



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

**Medford District
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504 Summer 2001**



Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Report

for Fiscal Year 2000



Cover Photo: Railroad trestle along Glendale-to-Powers Bike Trail.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document combines the Medford District Annual Program Summary and the Monitoring Report for fiscal year 2000. The Annual Program Summary addresses the accomplishments of the Medford District in areas such as watershed analysis, forestry, fire, recreation, and other programs. It also provides information concerning the Medford District budget and timber receipt collections. The results of the Annual Program Summary show that the Medford District is fully and successfully implementing its Resource Management Plan and the Northwest Forest Plan.

The Monitoring Report compiles the results and findings of implementation monitoring for fiscal year 2000, the fifth full fiscal year of implementation of the Medford District Resource Management Plan.

Although the Annual Program Summary gives only a very basic and very brief description of the programs, resources, and activities in which the Medford District is involved, the report does give the reader a sense of the large scope, complexity and diversity involved in the management of the Medford District public lands and resources. Although there are and will continue to be challenges which will require us to adapt and give our best, the managers and employees of Medford District take pride in the accomplishments described in this report.

**Medford RMP, Summary of Renewable Resource Management
Actions, Directions and Accomplishments**

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Fiscal Year 2000 Accomplishments	Cumulative Accomplishments 1996-2000	Projected Decadal Practices
Regeneration harvest (acres offered)	191	3,157	10,400
Commercial thinning/ density management/ uneven age harvests (acres offered)	2,320	39,188	44,900
Site Preparation, Prescribed Burning, Underburning	4,411	24,206	24,000
Hazardous Fuel Reduction / Ecosystem Health and Recovery (mechanical acres, non-burning)	4,296	12,020	—
Maintenance Work and Animal damage control (acres)	13,157	27,397	—
Precommercial thinning (acres)	2,730	26,162	78,000
Brush field/hardwood conversion (acres)	0	0	—
Planting/ regular stock (acres)	446	7,261	2,700
Planting/ genetically selected (acres)	465	1,569	10,300
Fertilization (acres)	0	2,222	57,000
Pruning (acres)	603	1,883	18,600
New permanent road const. (miles)	5	22	300
Roads fully decommissioned/obliterated (miles)	13	131	—
Roads closed/ gated (miles)*	48	255	—
Timber sale quantity offered (mm board feet)	30.6	265.39	571
Timber sale quantity offered (mm cubic feet)	5.25	45.12	96.90
Noxious weed control, chemical (acres)	138	225	—
Noxious weed control, other (acres)	423	5,788	—
Livestock grazing permits or leases (Allotment leases / lease renewals)	71 / 2	306 / 50	—
Reservoirs or springs constructed or maintained (units each)	1	5	—
Livestock fences constructed (units/miles)	5 / 1.2	23 / 18.7	—

* Roads closed to the general public, but retained for administrative or legal access.

Medford RMP, Summary of Non-Biological Resource or Land Use Management Actions, Directions and Accomplishments

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2000 Accomplishments	1996 -2000 Cumulative Accomplishments
Realty, land sales	(actions/acres)	0	1 / 120
Realty, land purchase	(actions/acres)	1 / 280	2 / 307
Realty, land exchanges	(actions/acres acquired/ disposed)	1	3 / 7657 /3306
Realty, R&PP leases/patents	(actions/acres)	0	0
Realty, road rights-of-way acquired for public/agency use	(actions)	7	42
Realty, road rights-of-way granted	(actions)	35	109
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted	(actions)	17	38
Communication sites, rights-of-ways	(actions)	0	2
Special Use Permits	(actions)	8	14
Realty, withdrawals completed	(actions/acres)	0	0
Realty, withdrawals revoked	(actions/acres)	0	0
Mineral/energy, total oil and gas leases	(actions/acres)	0	0
Mineral/energy, total other leases	(actions/acres)	0	0
Mining plans approved	(actions/acres)	0	0
Mining claims patented	(actions/acres)	0	0
Mineral material sites opened	(actions/acres)	1	1
Mineral material sites, closed	(actions/acres)	0	0
Recreation, maintained off highway vehicle trails	(areas/acres)	0	3 / 25,570
Recreation, maintained hiking trails	(trails/miles)	8 / 114	27 / 274
Recreation, sites	(sites/acres)	0	14 / 1097
Cultural resource inventories	(sites/acres)	145 / 16,149	334 / 44,588
Cultural/historic sites nominated	(sites/acres)	0 / 0	1
Hazardous material sites	(identified/cleaned)	24 / 13	94 / 72

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Program Summary is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management for the period October 1999 through September 2000. 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 2000. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, forestry, recreation, and other programs. Included in the Annual Program Summary is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

Both the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) and the Resource Management Plan (RMP) 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 June 1995, the Medford District began implementation of the RMP which incorporates all aspects of the Northwest Forest Plan.

