

Antelope Road Allotment	#10132	200 acres
Brownsboro Allotment	#10133	80 acres
Canal Allotment	#10136	440 acres
Poole Hill Allotment	#20113	1760 acres
Yankee Reservoir Allotment	#10134	120 acres

Butte Falls Field Office

Bull Run Allotment	#10023	40 acres
Derby Road Sawmill Allotment	#10029	521 acres
Lick Creek Allotment	#10015	200 acres
Moser Mountain Allotment	#10041	40 acres
Neil-Tarbell Allotment	#10008	529 acres
North Sams Valley Allotment	#10009	120 acres
Section 7 Allotment	#10022	378 acres
Section 9 Allotment	#10021	343 acres
Stiehl Allotment	#10026	175 acres
Sugarloaf Allotment	#10019	1340 acres
Trail Creek Allotment	#10003	12868 acres
Upper Table Rock Allotment	#10012	560 acres

Lease renewals may be completed as the Rangeland Health Assessments are completed for the above listed allotments.

The Army Corps of Engineers has proposed the development of a Coordinated Resource Management Plan in the area surrounding the proposed Elk Creek Dam. Allotments directly affected by the proposed planning would include the Lost Creek and Flat Creek allotments.

CADASTRAL SURVEY

Fiscal year 2002 was once again a busy year for the Medford District cadastral survey organization. Cadastral survey crews completed eight projects and continued work on two additional projects as fiscal year 2002 drew to a close. A total of 57 miles of line were surveyed, 43 miles of federal boundaries were marked and blazed and 66 survey monuments were set. Medford cadastral survey utilized survey-grade global positioning systems (GPS) to establish control points on the projects it completed as well as using GPS to conduct surveys where practical. Cadastral survey crews also conducted site surveys at three different locations, and completed four road easement surveys.

Cadastral survey serves as the district lead for all levels of GPS work, both resource grade and survey grade. Cadastral survey responded to numerous questions and inquiries from private landowners, timber companies, private land surveyors, and district personnel regarding surveying procedures, status of ongoing surveys and information about official plats and field notes.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Employees of the Medford District participated in many outreach programs in FY 2002. Of these, the Outreach and Public Education Network (OPEN) of the district was responsible for the exhibits for eight events. More than 125 district employees and other volunteers worked for more than 2,000 hours on the following events:

- School Tree Planting Program
- Sportsmen's Show*
- Roxy Ann Gem & Mineral Show
- Pear Blossom Festival*
- Career Day
- Wild Horse Adoption*
- Bring a Youth to Work Day
- Merlin Parade (Rogue River Program)
- Safe Kids Day*
- Wild Horse Exhibit (Tinseltown Theater*)
- Rogue River Cleanup
- Free Fishing Day
- Jackson County Fair*
- Josephine County Fair*
- CAST Day (free fishing day for physically challenged young people)
- State Fair, Salem
- Public Lands Day
- Multicultural Festival*
- Harvest Fair*

*OPEN Committee responsible for exhibits for these events.

- Hoover School Events (as a government partner)
 - Science Fair Judges
 - Christmas Tree Cutting
 - Other events
- Table Rocks Nature Hikes
- Outdoor Education talks and field trips for numerous schools throughout the region
- Provided materials for use by local home school network
- Feature articles prepared for Rogue Valley Parent magazine

Volunteer Program

National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day on the Grayback Mountain Trail was celebrated on October 27, 2001. Fifty enthusiastic volunteers arrived at 7 a.m. for an organizational and safety meeting. Despite the lateness of the season, the cool, clear, beautiful fall day was perfect for trail building.

Two crews began work at the ends of planned trail and two crews began work in the middle on that trail. Each crew worked to meet the crew coming from the opposite direction. Existing trail was brushed and more than one-half mile of new trail was built.

Volunteers were both seasoned veterans and new participants and came from as far away as Eugene. Lunch that was delivered via pack horses. A barbecue dinner ended the day at the Brushriders facility in Williams. Each volunteer was provided with a t-shirt, hat, poster and a big thank you for their hard work.

The Grayback Mountain trail, when completed, will connect with over 2,500 miles of trail in the western United States, specifically the Pacific Crest Trail, and the Boundary Trail, (two trails in the national trails system) as well as other trail systems in the Red Buttes Wilderness Area, Oregon Caves National Monument, and other trails on Forest Service lands.

Butte Falls Resource Area

Butte Falls Resource Area used high school volunteers for service learning, educational, and restoration projects. Projects focused on improving the Upper and Lower Table Rock areas, a high usage, educational trail system. Three Crater High School students pulled moth mullin, prickly lettuce, and fireweed from over 10,000 square feet of the Lower Table Rock parking lot. The students, with the help of BLM employees, transplanted Southern Oregon Buttercups to Upper Table Rock before construction of a new parking lot that would have buried the plants.

Involving students within the BLM is an important step toward educating our community about the BLM's mission. The Butte Falls Resource Area will continue to use high-school-aged students for service learning projects.

Glendale Resource Area

June 15 was the culmination of many of hours of work for 35 volunteers when the 120 participants began the fifth annual Tour de Fronds bike tour. The Glendale Resource Area of the Medford District partners with the Glendale Community Action Response Team (CART), the Umpqua Velo [bike] Club, the Forest

Service, and the Oregon Department of Forestry to sponsor this ride from Glendale to Powers. The ride is 74 mountainous miles long, reaches an elevation of 5,300 feet, and features breathtaking scenery. Riders can begin the ride from either town, both towns feature a breakfast. Along the route are rest stations with food, juice, water, and first aid. Throughout the day drivers traverse the route picking up tired or injured riders.

Glendale Resource Area partnered with local businesses, organizations, schools, and other agencies to present an Outdoor Learning Fair to 200 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders of Glendale and Wolf Creek Elementary Schools for National Public Land Day on September 24, 2002.

Educational participants with learning stations:

- Pacifica from Williams, Oregon, “Science Caterpillar” training center
- Native American Karen Hollingwolf, “Traditional uses of native plants” and cedar tree giveaway
- National Park Service, “How to tell the age of trees and more”
- Oregon State Forestry, “Forest Insects”
- Oregon State Forestry, “Fire Prevention”
- Oregon State Forestry, “Smokey Bear”
- Talk About Trees Program, “Unusual Forest By-Products”
- Wildlife Images Rehabilitation Center, “Birds of Prey”
- Applegate Watershed Council & BLM, “The Salmon Tent/Lifecycles of Salmon”
- BLM, “Creeks and Critters Identification”
- BLM, “Skulls, Furs and Scat Identification”
- BLM, “The Living Stream Invertebrate”
- BLM, “Indigenous Plants of the NW”
- BLM, “Natural resource games” and t-shirt giveaway

Other participants who contributed to the event included:

- SAGA signs of Selma Oregon—Banner
- Sights and Sounds of Grants Pass Oregon—“Fly Guys”
- D&D Porta Potties
- Siskiyou National Forest—Loaned the Salmon Tent
- Army Corps of Engineers, Lost Creek Reservoir—Loaned insect displays
- SOLV(Stop Litter and Vandalism in Oregon)—Donated small gift bags
- Gilbert Creek School, Medford—Loaned Live Stream Exhibit
- Imprints Design and Screen Printing—Emergency printing of extra tee shirts
- Glendale and Wolf Creek Elementary Schools—Box lunches for students, volunteers to serve as group guides, buses for transportation of students.
- Glendale High School—Contributed their facilities and student mentors.
- J. Herbert Stone Nursery—Donated of cedar trees for each student.

