



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

Medford District Office
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504

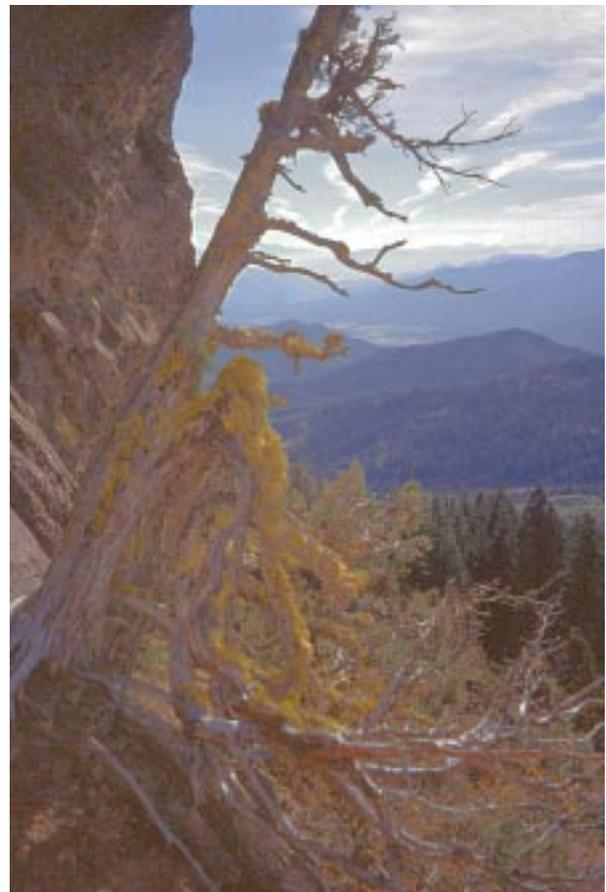
May 2002



Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement

Volume 1 - Main Text



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-01/017+1792

Public Disclosure Notice: Comments, including the names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Bureau of Land Management office address listed on the front cover of this document, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment(s). Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law and recent court decisions. All submissions from organizations, businesses, or individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT OFFICE
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504
email address: or110mb@or.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:

6240(114)
CSNM Study Plan
A6778(TH:jl)

Dear Reader:

This Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DRMP/DEIS) for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM) proposes and analyzes alternatives for long-term management of the Monument. We have made every effort to disclose and discuss important perspectives on the environmental impacts of the alternatives including the preferred alternative. On June 9, 2000, the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument was established by Presidential Proclamation 7318. In this Proclamation, the BLM was directed to complete a resource management plan. This DRMP/DEIS is the initial effort of completing the resource management plan for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

We welcome your comments on the contents of this document. We are particularly interested in comments that address one or more of the following: (1) new information that would affect the analysis; (2) possible improvements in the analysis; and (3) suggestions for improving or clarifying the proposed management direction. Specific comments are most useful. BLM will respond to comments addressing the adequacy of the DRMP/DEIS in the Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement. This CSNM DRMP/DEIS will also be published on the Medford District's web site, www.or.blm.gov/csnm, under "Draft Resource Management Plan."

There are four resource management alternatives proposed in this DRMP/DEIS. All public comments received prior to April 2002 were considered in identifying and addressing issues during the development of alternatives for managing the Monument. Also considered was information supplied by tribes, State and local governments, other federal agencies and data developed by BLM staff. The alternatives were designed to provide different management activities that protect, maintain, restore and/or enhance Monument objects, resources, and ecological processes while providing opportunities to the public to enjoy this unique southwest Oregon landscape. In compliance with Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1610.4-7, Alternative C was identified as the preferred alternative. Although a preferred alternative is identified, it is recognized that parts of the other alternatives would also meet management goals or possibly new information will be identified and, as a result, dialogue and comments received on this draft plan will be heavily relied upon in the formulation of the Proposed Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement. In accordance with BLM Planning Regulations, 43 CFR 1610.2(e), ninety (90) days shall be provided for review of the draft plan and draft environmental impact statement. The 90-day period shall formally begin when the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of filing of the draft environmental impact

statement in the *Federal Register*. In order to be considered for the Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, written comments must be received within formal comment period. **Written comments will be accepted on this CSNM DRMP/DEIS until September 20, 2002.**

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the Medford District Office; 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

BLM will discuss the various management alternatives and answer questions pertaining to the Monument in public meetings. Meeting locations, dates and times will be published in the Medford and Ashland newspapers and on the BLM Medford District's web site, www.or.blm.gov/csnm under "Public Meetings."

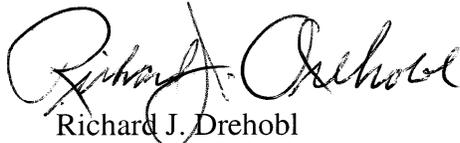
Please keep this copy of the CSNM DRMP/DEIS as information provided may be referred to, but not reprinted, in the Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Written comments pertaining to the CSNM DRMP/DEIS should be sent to:

Ted Hass, CSNM Team Leader
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, OR 97504

or comments may be e-mailed to Ted_Hass@or.blm.gov

Sincerely,



Richard J. Drehobl
Monument Manager
Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Sincerely,

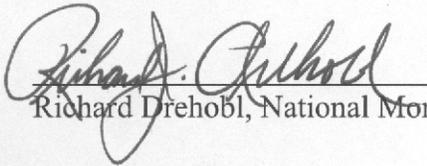


Ron Wenker
District Manager
BLM Medford District

CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Acting Manager Recommendation

I recommend the proposed draft plan and environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument be published for interagency and public review and comment as required by 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1610.2. The draft EIS considers all issues raised during plan scoping that are within the decision space allowed by the Executive Order which proclaimed the Monument designation and other non-discretionary programs and policies. The alternatives defer proposing land use allocations or management directions that are precluded by the need for the livestock grazing study required by the Proclamation. The action alternatives were prepared in accordance with applicable planning procedures and are designed to protect, maintain, restore or enhance Monument objects, resources and processes while providing opportunities to the public to enjoy this unique southwest Oregon landscape.