BUDGET

The Medford District receives its annual operating budget from Congressionally appropriated and non-appropriated sources. All BLM appropriated funds are identified in the Interior Appropriations and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill. In fiscal year 2000, the Medford District received a total of \$19,532,000 in Oregon and California Land Grant appropriations, \$1,227,000 in Management of Lands & Resources appropriations, and \$12,043,000 in non-appropriated funds. Non-appropriated sources include funding from the following sources: forest ecosystem health and recovery funds, timber sale pipeline restoration funds, fuel hazard reduction funds, road use fee collections, recreation fee demo collections, reimbursements for work performed for other agencies, trust funds, and other miscellaneous sources. All unspent funds carried forward from the previous year are also included in the appropriation totals. The total available monetary resources in fiscal year 2000 to the Medford District was \$ 32,802,000.

Appropriation	FY1999	FY2000
Oregon & California Land Grant Appropriation	\$16,045,000	\$19,532,000
Management of Lands & Resources Appropriation	702,000	1,227,000
Other non-appropriated funds	13,102,000	12,043,000
Total	\$29,849,000	\$32,802,000



Fly fishing on the Rogue River. (Photo by Terry Tuttle)

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. There are approximately 369,200 acres of riparian reserves.



Monadenia snail common to the forests of the Medford District. (Photo by Jeff Dillman)

LATE-SUCCESSIONAL RESERVES AND ASSESSMENTS

Late-successional reserves (LSRs) are areas established by the NFP and the Medford District RMP to maintain functional interactive late-successional and old growth forest ecosystems. They are designed to serve as habitat for late-successional and old-growth-related species including the northern spotted owl.

The Medford District contains portions of five late successional reserves designated in the Resource Management Plan: Elk Creek, Azalea, Galice Block, Munger Butte, and Jenny Creek.

The Munger Butte, Azalea, Galice Block and Elk Creek Reserves assessments have all been completed as a joint effort with the Forest Service.

APPLEGATE ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service are working extensively with communities interested in the Applegate River Watershed. Work with neighbors, interest groups, and the Applegate Partnership has resulted in increased understanding of the land and the people.

The Little Applegate Landscape Plan and Design for the 72,000-acre watershed was completed through an interagency team working with a locally based, multiple resource volunteer task force.

The overall goals of the project focused on:

- linking good science tied to passion and connection with the community
- understanding and defining the cultural boundaries and neighborhood networks within the larger Little Applegate community
- balancing individual best interest (physiological satisfaction) with mutual community benefits
- coupling community values to ecology and current policies (e.g., Northwest Forest Plan for federal lands, county zoning laws, etc.)

Timber sales and forest products continue to be outcomes of landscape projects in the Applegate Adaptive Management Area. Landscape sales have multiple objectives—reducing fire hazard, increasing resilience of residual trees, improving riparian and wildlife habitat, and reintroducing fire. Generally, silvicultural prescriptions for the commercial sales recommend thinning from below using a variety of logging systems. Adjacent brush fields are treated using mechanical and prescribed fire, as well as testing reintroduction of native grass and avoiding noxious weeds.

In fiscal year 2000, silviculture activities comprised 2,537 acres. 1,037 acres were understory reduction in commercial stands, 228 acres were for non-forest land density treatments (oak/shrubland), 85 acres were for tree planting, 517 acres were for precommercial thinning old clearcuts, and 670 acres were for stand maintenance (grubbing and scalping vegetation around trees).

Fuels hazard reduction burning took place on approximately 2700 acres. Nineteen hundred acres were handpiled and burned, 600 acres were underburned, and 2,000 acres were slashed and handpiled but not burned at the time.

Collaboration with communities is a primary focus in working in the area. We continue to explore what is meant by collaboration through workshops with the Applegate Partnership and others; how to describe parameters of collaboration and decision-making; and how to create the best forums for mutual learning.

Research and monitoring across the agency boundaries offer learning opportunities from landscape projects as well as other projects.

MATRIX

The matrix land allocation is defined in the Resource Management Plan as federal lands outside of reserves and special management areas that will be available for timber harvest at varying levels. The matrix within the planning area has been divided into the northern and southern General Forest Management Area (GFMA) and Connectivity/Diversity blocks. There are approximately 482,081 acres of BLM administered land in the GFMA and 28,761 acres in connectivity/diversity blocks. Connectivity/diversity blocks vary in size and are distributed throughout the northern GFMA.

The objectives for the matrix lands are:

- Produce a sustainable supply of timber and other forest commodities to provide jobs and contribute to community stability.
- Provide connectivity (along with other allocations such as riparian reserves) between late-successional reserves.
- Provide habitat for a variety of organisms associated with both late-successional and younger forests.
- Provide for important ecological functions such as dispersal of organisms, carryover of some species from one stand to the next, and maintenance of ecologically valuable structural components such as down logs, snags, and large trees.
- Provide early-successional habitat.

WATER AND SOILS

Watershed Analysis

First iteration watershed analyses have been completed for 93 percent of the BLM-administered lands in the Medford District. The following table lists the first and second iteration watershed analyses completed in FY 2000 on the Medford District.