Grants Pass Resource Area

The largest Rogue River Cleanup to date took place on May 18, 2002, when 280 people volunteered to check the waterway, banks, day use, and camping areas for trash. By the end of the day the 50-cubic-yard dumpster was filled to overflowing and the tire pile numbered 300 plus.

Arriving volunteers received a safety talk, cleaning suggestions, maps, garbage bags, gloves, whistles, energy bars, bottled water, and baseball caps. The day ended with a barbeque and musical entertainment near the Rand Recreation Site. Our river cleanup partners, local river recreation businesses and companies, made it possible to award 50 door prizes from small river gear bags to over night stays with meals at lodges along the Rogue.

Volunteers include a group of 30 vets from the White City Veteran’s Domicillary and a group of school children from Eureka, California. All came for a day in the sun, but mostly they came to make a difference on their river.

Medford District’s National Historic Rogue River Ranch hosted its first National Public Lands Day event. This site is located a long, scenic drive from Medford. Considering the length of the drive, an immense amount of work was accomplished.

Eighteen people arrived to work on the miles of white fence. Volunteers dug post holes, replacing both posts and boards, and finish the fence with a new coat of paint. The roof of the tack room was torn up and removed to a burn pile in preparation for a new roof. Work began on the Tabernacle, an historic church/ meeting hall. Old siding was removed and will soon be replaced.

Medford District Volunteer Annual Report Data for Calendar Year 2002			
Program	Volunteer Hours	Hosted Worker Hours	Total Hours
Recreation	6,073		6,073
Biological Resources	3,810	2,680	6,490
Wild Horse	0		0
Cadastral	0		0
Wilderness	72		72
Riparian/Watershed	531		531
Cultural/Historical	2,076		2,076
Minerals	10		10
Support Services	591		591
Environmental	816		816
Education / Interpretation	2,380		2,380
Realty	0		0
Road Maintenance	0		0
Total Hours	16,359	2,680	19,039
Funds Expended	\$24,000	0	\$24,000
Value of Work*	\$251,765.01	\$41,245.20	\$293,010.21

*One volunteer hour is worth \$15.39.

RESEARCH

The Cooperative Forest Ecosystem Research project (CFER) was initiated in June 1995. Cooperators in this program are the Bureau of Land Management, Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center (FRESC) of the United States Geological Survey, the College of Forestry at Oregon State University (OSU) and OSU College of Agricultural Sciences. The intent of this program is to facilitate ecosystem management in the Pacific Northwest with an emphasis on meeting BLM priority research information needs in western Oregon. CFER research will address short-term information needs within the context of conducting integrative, long-term ecological research.

Response to a national assessment of BLM research information needs in 1996 established the foundation and initial general direction of the CFER program. In the assessment, BLM identified the highest priority need as research information to support the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan with three specific subcategories of interest: (1) determining how biodiversity of young forest stands compare/contrast in managed and natural conditions, (2) examining ecology and management of riparian zones, (3) assessing habitat needs and protection for survey and manage and other special interest species. By the year 2000, these areas of interest led to the development of three integrated projects: 1) biotic responses to changes in stand structure, 2) production and function of large wood in the riparian zone, and 3) effects of landscape pattern and composition on species.

Two good sources of current information on the CFER program are the CFER Annual Report for 2002 and the CFER web site at: www.fsl.orst.edu/cfer.

The following research projects are currently underway on the Medford District:

- The Ecology of Rare Plants
- Thinning to Increase Vigor of Old Growth Trees in SW Oregon
- Old Growth Stand Development
- Response of Small Mammals to Fuels Management

COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

Consultation and coordination with all levels of government have been ongoing and are a standard practice in the Medford District. On the federal level, the district consults with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service on matters relating to federally listed threatened or endangered species. The district coordinates its activities with the U.S. Forest Service on matters pertaining to the Applegate Management Area and also through development of interagency watershed analyses. State-level consultation and coordination occurs with the State Historic Preservation Office for Section 106 compliance, and with Oregon Department of Forestry, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. On a local level, the district consults with Native American tribal organizations, Jackson and Josephine County.

Resource Advisory Committees have been meeting and recommending projects to fund and complete. The following projects were selected and funded at the listed level:

Project Name	Project Number	County	RAC Recommend/ Approve Funding	Current Status
Tucker Flat	118-03	Curry	\$ 13,627	NEPA completed
Middle Cow Ck. Noxious Weed Removal	118-04	Douglas	\$ 35,840	Some inventory completed.
Fortune Br. Culvert Replacement	118-05	Douglas	\$ 115,000	Umpqua W. C. will contract
Roadside Brushing	118-07B	Douglas	\$ 40,000	Project completed
Cow Ck. Byway Interpretive Project	118-09	Douglas	\$ 34,500	NEPA completed Plan developed
Skull Ck. Log Bridge Replacement	118-10	Douglas	\$ 28,750	Design comp. Contract being prepared
Skull Ck. Bank Stabilization	118-11	Douglas	\$ 17,250	Completed. Done below estimate
Rattlesnake Ck. Culvert Replacement	118-12	Douglas	\$ 139,000	Umpqua W. C. will Contract.
Boaz Forest Health Sm. Dia. Utilization	116-03	Jackson	\$ 60,000	Project pending EA
W. Evans Ck. Box Culvert Replacement	115-02	Jackson	\$ 150,000	Contract being awarded
Trail Ck. Culvert Replacement	115-01	Jackson	\$ 130,000	IDIQ contract being awarded
Evans Ck. Culvert Replacement	115-05	Jackson	\$ 160,000	IDIQ contract being awarded
W. Evans Ck. Rd. Storm Proofing	115-11	Jackson	\$ 25,000	Project deleted Funds returned
Maple Gulch Road Obliteration	115-07	Jackson	\$ 35,000	Project completed
Evans Ck. Lg. Wood Replacement	115-09	Jackson	\$ 25,000	Contract awarded
W. Fork Trail Ck. Culvert Replacement	115-08	Jackson	\$ 100,000	Contract awarded
Big Butte Road Decommission	115-06	Jackson	\$ 48,000	Contract being developed
Upper Table Rock Parking Lot Improv.	115-03	Jackson	\$ 30,000	Contract completed
Roadside Brushing	115-10	Jackson	\$ 20,000	Contract completed
Roadside Brushing	118-07A	Ja / Jo	\$ 25,000	Contract awarded
Road Maint. Roadside Brushing	116-02	Jackson	\$ 34,350	Contract being developed
Road Paving	116-01	Jackson	\$ 130,000	Project deleted Funds returned
Digital Orthophotos	110-02	Jackson	\$ 240,000	Funds should be available soon
China Gulch Fuel Reduction	110-03	Jackson	\$ 44,200	EA complete
Galice Access Road	117-16	Josephine	\$ 100,000	Project completed
Burma Pond Maint.	118-02	Josephine	\$ 50,000	Contract advertised
Grave Ck. Boat Landing	117-03	Josephine	\$ 75,000	EA completed
Lower London Peak Trail	118-06	Josephine	\$ 8,000	Work has been started
Scattered Apples Project	117-08	Josephine	\$ 94,000	EA completed
Cathedral Hills Mgmt. Plan	117-05	Josephine	\$ 31,080	Contract awarded
R & R ACEC Rd. & Trail Surfacing	117-15	Josephine	\$ 21,500	Contract and EA completed
8 S Mtn . Trail Construction	117-10	Josephine	\$ 52,000	Contract and EA completed
Quartz Ck. OHV Plan	117-06	Josephine	\$ 50,000	Contract being developed
Native Grass Seed Collection	117-04	Josephine	\$ 3,000	Project completed
McCoy Ck. Rd. Renovation/Maint.	118-01	Josephine	\$ 52,758	Contract awarded Partially complete
Swamp Ck. Rd. Restoration	117-02	Josephine	\$ 17,500	Contract awarded EA complete
Mungers Ck. Road Chip Seal	117-13	Josephine	\$ 40,000	EA complete
Road Maintenance	117-07	Josephine	\$ 16,000	CE complete

PLANNING AND NEPA DOCUMENTS

Plan Maintenance

The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision was approved in April 1995. Since then, the district has implemented the plan across the entire spectrum of resources and land use allocations. During the life of a plan, both minor changes or refinements and, possibly, major changes brought about by new information or policy may occur. The plan establishes mechanisms to respond to these situations. Maintenance actions respond to minor data changes and incorporation of activity plans. This maintenance is limited to further refining or documenting a previously approved decision incorporated in the plan. Plan maintenance will not result in expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved resource management plan. Maintenance actions are not considered a plan amendment and do not require the formal public involvement and interagency coordination process undertaken for plan amendments.

Previous plan maintenance has been published in past Medford District Annual Program Summaries. The following additional items have been implemented on the Medford District as part of the plan maintenance during fiscal year 2002. These plan maintenance items represent minor changes, refinements or clarifications that do not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved resource management plan.

Plan Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2002

2002 Implementation Monitoring for PACFISH/INFISH Biological Opinions. This Information Bulletin applies to all Bureau of Land Management Districts which are required to comply with the 1998 biological opinions for salmon, steelhead and bull trout, and provides instruction on the current procedures for monitoring federally authorized activities in compliance with the Interagency Implementation Team. The types of federally authorized activities to be monitored this year include: 1) grazing and other activities that are part of the management of grazing allotments and permits; 2) recreation developments, trails and dispersed sites; minerals including claims, common materials, energy and wastes; and 3) forest vegetation management including timber sales and other appurtenant activities, special forest products, noxious weed control, fuels and fuels treatments. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2002-255 issued August 14, 2002.*

Implementation of 2001 Survey and Manage Annual Species Review. The first annual review for Survey and Manage (S&M) species has been completed in compliance with the 2001 Record of Decision (ROD) for amendments to the S&M, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines, and the changes recommended in this review are hereby adopted (Attachment 1). This memorandum changes the category placement for species displayed in Table 1-1 of the 2001 S&M ROD. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2002-064 issued June 14, 2002.*

Amendments to Survey and Manage Management Recommendations designed to facilitate certain National Fire Plan activities—Vascular Plants, Lichens, Bryophytes, and Fungi. Earlier this year a multi-faceted strategy was developed by the S&M organization to help integrate S&M requirements with the agencies' needs to implement the objectives and requirements of the National Fire Plan. In further

conformance with the strategy, a tool has been developed for use by the field units. Attachment 1 to this memo contains amended management recommendations for 24 vascular plants, lichens bryophytes, and fungi species. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2002-080 issued August 16, 2002.*

Implementation of 2001 Survey and Manage Annual Species Review, Change 1. The purpose of this correspondence is to correct an error in the description of the north range for Siskiyou Mountains salamander (*Plethodon stormi*) provided in Attachment 1 (footnote 3) of the Implementation of 2001 Survey and Manage Annual Species Review memorandum (Forest Service memorandum June 14, 2002, file code 2630, and Bureau of Land Management Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2002-064). *Instruction Memorandum OR-2002-064 Change 1 issued July 10, 2002.*

Plan Amendments

The District completed an RMP Amendment which identified seven parcels of BLM land that were changed from land tenure zone 2 to land tenure zone 3 lands. Those seven parcels appeared to meet the criteria in FLPMA for disposal by sale and exchange. Following the August 5, 2002, RMP amendment, those lands became land tenure 3 lands and were identified as suitable for disposal by sale and exchange.

PLAN EVALUATION

Change of RMP Evaluation Interval

The Resource Management Plan (RMP), in the “Use of the Completed Plan” section, established a three-year interval for conducting plan evaluations. The purpose of a plan evaluation is to determine if there is significant new information and or changed circumstance to warrant amendment or revision of the plan. The ecosystem approach of the RMP is based on long term management actions to achieve multiple resource objectives including; habitat development, species protection, and commodity outputs. The relatively short three-year cycle has been found to be inappropriate for determining if long term goals and objectives will be met. A five-year interval is more appropriate given the resource management actions and decisions identified in the RMP. The Annual Program Summaries and Monitoring Reports continue to provide the cumulative RMP accomplishments. Changes to the RMP continue through appropriate amendments and plan maintenance actions. A five-year interval for conducting evaluations is consistent with the BLM planning regulations as revised in November 2000.

The State Director decision to change the evaluation interval from three years to five years was made on March 8, 2002. The next evaluation of the Medford District RMP will address implementation up through September 2003 and be completed in FY 2004.