Richard Drehobl, National Monument Manager

Medford District Manager Recommendation

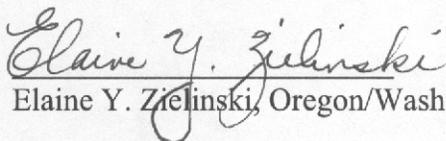
I recommend the proposed draft plan and EIS for State Director filing in accordance with 40 CFR 1500. Although the District staff has identified a preferred alternative, it is subject to change based on the inter-agency and public comments and further staff review. The proposed plan in the final EIS may be the same as the preferred alternative in the draft EIS or a combination of alternative elements. Upon completion of the approved plan and your approval of the record of decision, the Cascade-Siskiyou Ecological Emphasis Area will be deleted from the April 14, 1995 approved Medford Resource Management Plan and managed as a separate planning area.



Ron Wenker, Medford District Manager

Oregon/Washington State Director Concurrence and Approval to File

I concur that the draft plan and EIS have been prepared in accordance with applicable directives and is ready for filing with the Environmental Protection Agency, on behalf of the Council of Environmental Quality. The document is approved for filing as required by 40 CFR 1506.9.



Elaine Y. Zielinski, Oregon/Washington State Director

**CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN
and
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(X) Draft Environmental Statement () Final Environmental Statement

Responsible Agency: Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Type of Action: (X) Administrative () Legislative

Abstract: This Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DRMP/DEIS) describes and analyzes the impacts of four alternatives for managing the public lands within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM). The Monument currently includes 52,947 acres of Bureau managed lands, all in southeastern Jackson County, Oregon. The alternatives provide objectives and recommendations to protect and manage CSNM objects, resources and processes. Alternative A (no action) describes the existing management situation. The other alternatives were designed to protect, maintain, enhance and/or restore CSNM objects, resources and processes while allowing the public to enjoy this unique southwest Oregon landscape. The difference in the proposed alternatives is the degree of management intervention necessary to meet the desired goals and objectives. Alternative C is BLM's preferred alternative.

Comments: Comments on this document are requested from all interested and/or affected agencies, tribes, organizations, and individuals. In accordance with Bureau planning regulations, 43 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) 1610.2(e), ninety (90) days shall be provided for review of this DRMP/DEIS. The ninety day period shall begin when the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of the filing of the draft environmental impact statement in the *Federal Register*, most likely in May, 2002. The cover letter to this document provides specific dates addressing the end of the comment period and when a public meeting will be held to discuss the Draft Plan.

For further information contact:

Richard Drehobl, Interim Monument Manager
Bureau of Land Management, Medford District
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, OR 97504
541-618-2200

USER'S GUIDE

The Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement is divided into two volumes. Volume I includes a summary, five chapters, glossary, references, and an index. Volume II includes maps and appendices. Also included is a large map of the analysis area (Plate 1).

The **Summary** is a synopsis of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS/DEIS). Tables that briefly compare the respective alternatives and summarize the effects of the alternatives to the resources, processes and users are found within the summary.

Chapter 1 (Purpose and Need) contains introductory material for the Draft Resource Management Plan/DEIS. It describes the purpose and need for the preparation of the document and identifies the issues that will be addressed. It also describes the planning and scoping process and outlines the planning criteria.

Chapter 2 (Affected Environment) describes the environment that could be affected or impacted by implementing any of the alternatives. It includes a description of the environmental processes, resources and major uses related to the issues. Tables are found throughout the chapter.

Chapter 3 (Description of the Alternatives) is divided into the following sections: Introduction, Alternative A (No Action), Alternative B, Alternative C (Preferred), Alternative D, Management Common to All Alternatives, and Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Detailed Analysis. Alternatives B, C and D describe various ways activities would be managed in the CSNM. Each alternative has a different emphasis, primarily defined in terms of resource focus, with the underlying premise to maintain, protect, restore or enhance relevant and important ecological and biological value(s). Tables that summarize some of the management activities of the proposed alternatives are found throughout the chapter.

Chapter 4 (Environmental Consequences) describes potential impacts and changes to the CSNM environment with the implementation of each of the alternatives. Tables summarizing effects to the resources, process or users are found throughout the chapter.

Chapter 5 (Consultation and Coordination) includes a summarization of public involvement, lists agencies and organizations receiving the document, and provides a List of Preparers for the Draft Resource Management Plan/DEIS.

The **Glossary, References and Index** provide an aid to the reader in finding and understanding the material contained in this document.

The **Maps and Appendices** in Volume II contains additional information to aid the reader in understanding the document. The large map (Plate 1) provides a more detailed look at the analysis area and can be used to locate specific points of interest mentioned in the text such as road numbers.