MEDFORD DISTRICT WATERSHED ANALYSIS COMPLETED IN FY 2000			
Resource Area	Watershed	Total Acres	BLM Acres
1st Iterations			
Ashland	Klamath - Iron Gate	42,360	13,698
Ashland	Upper Bear Creek	70,231	16,472
Totals for 1 st Iterations		112,591	30,170

Monitoring

Riparian assessments for functioning condition status were conducted on 305 stream miles. These stream miles plus an additional 188 stream miles were surveyed for stream and channel characteristics. Summer stream temperature was monitored using recording instruments at 200 sites, streamflow and turbidity were measured at 27 sites, precipitation was measured at 6 sites, and channel cross sections were surveyed at 70 sites.

Water Quality Limited - 303(d) Streams

Stream temperature data was provided to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for use in developing the 1998 list of water quality limited streams. Approximately 100 stream segments included on the DEQ 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 being evaluated as part of the watershed analysis process. The Medford District will be working cooperatively with the Oregon DEQ to develop Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) and Total Maximum Daily Loads for 303(d) streams on BLM-administered lands. Intensive stream temperature monitoring was done this year in Evans Creek, Grave Creek, Deer Creek and Middle Applegate Watersheds to provide temperature information for the WQMPs being developed in 2000 and 2001.

Municipal Watersheds

Eight communities within the Medford District use a surface water source for their water supply. There are no formal municipal watershed agreements with these communities. The Klamath-Iron Gate Watershed Analysis incorporated recommendations for the City of Yreka water supply in Fall Creek.

WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

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 down logs per acre greater than or equal to 16 inches diameter, assuming there are down logs on the site. Additional reserve standing trees provide for 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. Two mine entrances had grates installed to minimize human disturbance to bat colonies. Meadows receive a 300-foot no-harvest buffer to maintain edge cover. Several underburn projects have been undertaken to maintain historic fire-dependant oak woodlands. BLM continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and their associated vernal pool habitat.

Nest Sites and Activity Centers

Protocol surveys were completed on a quarter of upcoming project areas for northern goshawks, a Bureau Sensitive Species. Thirty historic detection areas were checked for presence/absence. Helicopter surveys monitored osprey productivity at Butte Creek, Lost Creek Reservoir, and along the Rogue River. Over 1,250 neotropical birds were banded at a Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship (MAPS) mist netting station in a long-term Partners In Flight project begun in 1995. Another 430 birds were banded at a second MAPS station initiated in 2000.

Big Game Habitat, and Furbearers

In the Ashland Resource Area 1,200 acres of brushfields and oak woodlands were broadcast burned or underburned as habitat improvement for deer. In the Butte Falls Resource Area 230 acres of brush were crushed and burned to rejuvenate habitat for big-game winter range. The Grants Pass Resource Area burned 590 acres of brushfields. Eight bait stations with cameras were established in the Grants Pass RA to survey furbearer presence. A population of fishers was documented west of I-5, where they had not previously been confirmed.

Late-successional Reserve (LSR) Habitat Improvement

In the Elk Creek LSR, 20 acres were slashed and underburned to create a shaded fuel break to help combat future catastrophic wildfire.

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

Management guidelines for specific S&M species have been refined during the year. Protocol surveys prior to ground disturbing activities have been ongoing for proposed timber sale areas. Survey data has been provided to the team that prepared the Draft Supplemental EIS For Amendment to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and Other Mitigating Measures Standards and Guidelines.

Red Tree Vole. Upcoming potential timber sale units (11,300 acres) were surveyed for vole presence. Range occurrence maps for the species have been refined. The District is following interagency guidance for project mitigation.

Mollusks. Surveys were done on proposed sale areas (36,800 acres) for six species of slugs and snails thought to possibly occur on the District. The two slug species (blue-gray taildropper, papillose taildropper) are being commonly found, but the S&M snail species are rare. When these surveys began in the fall of 1998, the slugs had been thought to be rare. Following the second year of surveys, the taildroppers are now known to be widespread.

Salamanders. Continuing work begun in 1996, all upcoming sale units (8,800 acres) within 25 miles of the known range were surveyed, talus habitat was mapped, and areas of occurrence were deferred from harvest units. Del Norte salamanders have been found in the northwest quarter of the District, but not east of I-5. Siskiyou Mountains salamanders have been found in the south central portion of the District. No S&M salamanders have been detected in the east half of the District. A Siskiyou Mountains salamander 5-year monitoring study in the Applegate AMA at Middle Thompson was continued into its second year.

Great Gray Owl (protection buffer species). Upcoming sale units (10,000 acres) in suitable habitat (within 1,000 ft of meadows) have been surveyed to interagency protocol standards (6 surveys in each of 2 years). Several nests are located each year, even though the District is on the fringe of the species' range. Forty historic detection areas were monitored. Conforming to NW 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.

Threatened/Endangered Species

The Medford District joins with the Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests to consult with the US Fish & Wildlife Service on projects within the Rogue Basin to be sure that these projects are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Bald Eagle. Twelve historic nest sites on BLM land and three on adjacent private land were monitored for occupancy and productivity. One new nest was discovered this year. The species is undergoing review by US Fish & Wildlife Service for possible federal delisting.

Marbled Murrelet. The Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas are cooperating 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 farther than 25 miles inland in the Rogue Basin. No murrelets have ever been detected on the District since the project began in 1993.