**MONITORING REPORT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2002**

MONITORING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

Introduction

This document represents the seventh monitoring report of the Medford District Resource Management Plan for which the Record of Decision was signed in April 1995. This report compiles the results of monitoring of the seventh year of implementation of the Resource Management Plan. Included in this report are the projects that took place from October 2001 through September 2002. Effectiveness and validation monitoring will be conducted in subsequent years when projects mature or proceed long enough for the questions asked under these categories of monitoring to be answered.

Background

The BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9) call for the monitoring and evaluation of resource management plans at appropriate intervals.

Monitoring is an essential component of natural resource management because it provides information on the relative success of management strategies. The implementation of the RMP is being monitored to ensure that management actions:

- follow prescribed management direction (implementation monitoring),
- meet desired objectives (effectiveness monitoring) and
- are based on accurate assumptions (validation monitoring) (see Appendix L, Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan).

Some effectiveness monitoring and most validation monitoring will be accomplished by formal research. The nature of the questions concerning effectiveness monitoring require some maturation of implemented projects in order to discern results. This and validation monitoring will be conducted as appropriate in subsequent years.

Monitoring Overview

This monitoring report focuses on the implementation questions contained in the Resource Management Plan. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary, such as accomplishment reports. (A copy of both lists are included in appendix B). The monitoring plan for the Resource Management Plan incorporates the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan.

Monitoring at multiple levels and scales along with coordination with other BLM and Forest Service units has been initiated through the Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC). At the request of the RIEC, the Regional Ecosystem Office started a regional-scale implementation monitoring program. This province-level monitoring was completed for the seventh year.

Monitoring Results and Findings

Implementation monitoring was based on a process developed by the Medford District Research and Monitoring Committee. The basis was Appendix L of the RMP/ROD. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary or completed reports (copies of the questions are included in Appendix B). Projects were randomly selected for monitoring for the period from October 2001 to September 2002. A summary of the district monitoring follows.

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects for FY 2002

Project Type	# Ashland R.A.	# Butte Falls R.A.	# Glendale R.A.	# Grants Pass R.A.	Total # District
Timber Sales	3	3	3	3	12
Silviculture Projects	3	2	3	3	11
Riparian Projects	9	5	10	16	40
Fish Habitat Projects	3	1	3	7	14
Wildlife Habitat Projects	3	1	11	10	25
Prescribed Burns	4	2	3	4	13
Road Restoration/Bridge Replacement	0	0	2	4	6
Other Projects	5	22	21	12	60

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects Selected for Monitoring FY 2002

Project Type	# Ashland R.A.	# Butte Falls R.A.	# Glendale R.A.	#Grants Pass R.A.	Total # District
Timber Sales	2	2	3	3	10
Silviculture Projects	2	0	1	3	6
Riparian Projects	2	1	1	4	8
Fish Habitat Projects	0	1	1	1	3
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	1	3	2	6
Prescribed Burns	1	1	0	1	3
Road Restoration	0	0	1	4	5
Other Projects	3	3	5	6	17

Note: See Appendix A for all projects considered and projects selected for monitoring.

The monitoring team consisted of district team members and was supplemented with area personnel. Projects were selected for monitoring based on the guidelines contained in Appendix L of the RMP/ROD.

The Medford District started or completed 101 projects from October 2001 through September 2002. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, collection of special forest products and trail construction. The projects were sorted into the following categories:

Timber Sales
 Silvicultural Projects
 Wildlife Habitat
 Road Restorations

Riparian Projects
 Fish Habitat Work
 Prescribed Burns
 Other

Projects that required environmental assessments or categorical exclusions were randomly selected for office and field review. Appendix L generally requires a 20 percent sample to be evaluated.

FY 2002 Implementation Monitoring Selection Categories

Selection categories from Data Base	# Projects FY 02	# Projects Monitored FY 02	% Monitored
Ground Disturbing Activities	74	35	47%
Projects occurring in Riparian Reserves	40	8	20%
Structures within Riparian Reserves	19	19	100%
Projects in Late Successional Reserves	0	0	NA
Timber Sales in watersheds w/ <15% Late Successional Forest	0	0	N/A
Matrix Regeneration Harvests	8	3	37%
Projects in Municipal Watersheds	0	0	N/A
Projects within or adjacent to Special Areas	3	3	100%
Projects which include or are adjacent to Special Habitats	25	6	24%
Projects in VRM II or III areas	23	5	22%
Projects in Wild & Scenic River Corridors	4	4	100%
Projects in Rural Interface	25	5	20%
Noxious Weed Project	1	1	100%
Prescribed Burn Projects	12	3	25%
Projects which required dust abatement	14	3	21%

For each project selected, we answered the project-specific questions included in Appendix B. Questions of a general nature (Appendix B, second list of questions) are addressed in the specific program articles found in the beginning of this document.

The Medford District is separated into four resource areas. The resource area landscape planners prepared answers to the monitoring questions for the individual actions based on a review of the files and NEPA documentation. Some questions asked for information that required field review of projects before they were started and other questions required information gathered after projects were completed. Necessary monitoring field trips were conducted over the entire Medford District.

Findings

The Medford District monitoring group found a high level of compliance with the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) contained in the Medford Resource Management Plan and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our seventh year of monitoring evaluation continues to support our earlier observations that, overall the district is doing a good job of implementing the NFP and the Medford District RMP. The district has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

Field review of the timber sales and projects indicated that the intent and requirements for the S&Gs had been met for the sampled and completed projects.

Projects received field visits so that the selected monitoring questions could be answered or required pre-harvest measurements taken. The projects were reviewed in the field for the different factors listed below.

Special Attention Species	Riparian Reserves	Snag Retention
Coarse Woody Debris	Wildlife Habitat	Special Status Species
Fish Habitat	Structures in Riparian Reserves	Special Areas

Snags, green tree retention, and coarse woody debris were found to be reserved at the levels expected in the RMP. Riparian reserves were measured and found to have the correct size buffers for the different type of streams. All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the record of decision. The project results and information on the monitoring process is available at the Medford District Office. As a result of observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past six years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.