Northern Spotted Owl. The Glendale Resource Area intensively surveyed 70 historic owl sites as part of the long-term Klamath demographic study (begun in 1997) as part of implementation monitoring mandated by the NFP. An adaptive management monitoring study of owls in the Ashland RA continued into its third year in conjunction with the National Council of Paper Industry for Air & Stream Improvement. The other resource areas in cooperation with Boise Cascade Corporation opportunistically monitored another 70 sites to verify site location and continue gathering demographic data.

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.

Peregrine Falcon. The species was federally delisted in August 1999, but remains listed by the State of Oregon. District personnel continued monitoring of two sites on BLM land and one site on adjacent private land. A new site was discovered on BLM land this year.



The Pacific tree frog is native to the Medford District and the Pacific Northwest. (Photo by Jeff Dillman)

FISH HABITAT

A variety of activities to maintain or enhance fish habitat were conducted in fiscal year 2000. The primary focus for fisheries were impact assessments for timber sales and road construction activities. Additionally, watershed analysis, Endangered Species Act consultation, Jobs-in-the-Woods Projects and Transportation Management Objectives analyses have been worked on and completed. These activities represent the majority of the workload and involve many field visits and meetings. The following are other activities performed by fisheries personnel.

Watershed Council Cooperation

The District provided technical support to various councils which support the Governor's Salmon Plan commitments. BLM- funded projects for the watershed councils were paid for with money from Wyden Amendment appropriations. These projects included removing irrigation diversions and providing alternatives for fish passage in the Illinois River Basin. Projects in the Applegate River Basin included lamprey studies, snorkeling surveys, riparian fencing, and irrigation diversion modifications.

Stream and Riparian Inventory

Since 1992, the District has contracted with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to inventory streams. To date approximately 99 percent of the streams in the District have completed inventories and 45 miles were inventoried in fiscal year 2000. Tributaries to the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue River were included and will continue to be surveyed in fiscal year 2001. Over one hundred stream miles and hundreds of acres of riparian reserves were inventoried for timber sales and watershed analysis.

Fish Passage

Fish passage is a high priority and an ongoing need in the District. Four culverts used bottomless arch conspan and plate designs to maintain a natural streambed and allow no pool to form below the culvert. The only funding for these projects is Jobs-in-the-Woods Program. Culverts were replaced on coho salmon and steelhead streams to allow upstream migration to spawning grounds and twelve miles of habitat were made accessible to salmon and steelhead. A flume was constructed to allow juvenile steelhead to bypass an irrigation ditch. Two irrigation dams were removed to allow fish passage.

Road Decommissioning/Obliteration

The District decommissioned approximately seven miles of roads to improve water quality and fish habitat.

Fish population monitoring

Approximately ten miles of coho salmon spawning surveys conducted in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife were completed. Snorkeling to estimate fish populations included six miles of inventory and, in addition, five juvenile fish traps were in operation to determine juvenile fish composition and abundance. Riparian treatment monitoring for improved fish habitat was completed on 4 miles of stream. Aquatic insect monitoring occurred at 54 sites in addition to the District aquatic insect monitoring contract. Twenty streams were monitored for presence and absence of fish. Four miles of stream were monitored for lamprey presence. Staff assisted the ODFW with lake surveys and monitoring.

Instream Fish Habitat Improvement

Large wood was placed in 0.25 miles of stream to improve fish habitat. A coho rearing channel was constructed on Sucker Creek. In cooperation with the Illinois River Watershed Council and under the authority of the Wyden Act, streambank stabilization of Deer Creek halted erosion on private and adjacent BLM lands .

Riparian Fish Habitat Improvement

Tree planting in the riparian reserve occurred on five acres of Sucker Creek and Dads Creek. Fencing along Jenny Creek kept cattle from entering fish habitat. In addition, two springs were fenced to prohibit grazing. Three other riparian sites were also fenced to prohibit grazing.

Endangered Species Act

Four Biological Assessments were completed and four aquatic mollusk monitoring sites were established on springs/seeps.

Public Outreach

Twelve major presentations were conducted with watershed councils and schools. Two fishing events were hosted with educational talks. The District participated in the Salmon Watch Program and made fifty classroom presentations.

Special Status and Special Attention Species

Botanical Surveys

The Medford Botany Team performed clearance surveys in support of resource area projects on 81,894 acres in FY 2000. This represents approximately 9 percent of the entire acres on the district. This monumental task was accomplished in large part by contract surveys and all resource area botanists spent a majority of their time administering these contracts. Many acres were also cleared in-house by the four resource area botanists, four botany support personnel, and one SCEP botany student in support of BLM activities.

Of the 81,894 acres surveyed, 27,485 acres were done in support of resource area project surveys for Bureau special status plants (threatened, endangered and sensitive plants). Approximately 485 occurrences were found for the documented 124 special status plants, including the one federally endangered plant Gentner's Fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*). In January 2000, the State Director also listed six rare mosses, three rare lichens and six rare fungi that are known to occur on the Medford District. Resource area botanists have started searching for these 15 newly designated rare species. Incidentally, only a few of the Bureau special status plants are also listed as survey and manage (S&M) species under the Northwest Forest Plan. Most of the Bureau special status plants species are not uniquely associated with old growth conifer forests and most are endemic species that are truly rare. The relatively high number of rare plant species here is indicative of the high level of species richness and diversity that occurs in southwest Oregon.

Following the Northwest Forest Plan, clearance surveys were performed for survey and manage fungi, lichens and bryophytes (mosses & liverworts) on 54,409 acres throughout the district. Approximately 1,826 occurrences for S&M plants and fungi were found in FY 2000. Many of these finds, especially the high numbers of S&M fungi, will likely lead to the removal or de-ranking of a number of these species from the S&M lists in 2001. Many of these species have been found not to be as rare as once thought and are not strictly tied to old growth conifer communities.

Surveys for Bureau special status plants and survey and manage species will continue in FY 2001 as part of project implementation. Documenting the patterns of occurrence, increasing our understanding of these rare elements, and managing these species to prevent extinction or local extirpation will continue to be an emphasis in the Medford District botany program in FY 2001.

Monitoring

In fiscal year 2000, 106 occurrences of Bureau special status plants were monitored (summarized below). All monitoring was done in house or through various challenge cost share grants with local universities or other agencies. The following table shows the species, occurrences monitored and the current trend for these species based on the monitoring. For some species, some occurrences are in decline and others have increased, so a stable overall trend is indicated. These trends at this time are qualitative estimates since quantitative data from long term monitoring is, for the most part, incomplete.

Species	Occurrences Monitored	Overall Trend (+ increase, - decrease, 0 stable)
<i>Cimicifuga elata</i> (Tall bugbane)	3	+
<i>Cypripedium fasciculatum</i> (clustered ladies slipper)	31	0 (some decreases)
<i>Allotropa virgata</i> (candy stick)	3	0
<i>Perideridia erythrorhiza</i> (red-root yampah)	2	0
<i>Fritillaria gentneri</i> (Gentner's fritillary, listed endangered)	45	-
<i>Frasera umpquaensis</i> (Umpqua fraseria)	3	0
<i>Chlorogalum angustifolium</i> (narrow-leaved amole)	2	0
rare <i>Carex</i> 's (sedge species)	14	0
<i>Lomatium cookii</i> (Cook's lomatium)	3	-
TOTAL	106	

With the exception of *Lomatium cookii* (proposed endangered) and *Fritillaria gentneri* (listed endangered), most of the populations monitored are stable at this time.

Lomatium cookii

The occurrences of Cook's lomatium continue to be affected by illegal off-road vehicle use in the French Flat Area of Critical Concern in the Illinois valley. This unique area has some of the highest densities in the world of this rare plant. Impacts are occurring to the open meadows that support this species and direct physical damage continues to occur. Efforts to keep illegal recreational off-highway vehicle use from occurring (road closures, fences and gates) have, overall, proved unsuccessful. Current budgets negate the ability of law enforcement personnel to adequately patrol this area. Even with support of some of the local Illinois Valley civic and environmental groups, negative impacts have continued. Active mining claims also threaten a portion of this population. This species is proposed for listing as endangered and the long term trend for this rare endemic plant is negative. Efforts are underway in 2001 to develop a conservation agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which will give rise to a strategy to reverse this trend for this proposed species. This species is proposed for listing as endangered in May 2001.

Fritillaria gentneri

Forty-five occurrences of *Fritillaria gentneri* were monitored for the third straight year on the Medford District. Total counts on the number of reproducing individuals for this rare lily were taken at all sites. This plant was listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in December of 1999.

On average, 39 percent of the occurrences either haven't flowered since their initial discovery or have flowered only once and contained no more than four mature plants. Another 44 percent of the populations contain, on average, fewer than 10 flowering plants per site. Very small populations of any species are easily subject to local extinction from natural stochastic events, so the long term viability of 83 percent of the

known occurrences is likely low; there is a high probability of extirpation. Only 17 percent of the occurrences contained between 17 and 306 flowering plants. These are likely the only populations that could be deemed as viable, or likely to persist in the long term. Another 20 or so occurrences of Gentner's fritillary are known from private and state public lands here in SW Oregon. As listed plants have no protection on private lands under the Endangered Species Act, the likelihood of persistence of this species on private lands, in the long term, is unknown. Given the current information, the long term trend for this species on non-federal and federal lands is likely negative. An effort to develop a recovery plan for this species with the USFWS and Oregon Department of Agriculture is underway and should be completed in FY 2001. This plan will identify specific management actions that will reverse this negative trend.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The 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 Rogue-Gold Hill and the West Bear Creek Watershed assessments and the Cascade Siskiyou Ecological Emphasis Area Draft Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement 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 and Southern Oregon Historical Society for field school work on the Siskiyou Wagon Trail and the development of interpretive display based on field school results; and participation of District personnel in a number of public presentations.

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 located throughout the Medford District.

In the past year, the BLM has worked with numerous local individuals 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.