A portion of the questions asked in the monitoring appendix concern projects that have not been completed and which deal with pretreatment conditions. Measurements of riparian reserves, surveys of green tree and snag retention, coarse woody debris levels, and special attention species were completed on projects and will be reviewed again when the project has been completed. Some projects may take up to three years to be completed.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. MONITORING

Projects subjected to sampling:

Timber Sales

Bear Pen Timber Sale	Papa Cow Timber Sale
Small Diameter tree removal	ODF Wood Strip 18
Jo. Co. Lookout Timber Sale	Lower Big Butte Timber Sale
Trail Timber Sale	Salvage Angel Timber Sale
Scattered Apples Timber Sale	Free & Easy Timber Sale
Pickett Snake Timber Sale	Deer Lake Timber Sale
Quartz Fire Timber Sale	Ferris Bugman Timber Sale (Offered, but never sold)

Silvicultural Projects

Conifer spacing/brushing	Commercial thin/release
Conifer pruning	Gopher trapping
Young Stand pruning	Young Std. maintenance brushing & PCT
Tree planting w/scalping, paper mulch	Slashbuster III and manual treatments
Plantation maintenance and release	Brushing of three progeny sites

Roads and Construction

Glendale Road Decom. and Closures	Swanson Group Bates Road Project
Wendy Creek road construction	Pete Watson ROW and construction
Galice Creek Road slide	Peavine Project
Swamp Creek Road reconstruction	

Fish Habitat Improvement Projects

Grave Creek culverts	Cow Creek culverts
West Evans Creek Large Wood Proj.	Dry Creek smolt trap installation
2002 culvert replacement	Bingham Ditch
ODF&W Fish Screen	

Prescribed Burn Projects

Handpile burn 2002
Trail Timber Sale
Papa Cow Timber Sale
Free and Easy Timber Sale
Pickett Snake Timber Sale
Quartz Fire Timber Sale

Lower Big Butte Timber Sale
Bear Pen Timber Sale
Young Stand maint. w/ fuel hazard
Scattered Apples Timber Sale
Deer Lake Timber Sale

Other

Boise Cascade ROW
Buried Fiber Optic Line
Beyond Technology permit
Fruit Grower's Supply Co.
Tucker Flat drinking water
Cow Creek Byway interp.
Lee Enterprises
Steven and Jerrie Dick ROW
Boise M660 amendment
Dickerson ROW 2002
Kogap ROW
Burl harvest 34-2-17 & 20
Burl harvest 34-2-27
Burl harvest 34-3-25
Burl harvest 35-3-3
Burl harvest 35-3-13
Sand Bar Battle Progeny Site Fence
Obenchain PP salvage
Guyline Hazard trees
Rusty Pine salvage
PP&L request for hazard tree removal
Grave Creek Landing Project
Rand Administrative Site maintenance
BLM/Pacifica Interpretive Trail
Grayback Trail brushing/maint.
Gates on R. River corridor
Limestone Challenge Equestrian ride
Timber Products ROW Grant
Bristol Silica
Oregon National Guard

Repeater tower replacement
Hungry Hill ROW
Burma Pond Project
Uram Forests, LLC
Fred Robertson permit
Lower London Peak Trail interp.
Josephine Co.—Perkins Gulch
Whirlybird ODF
Krupp ROW Grant
Swanson Group 34-6-12 road
Boise ROW
Maple burl harvest
Burl harvest 35-3-35
Burl harvest 34-4-29
Firewood salvage road
Burl harvest 35-2-5
Roadside cedar snags
A&B Road Salvage Tree
Chinquapin Firewood
Fireline salvage in Wall Creek
Schultz salvage
Special recreation permit—paintball
Sotelo Spring development ROW
Grayback Trail
Barricades on Rogue River corridor
Cathedral Hills hazard trees
Peavine Lookout tree removal
Jacksonville Woodlands Trails
National Fire Plan riparian fence

FY 2001 Sampled Project List (by category)

Timber Sales

Lower Big Butte	Deer Lake
Scattered Apples	Papa Cow
Trail	Bear Pen
Quartz Fire	Pickett Snake
Small Diameter	Free & Easy
Jo. Co. Lookout	

Silvicultural Projects

Young Stand maint., brushing & PCT	Slashbuster III & Manual treatments
Plantation maintenance & release	Young Stand pruning
Conifer spacing & brush control	Tree planting, scalping, paper mulch

Roads and Construction

Wendy Creek Road construction	Pete Watson ROW
Galice Creek Road slide	Swamp Creek Rd. replacement
Peavine Project	

Fish Habitat Improvement Projects

Cow Creek culverts	Grave Creek Culverts
West Evans Large Wood Project	2002 culvert replacement

Prescribed Burn Projects

Trail Timber Sale	Free & Easy Timber Sale
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Other

Fruit Grower's Supply	Fred Robertson permit
Lee Enterprises	Burl harvest 34-3-25
Rusty Pine Salvage	Special recreation use permit—Paintball
Sotelo Spring Development	Barricades on Rogue River corridor
Burma Pond Project	Rand Administrative Site
Kogap ROW	Grave Creek Landing Project
National Fire Plan Riparian Fence	Boise M660 amendment
Timber Products ROW Grant	Bristol Silica
Grayback Trail	

APPENDIX B

Implementation Monitoring for Fiscal Year 2002

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for FY 02. The first list, 2002 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, have been used for specific projects for monitoring.

The second list, APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, have been addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

Medford District 2002 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Listed below are the Implementation Monitoring Requirements and Questions as described in Appendix L of the Medford District ROD for the RMP.

All Land Use Allocations

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

Protection of SEIS special attention species so as not to elevate their status to any higher level of concern.

Implementation Monitoring

1. Are surveys for the species listed in Appendix C conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Fruit Growers Supply, Grave Creek culverts, Fred Robertson permit, Papa Cow Timber Sale, Wendy Creek Road Construction, ODF—Wood Strip Timber Sale, Lee Enterprises, Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, West Evans Creek Large Wood Project, Burl Harvest 34-3-25, Rusty Pine Salvage, Pete Watson ROW, special recreation use permit, young stand maintenance, Swamp Creek Road Reconstruction, 2002 culvert replacement, Sotelo Spring Development, Scattered Apples Timber Sale, barricades within Rogue River corridor, and Deer Lake Timber Sale.

2. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the upland forest matrix?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Fruit Growers Supply, Grave Creek culverts, Fred Robertson permit, Papa Cow Timber Sale, Wendy Creek Road Construction, ODF—Wood Strip Hauling Permit, Lee Enterprises, Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, West Evans Creek Large Wood Project, Burl Harvest 34-3-25, Rusty Pine Salvage, Pete Watson ROW, special recreation use permit, young stand maintenance, Swamp Creek Road Reconstruction, 2002 culvert replacement, Sotelo Spring Development, Scattered Apples Timber Sale, barricades within Rogue River corridor, and Deer Lake Timber Sale.

3. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being protected?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Fruit Growers Supply, Grave Creek culverts, Fred Robertson permit, Papa Cow Timber Sale, Wendy Creek Road Construction, ODF—Wood Strip Hauling Permit, Lee Enterprises, Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, West Evans Creek Large Wood Project, Burl Harvest 34-3-25, Rusty Pine Salvage, Pete Watson ROW, special recreation use permit, young stand maintenance, Swamp Creek Road Reconstruction, 2002 culvert replacement, Sotelo Spring Development, Scattered Apples Timber Sale, barricades within Rogue River corridor, and Deer Lake Timber Sale.