SOCIOECONOMIC

Employment Trends

Southern Oregon displayed excellent job growth relative to the statewide rates. In Jackson County, overall employment increased by 1,710 jobs (about 2.5 percent) between 1998 and 1999. The strongest growth sectors were the construction, trade, and government. In Josephine County, overall employment increased by 700 jobs (about 3.3 percent) with the strongest growth sectors being the construction, services, and trade. The manufacturing sectors in both counties showed overall declines because of decreases in lumber and wood products employment.

Statewide lumber and wood products employment has continued the downward trend which began in 1989, decreasing by 1,700 jobs between 1998 and 1999. Total lumber and wood products employment in 1999 averaged 57,300 jobs within Oregon. Jackson and Josephine Counties mirrored the statewide trend, losing 290 and 40 jobs respectively between 1998 and 1999.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes and O&C Payments were made in FY 2000 as directed in current legislation. The specific amounts paid to the counties under each revenue sharing program in FY 2000 are displayed in the following tables.

New legislation (P.L. 106-393, Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000) was signed October 30, 2000, that extends “safety-net” payments through FY 2006. The law establishes a new formula for calculating payments which is based on selecting the highest three years in the eligibility period (1986-1999). The law also allows for annual increases in the payment based on Consumer Price Index information. O&C Payments in FY 2001 will be based on this new legislation.

During April 2000, the Bureau of the Census completed its decadal census. We anticipate that this data will be released beginning April 2001 continuing through 2003. Significant opportunities exist to compare the 2000 data to the 1990 data and to examine trends. Where census data was used in developing the District Resource Management Plan, opportunities will exist to update information.

Popular events like the “Tour de Fronds” on the Glendale-to-Powers Bike Trail bring public awareness to the beauty of public lands and additional income to local communities.



Resident Labor Force, Employment by Industry, Oregon

	1970	1980	Average 1984-88 Baseline	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Civilian Labor Force	864,500	1,295,000	1,362,400	1,491,000	1,508,000	154,200	1,596,000	1,640,000	1,652,700	1,719,700	1,727,700	1,763,700	1,760,500
Unemployment	61,700	107,000	104,800	82,000	90,000	116,000	116,000	89,000	80,100	101,600	100,700	98,600	100,400
Total Wage and Salary Emp.	709,200	1,044,600	1,068,680	1,251,900	1,250,800	1,274,200	1,308,400	1,362,900	1,418,400	1,474,600	1,526,400	1,551,800	1,572,400
Total Manufacturing	172,300	215,100	203,240	220,300	211,700	209,000	211,700	221,300	229,300	235,800	243,600	246,100	240,800
•Lumber & Wood Products (& Paper)	76,200	79,900	75,060	73,200	65,800	63,800	62,700	63,300	61,300	59,800	60,200	59,000	57,300
•Other Manufacturing	96,100	135,200	128,180	147,100	145,900	145,200	149,000	158,000	168,000	176,000	183,400	187,100	183,500
Total Non-Manufacturing	536,900	829,500	865,440	1,031,600	1,039,000	1,065,200	1,096,700	1,141,600	1,189,100	1,238,900	1,282,800	1,305,700	1,331,600
•Const. & Mining	30,800	48,800	35,800	54,000	53,000	52,000	55,700	62,900	70,400	79,400	83,300	83,400	84,700
•Trans., Comm. & Utilities	48,700	60,500	58,040	64,500	65,200	65,700	66,800	68,900	71,300	73,500	74,900	76,200	77,700
•Trade	162,000	255,600	269,680	313,100	314,300	318,700	328,900	344,100	357,000	365,900	377,500	383,400	387,900
•Finance, Ins. & Real Est.	36,000	70,000	69,360	80,300	83,200	86,000	84,600	87,800	87,200	91,000	94,800	95,200	95,400
•Services & Misc.	112,700	191,400	231,180	296,200	296,900	311,800	328,300	343,200	362,900	382,600	402,800	412,100	425,400
•Government	146,700	203,200	201,360	223,500	226,400	231,000	232,600	234,700	240,200	246,600	249,500	255,300	260,500

Resident Labor Force, Employment by Industry, Jackson County

	1970	1980	Average 1984-88 Baseline	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Civilian Labor Force	37,240	63,070	67,136	73,430	74,820	76,340	79,520	82,390	82,510	86,280	86,690	88,340	89,160
Unemployment	3,040	6,510	5,454	4,950	5,700	6,320	6,850	5,530	5,400	7,100	6,580	5,990	5,910
Total Wage and Salary Emp.	26,500	43,500	47,136	54,840	54,710	56,810	58,620	61,990	63,570	65,520	67,980	69,590	71,300
Total Manufacturing	6,010	7,690	8,684	8,920	8,150	8,790	8,650	9,050	9,140	9,130	9,320	9,180	8,990
•Lumber & Wood Products	4,570	5,030	5,550	5,370	4,690	5,140	4,740	4,720	4,600	4,500	4,410	4,160	3,870
•Other Manufacturing	1,440	2,660	3,134	3,550	3,460	3,650	3,910	4,330	4,540	4,630	4,910	5,020	5,120
Total Non-Manufacturing	20,490	35,810	38,454	45,920	46,560	48,020	49,970	52,940	54,430	56,390	58,650	60,410	62,300
•Const. & Mining	810	1,960	1,578	2,150	2,060	2,100	2,420	2,710	2,790	2,980	3,270	3,330	3,520
•Trans., Comm. & Utilities	1,590	2,240	2,672	2,920	2,950	2,850	2,870	2,880	3,080	3,250	3,310	3,650	3,680
•Trade	6,600	11,890	13,300	16,160	16,320	16,670	17,190	18,640	19,090	19,510	20,110	20,380	20,800
•Finance, Ins. & Real Est.	980	2,230	2,320	2,620	2,660	2,710	2,870	3,020	2,990	3,030	3,070	3,080	3,180
•Services & Misc.	4,500	8,040	9,872	12,530	12,910	13,860	14,690	15,620	16,240	17,280	18,430	19,060	19,840
•Government	6,010	9,450	8,712	9,530	9,660	9,820	9,930	10,070	10,240	10,350	10,470	10,910	11,280

Resident Labor Force, Employment by Industry, Josephine County

	1970	1980	Average 1984-88 Baseline	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Civilian Labor Force 13,050	23,790		25,040	26,510	26,240	27,060	28,310	28,490	28,120	28,900	28,720	28,840	29,120
Unemployment	1,340	3,100	2,314	2,100	2,280	2,690	3,060	2,600	2,350	2,870	2,710	2,530	2,440
Total Wage and Salary Emp.	8,820	15,740	16,598	18,520	17,950	18,500	19,160	19,680	20,010	20,360	20,870	21,150	21,850
Total Manufacturing	2,630	3,580	3,964	3,980	3,620	3,540	3,490	3,230	3,060	3,020	3,210	3,280	3,270
•Lumber & Wood Products	1,840	2,220	2,296	2,010	1,670	1,670	1,620	1,510	1,440	1,390	1,440	1,410	1,370
•Other Manufacturing	790	1,360	1,668	1,970	1,950	1,870	1,870	1,720	1,620	1,630	1,770	1,870	1,900
Total Non-Manufacturing	6,190	12,160	12,636	14,540	14,330	14,970	15,670	16,460	16,960	17,340	17,660	17,870	18,580
•Const. & Mining	230	580	430	630	600	620	750	870	890	940	920	960	1,040
•Trans., Comm. & Utilities	400	580	622	680	630	660	690	740	760	780	780	820	870
•Trade	2,060	3,830	4,326	4,990	4,990	5,120	5,270	5,480	5,540	5,540	5,630	5,710	5,880
•Finance, Ins. & Real Est.	270	850	784	900	890	940	1,000	1,090	1,090	1,050	1,080	1,080	1,100
•Services & Misc.	1,210	2,780	3,478	4,030	3,990	4,310	4,580	4,850	5,090	5,340	5,490	5,460	5,790
•Government	2,020	3,540	3,002	3,310	3,240	3,320	3,370	3,450	3,590	3,690	3,760	3,840	3,900

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, added in FY99, a new campground at Skull Creek. Day use sites are maintained at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, Kenny Meadows, Hyatt Lake, and along the Recreational 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 two National Register Sites—the Whisky Creek Cabin and the Rogue River Ranch. 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 with over 3,000 school children and 2,000 adults participating.

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

Forty-seven miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River are managed by the district, with BLM administering both the commercial and private permits.

For users who enjoy driving for pleasure, two Back Country Byways and three designated off-highway vehicle areas are managed. For non-motorized cyclists, the 74-mile Glendale to Powers Bicycle Trail 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. The Soda Mountain area was proclaimed the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument by President Clinton on June 9, 2000.

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.

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

In addition to these activities, the district issues approximately 150 special recreation permits annually 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.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

The Medford District manages approximately 859,096 acres of land located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos counties. Under the Northwest Forest Plan, approximately 191,000 acres (or 22 percent of the Medford District land base) are available for timber production. The Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District Resource Management Plan provide for a sustainable timber harvest, known as the Allowable Sale Quantity of 57.1 MMBF (million board feet) annually from Medford District administered public lands. The district offered 30.6 MMBF (5.25 MMCF) in fiscal year 2000.

Beginning in fiscal year 1998, all BLM timber sales were measured, sold and reported in volumes of hundred cubic feet. The cubic foot measurement takes into account the taper in logs and offers a more accurate, consistent measurement that accounts for lumber, chips, and the sawdust that is produced from logs of all sizes. Volumes in board feet will continue to be reported for informational purposes.

In fiscal year 2000, Medford District sold 11 timber sales at auction and negotiated 1 sale of minor volume. The value of these sold timber sales was over \$4.8 million. The monies associated with these timber sales is paid as the timber is harvested over the life of the contracts, generally three years. Timber sale collection for fiscal year 2000 from active harvesting was \$7,358,559.10 for Oregon and California Railroad Lands and \$147,241.05 for Public Domain Lands.

A number of harvest methods are employed in the Medford District. These consist of regeneration harvest, density management, selective, clearcut, and salvage.