Riparian Reserves

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

See Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.

Implementation Monitoring

7. Are watershed analyses being completed before on-the-ground actions are initiated in riparian reserves?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2002 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

8. Is the width and integrity of the riparian reserves being maintained?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. The Riparian Reserve widths have been based on the established guidelines. Projects sampled: Bear Pen Timber Sale, Burma Pond Project, Grave Creek culverts, Trail Timber Sale, special recreation use permit, Rand Administrative Site maintenance, Sotelo Spring development, Slashbuster III and manual treatments, and plantation maintenance and release. In instances where the field visit was done prior to the project being started or completed, riparian reserves were designated. A post trip will be conducted to determine whether reserve boundaries were respected.

- 10A. Are management activities in riparian reserves consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Bear Pen Timber Sale, Burma Pond Project, Grave Creek culverts, Trail Timber Sale, special recreation use permit, Rand Administrative Site maintenance, Sotelo Spring development, Slashbuster III and manual treatments, and plantation maintenance and release.

- 10B. Are management activities in riparian reserves consistent with RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Bear Pen Timber Sale, Burma Pond Project, Grave Creek culverts, Trail Timber Sale, special recreation use permit, Rand Administrative Site maintenance, Sotelo Spring development, Slashbuster III and manual treatments, and plantation maintenance and release.

- 10C. Are management activities in riparian reserves consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Bear Pen Timber Sale, Burma Pond Project, Grave Creek culverts, Trail Timber Sale, special recreation use permit, Rand Administrative Site maintenance, Sotelo Spring development, Slashbuster III and manual treatments, and plantation maintenance and release.

11. Are new structures and improvements in riparian reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths, reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream, protect fish and wildlife populations, and accommodate the 100-year flood?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Burma Pond Project, Glendale Road decommissioning and closures, Cow Creek culverts, Grave Creek culverts, Commercial thin/release, Tucker Flat drinking water, Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, Trail Timber Sale, West Evans Creek Large Wood Project, Grave Creek Landing Improvement project, Rand Administrative Site maintenance, 2002 culvert replacement project, Sotelo Spring development, Scattered Apples Timber Sale, gates on lands within the Rogue River corridor, Timber Products ROW grant, Bingham Ditch, National Fire Plan riparian fence, and ODF&W Fish Screen.

12. A) Are all mining structures, support facilities, and roads located outside the riparian reserves? B) Are those located within the riparian reserves meeting the objectives of the aquatic conservation strategy? C) Are all solid and sanitary waste facilities excluded from riparian reserves or located, monitored, and reclaimed in accordance with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Bristol Silica.

Matrix

19. Are suitable numbers of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left following timber harvest as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

The Bear Pen, Lower Big Butte, and Pickett Snake Timber Sales have regeneration harvest units. The number of green trees left on these units is to be 6 to 10 trees per acre. The numbers found to be left range from 7 to 28 trees per acre.

20. Are timber sales being designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix?

Yes, all timber sales are designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix. All resources are analyzed for impacts including; wildlife, soils, hydrology, plants, social, cultural, as well as others.

21. Are late-successional stands being retained in fifth-field watersheds in which federal forest lands have 15 percent or less late-successional forest?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—No regeneration harvests were planned in any watersheds that had 15% or less late-successional forest in them. RMP objectives were met.

Air Quality

23. Were efforts made to minimize the amount of particulate emissions from prescribed burns?

The two sales selected for monitoring particulate emissions were Trail and Free & Easy. The timber sales have not been completed yet. Burn units will have individual burn unit plans developed for them and be carried out when prescribed conditions are available. Overall particulate emissions can be minimized from prescribed burning through ignition timing, aggressive mop-up, and the reduction of large heavy fuels consumed by fire.

24. Are dust abatement measures used during construction activities and on roads during BLM timber harvest operations and other BLM commodity hauling activities?

The Kogap ROW, Scattered Apples, and Deer Lake Timber Sales contain abatement specifications as part of the contract. Water is required to abate dust during the construction phase of the contract.

Soil and Water

26. Are site-specific best management practices identified as applicable during interdisciplinary review carried forward into project design and execution?

The Trail and Pickett Snake timber sales, are the two timber sales selected for monitoring. Neither timber sale has been completed yet, but best management practices were examined based on contract specifications. Skid trail locations are to be approved ahead of time. The maximum area for skid trails is to be less than 12% of the area. Existing skid roads are to be used, when available. Tractor yarding will be limited seasonally.

- 27B. Are watershed analyses being performed prior to management activities in key watersheds?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2002 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

Wildlife Habitat

38. Are suitable (diameter, length and numbers) of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left in a manner that meets the needs of species and provides for ecological functions in harvested areas as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Yes. Prescriptions are written to leave an adequate number of green trees of various sizes. Regeneration harvests are designed to leave either 6 to 10 trees per acre or 16 to 25 trees per acre, depending on their location. The Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, Bear Pen, Peavine project, and Scattered Apples either have not been completed or have been sold, but work has not begun at this time. The Wendy Creek road construction was a small road project and didn't apply to this standard. Snags and adequate coarse woody debris was left on the site.

39. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, Bear Pen Timber Sale, Peavine project, and Scattered Apples timber sales either have not been completed or have been sold, but work has not begun at this time. The Wendy Creek Road construction has been completed.

Fish Habitat

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?

The Scattered Apples Timber Sale and Burma Pond projects have identified at-risk fish species and have design features to avoid adverse impacts to them. The Scattered Apples and Burma Pond projects have not been completed.

44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

The Scattered Apples Timber Sale and Burma Pond projects have identified at-risk fish species and have design features to avoid adverse impacts to them. The Scattered Apples and Burma Pond projects have not been completed.

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

46. Are special status species being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions? During forest management and other actions that may disturb special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances?

The Medford District has consulted with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on various management projects. All major ground disturbing activities involve discussions with USFWS concerning special status species. This may range from verbal discussion to a formal biological assessment. Projects reviewed were the following: Conifer spacing and brush control, Dry Creek Smolt Installation, Rand Administrative Site, Sotelo Spring development, Free and Easy Timber Sale, Tree planting w/scalping, paper mulch, and Timber Products ROW grant.

47. Are the actions identified in plans to recover species and the requirements and recommendations in the biological opinion being implemented in a timely manner?

Recovery Plans are met or exceeded.

Special Areas

- 53A. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions/uses near or within special areas consistent with RMP objectives and management direction for special areas?

The following projects were selected because of their close proximity to certain special areas: Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, Grayback Trail, and Grayback Trail brushing/maintenance. All impacts were avoided by locating projects outside of special areas. If any project was close enough to possibly affect a special area, a buffer was delineated for protection.

- 53B. If mitigation was required, was it incorporated in the authorization document?

No mitigation was required, projects were located away from the special areas and no impacts were realized.

- 53C. If mitigation was required, was it carried out as planned?

No mitigation required.

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

- 60A. Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?

Cultural surveys were completed. The Galice Creek Road slide, Scattered Apples Timber Sale, and Bristol Silica Mine were the projects selected for review. A Native American petroglyph site is near the mine activity but has been avoided and does not need any mitigation.

- 60B. During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately mitigate?

No mitigation required.

Visual Resources

64. Are visual resource design features and mitigation methods being followed during timber sales and other substantial actions in Class II and III areas?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Lower Big Butte Timber Sale, Young Stand maintenance, 2002 culvert replacement, Peavine Project, and Grayback Trail. All of these projects were selected because they happen to be in VRM class II or III. Thinning or burning piled slash does not affect the visual resource in these two VRM classes. No mitigation due to VRM constraints was necessary with these types of projects.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

65. Are BLM actions and BLM-authorized actions consistent with protection of the ORVs of designated, suitable, and eligible, but not studied, rivers?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes Projects sampled: Grave Creek Landing Improvement, Rand Administrative Site, barricades on lands within the Rogue River corridor, and gates on lands within the Rogue River corridor. These projects, while near the Rogue River, did not affect the river's outstanding remarkable values.

Rural Interface Areas

67. Are design features and mitigation measures developed and implemented to avoid/minimize impacts to health, life, property, and quality of life and to minimize the possibility of conflicts between private and federal land management?

The Josephine County Lookout Timber Sale, Trail Timber Sale, young stand maintenance, 2002 culvert replacement, and Scattered Apples Timber Sale were selected because of their location in a rural interface area. In the projects that were close to private landowners, design features were accepted that would keep adverse impacts from affecting the adjacent lands.

Noxious Weeds

76. Are noxious weed control methods compatible with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

The Papa Cow Timber Sale was compatible with the ACS objectives. Buffer areas were incorporated into the project to keep activity away from riparian reserves, streams, and any spring areas. Washing vehicles to stop the spread of these plants has been made a part of the contract.

Medford District APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

This list of questions are addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

All Land Use Allocations

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 225)

4. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being surveyed as directed in the SEIS ROD?
5. Are high priority sites for species management being identified?
6. Are general regional surveys being conducted to acquire additional information and to determine necessary levels of protection for arthropods and fungi species that were not classed as rare and endemic, bryophytes, and lichens?

Riparian Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 226)

- 9A. What silvicultural practices are being applied to control stocking, re-establish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 9B. Are management actions creating a situation where riparian reserves are made more susceptible to fire?
- 13A. Are new recreation facilities within the riparian reserves designed to meet, and where practicable, contribute to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 13B. Are mitigation measures initiated where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Late-Successional Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 228)

14. What is the status of the preparation of assessments and fire plans for Late-Successional Reserves?
- 15A. What activities were conducted or authorized within Late-Successional Reserves and how were they compatible with the objectives of the Late-Successional Reserve Assessment?

- 15B. Were the activities consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines, with RMP management direction, and Regional Ecosystem Office review requirements, and the Late-Successional Reserve assessment?
- 16. What is the status of development and implementation of plans to eliminate or control non-native species which adversely impact late-successional objectives?
- 17. What land acquisitions occurred, or are under way, to improve the area, distribution, and quality of late-successional reserves?

Adaptive Management Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 229)

- 18A. Are the adaptive management area (AMA) plans being developed?
- 18B. Do the AMA plans establish future desired conditions?

Matrix

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 230)

- 22. What is the age and type of the harvested stands?

Air Quality

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 231)

- 25A. Are conformity determinations being prepared prior to activities which may: contribute to a new violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, increase the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay the timely attainment of a standard?
- 25B. Has an interagency monitoring grid been established in southwestern Oregon?

Soil and Water

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 232)

- 27A. What watershed analyses have been or are being performed?
- 28. In watersheds where municipal providers have agreements, have the agreements been checked to determine if the terms and conditions have been met?
- 29. What is the status of identification of instream flow needs for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat, and riparian resources?
- 30. What watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented?

31. What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
32. What is the status of development of road or transportation management plans to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
33. What is the status of preparation of criteria and standards which govern the operation, maintenance, and design for the construction and reconstruction of roads?
- 34A. What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk?
- 34B. What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within key watersheds?
- 34C. If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in key watersheds?
35. What is the status of reviews of ongoing research in key watersheds to ensure that significant risk to the watershed does not exist?
- 36A. What is the status of evaluation of recreation, interpretive, and user-enhancement activities/facilities to determine their effects on the watershed?
- 36B. What is the status of eliminating or relocating these activities/facilities when found to be in conflict with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 37A. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies in the development of watershed-based research management plans and other cooperative agreements to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?
- 37B. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies to identify and eliminate wild ungulate impacts which are inconsistent with attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Wildlife Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 234)

40. What is the status of designing and implementing wildlife habitat restoration projects?
41. What is the status of designing and constructing wildlife interpretive and other user-enhancement facilities?

Fish Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 235)

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?
43. Are fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities being designed and implemented which contribute to attainment of aquatic conservation strategy objectives?
44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 236)

48. What coordination with other agencies has occurred in the management of special status species?
49. What land acquisitions occurred or are underway to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species?
50. What site-specific plans for the recovery of special status species were, or are being, developed?
51. What is the status of analysis which ascertains species requirements or enhances the recovery or survival of a species?
52. What is the status of efforts to maintain or restore the community structure, species composition, and ecological processes of special status plant and animal habitat?

Special Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 238)

54. What is the status of the preparation, revision, and implementation of ACEC management plans?
- 55A. Are interpretive programs and recreation uses being developed and encouraged in ONAs?
- 55B. Are the outstanding values of the ONAs being protected from damage?
56. What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the RNAs and EEAs?
57. Are existing BLM actions and BLM authorized actions and uses not consistent with management direction for special areas being eliminated or relocated?

- 58A. Are actions being identified which are needed to maintain or restore the important values of the special areas?
- 58B. Are the actions being implemented?
- 59. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the SEIS ROD?

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 239)

- 61. What mechanisms have been developed to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes?
- 62. What efforts are being made to work with American Indian groups to accomplish cultural resource objectives and achieve goals outlined in existing memoranda of understanding and to develop additional memoranda as needs arise?
- 63. What public education and interpretive programs were developed to promote the appreciation of cultural resources?

Wild and Scenic Rivers

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 241)

- 66A. Are existing plans being revised to conform to aquatic conservation strategy objectives?
- 66B. Are revised plans being implemented?

Socioeconomic Conditions

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 243)

- 68. What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities?
- 69. Are RMP implementation strategies being identified that support local economies?
- 70. What is the status of planning and developing amenities (such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities) that enhance local communities?

Recreation

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 244)

71. What is the status of the development and implementation of recreation plans?

Timber Resources

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 245)

72. By land-use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management objectives?
73. Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the calculation of the expected sale quantity implemented?

Special Forest Products

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 246)

Implementation Monitoring

74. Is the sustainability and protection of special forest product resources ensured prior to selling special forest products?
75. What is the status of the development and implementation of specific guidelines for the management of individual special forest products?

Fire/Fuels Management

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 247)

77. What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves and Adaptive Management Areas?
78. Have additional analysis and planning been completed to allow some natural fires to burn under prescribed conditions?
79. Do wildfire suppression plans emphasize maintaining late-successional habitat?
80. Have fire management plans been completed for all at risk late-successional areas?
81. What is the status of the interdisciplinary team preparation and implementation of regional fire management plans which include fuel hazard reduction plans?

APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF ONGOING PLANS AND ANALYSES

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument Management Plan

This management plan has been in the works since the President made the area a National Monument. The draft document was completed and made available to the public in May 2002. The Final Plan/EIS is planned to be completed in FY 2004.

Timber Mountain/John's Peak OHV Plan

Work on this Management Plan has just started and two public meetings were held during the scoping process. The scoping process seeks ideas, issues, and comments from the public to be able to capture all the concerns that may exist. We expect to complete the draft plan in the Fall 2003 and the final to be available in Summer 2004.

Integrated Pest Management

Presently an EIS is being developed for the seed orchards of four Western Oregon districts. The Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) is needed primarily because of a significant loss of seed to cone insects and other pests. Insecticide use and other alternatives would be considered to control the pests. The plan would only apply to IPM activities within the seed orchards themselves. If we decide to proceed with the IPM plans, formal identification to the public will be made. If you have questions about the plan, please contact orchard manager Harvey Koester, 541-618-2200.

Rogue River RAMP

The *Rogue National Wild and Scenic River: Hellgate Recreation Management Plan* was completed in March 2003. The plan covers the 27 mile stretch from the confluence of the Applegate River to Grave Creek. The Final EIS was available in March for a 30-day availability period. Distribution of a Record of Decision is expected to occur in 2003.

Kelsey/Whisky Final EIS

The Kelsey Whisky Final Landscape Management Plan Amendments and Final Environmental Impact Statement was completed in March 2003. The plan describes and analyzes the impacts of four alternatives for managing the public lands within the Kelsey Whisky Landscape planning area. The alternatives are designed to achieve a variety of land management and restoration objectives. We plan to distribute the Record of Decision in 2003.

APPENDIX D. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACEC	-	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
AMA	-	Adaptive Management Area
ASQ	-	Allowable Sale Quantity
BLM	-	Bureau of Land Management
CBWR	-	Coos Bay Wagon Road
CCF	-	Hundred cubic feet
CFR	-	Code of Federal Regulations
CSNM	-	Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument
DEQ	-	Department of Environmental Quality
EEA	-	Environmental Education Area
FY	-	Fiscal Year
GCDB	-	Geographic Coordinates Data Base
GFMA	-	General Forest Management Area
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
GPS	-	Global Positioning System
HLB	-	Harvest Land Base
LSF	-	Late Successional Forest
LSR	-	Late-Successional Reserve
MBF	-	Thousand board feet
MMBF	-	Million board feet
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
NEPA	-	National Environmental Protection Act
NFP	-	Northwest Forest Plan
O&C	-	Oregon and California Revested Lands
ODEQ	-	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODFW	-	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OSHA	-	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSU	-	Oregon State University
PD	-	Public Domain Lands
PILT	-	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PL	-	Public Law
REO	-	Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC	-	Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP	-	Resource Management Plan
RMP/ROD	-	<i>The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision</i>

RNA - Research Natural Area
ROD - Record of Decision
SA - Special Attention Species
S&G - Standards and Guidelines
SS - Special Status Species
USFS - U.S. Forest Service

refugia—Locations and habitats that support populations of organisms that are limited to small fragments of their previous geographic ranges.

Regional Interagency Executive Council—A senior regional interagency entity which assures the prompt, coordinated, successful implementation at the regional level of the forest management plan standards and guidelines .

research natural area—an area that contains natural resource values of scientific interest and is managed primarily for research and educational purposes.

Resource Management Plan—a land use plan prepared by the BLM under current regulations in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

riparian reserves—Designated riparian areas found outside late successional reserves.

SEIS Special Attention Species—a term which incorporates the “Survey and Manage” and “Protection Buffer” species from the Northwest Forest Plan.

silvicultural prescription—a detailed plan , usually written by a forest silviculturist, for controlling the establishment, composition, constitution, and growth of forest stands.

site index—A measure of forest productivity expressed as the height of the tallest trees in a stand at an index age.

site preparation—any action taken in conjunction with a reforestation effort (natural or artificial) to create an environment that is favorable for survival of suitable trees during the first growing season. This environment can be created by altering ground cover, soil or microsite conditions, using biological, mechanical, or manual clearing, prescribed burns, herbicides or a combination of methods.

slashbuster—A specialized piece of machinery used to reduce the size and arrangement of fuels on the forest floor so that the fuels can more easily decay and be reassimilated into the soil.

Special Status Species—plant or animal species in any of the following categories

- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species
- Candidate Species
- State-listed Species
- Bureau Sensitive Species
- Bureau Assessment Species

stream mile—A linear mile of stream.

APPENDIX E. DEFINITIONS

AMA—Adaptive Management Area—the Medford District’s Applegate AMA is managed to restore and maintain late-successional forest habitat while developing and testing management approaches to achieve the desired economic and other social objectives.

anadromous fish—Fish that are born and reared in fresh water, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to fresh water to reproduce, e.g., salmon, steelhead and shad.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)—An area of BLM administered lands where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

candidate species—Plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. These are taxa for which the Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposal to list, but issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions.

fifth field watershed—A watershed size designation of approximately 20-200 square miles in size.

fiscal year—The federal financial year. It is a period of time from October 1 of one year to September 31 of the following year.

hazardous materials—Anything that poses a substantive present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

iteration—Something said or performed again; repeated.

late successional reserve—A forest in its mature and/or old-growth stages that has been reserved

lay down fence—A fence capable of being put down in winter to allow less damage from winter weather.

matrix land—Federal land outside of reserves and special management areas which will be available for timber harvest at varying levels.

noxious plant/weed—A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.

precommercial thinning—the practice of removing some of the trees less than merchantable size from a stand so that remaining trees will grow faster.

prescribed fire—a fire burning under specified conditions that will accomplish certain planned objectives.

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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