Land Use Allocation	Offered FY 2000		Total 1995 -2000 (mbf)
	MBF	CCF	
AMA	2,759	5,046	71,570
North GFMA	12,790	21,609	128,540
South GFMA	14,666	25,070	56,838
Connectivity	0	0	9,150
Misc Volume	332	566	1,695
Total Volume offered from ASQ lands	30,547	52,291	267,793
LSR Volume	0	0	3,721
Riparian Reserve volume	91	170	4,563
Hardwood volume	1	2	30
Total District Volume	30,639	52,463	276,107
District FY Target Volume	57,075	97,000	312,553

- 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.

SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

The Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program in FY2000. 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 2000 on the Medford District.

Product	Number of Contracts	Quantity Sold	Value
Boughs-Coniferous	39	101,500 lbs	\$2,359
Burls & Miscellaneous	17	44,515 lbs	4,452
Christmas Trees	16	726 trees	3,297
Ornamentals	0	0	0
Edibles & Medicinals	4	2,900 lbs	130
Floral & Greenery	155	210,568 lbs	4,737
Mosses-Bryophytes	0	0 lbs	0
Mushrooms-Fungi	43	10,346 lbs	5,189
Seed & Seed Cones	2	40 bushels	50
Transplants	5	189 plants	92
Wood Products	742	546,766 cu. ft.	40,629
Total	1,023	—	\$60,935

Posts and poles, such as these used to rebuild a rail fence at the Jenny Creek Project, are some of the most popular products from public lands.



NOXIOUS WEEDS

Containment and/or reduction of noxious weed infestations on Medford District administered lands in five counties (Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, Curry) using an integrated pest management approach is critical if native and natural ecosystems are to survive. Currently, the Medford District is emphasizing control of 12 species of exotic plants (yellow starthistle; purple loosestrife; puncturevine; diffuse, meadow, and spotted knapweeds; rush skeletonweed; leafy spurge; tansy ragwort; Canada thistle; Scotch 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 method.

The following is a partial list of accomplishments completed in 2000:

- Slide show/discussion for Oregon Native Plant Society (20 participants)
- NW Youth Crew Scotch broom control
- Slide show/discussion for Ontario Weed Group (50 participants)
- Slide show/discussion for OSU in Corvallis (250 participants)
- Presentation at Glendale High School for Career Day (100 participants)
- Williams Watershed Council meeting and slideshow (est. 25 participants)
- Southwest Oregon Weed Symposium
- Yellow star thistle and loosestrife control contract by Oregon Stewardship (5 ac.)
- Illinois Valley Weed Control Contract (40 ac.)
- Weed Control Slide show to Josephine County Soil & Water District
- Implement blackberry control experiment with OSU / Burns Dist.
- Dyers woad control on Box O (200 ac.)
- Full page weed ad in Mail Tribune
- Talk to students (4 separate presentations) at North Middle School in Grants Pass
- Whitetop control (handpull) (.1 ac.)
- Release 2000 *Bangasternus orientalis* insects on yellow starthistle
- Yellow starthistle control on Rogue River with students from SOU (15 ac.)
- Jacksonville Scotch broom control (5 ac.)
- Scotch broom control (1.5 ac.)
- Dyer's woad control—5 ac. Skookum Cr, 150 ac. Box O (155 ac.)
- Noxious weed inventory conducted during vascular plant surveys (13,137 ac.)
- Release 500 *Larinus minutus* insects on Squarrose knapweed
- Release 1,000 *Eustenopus villosus* insects on Yellow starthistle
- Release 1,250 *Urophora cardui* insects on Canada thistle
- Spray Jolkers Quarry (Glyphosate) for yellow starthistle (5 ac.)
- Spray Flores Creek Quarry (Glyphosate) for yellow starthistle (3 ac.)
- Release 500 *Nanophyes ma.* insects on purple loosestrife (Bear Creek)
- Release 2000 *Galerucella ca.* insects at Whitehorse on purple loosestrife
- Release 2000 *Galerucella ca.* insects at Lost Creek Bridge on purple loosestrife
- Release 500 *Nanophyes ma.* insects on purple loosestrife at Prospect
- Spray Salt Creek Quarry (Glyphosate) for yellow starthistle and diffuse knapweed
- Spray Hungry Buck Willy Quarry (Glyphosate) for yellow starthistle

Spray Hobson Horn Quarry (Glyphosate) for Canada thistle and diffuse knapweed
Yellow starthistle control on Rogue River with SOU students (15 ac.)
Canada Thistle Herbicide Contract in Soda Mountain Monument (100 ac.)

WILDFIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

Wildfire and Fuels Management

Wildfire—In 2000, our Nation experienced one of the worst fire seasons in history. The Millennial Fire Season will long be remembered for the vast acreage burned and the huge cost of the fire suppression efforts. Fire suppression resources were fully committed throughout the Western States starting in spring, though the entire summer and into the fall.

The Medford District lands and most of Southwestern Oregon reached extreme fire conditions in early July. As the fire season progressed it became increasingly clear that while initial attack fire suppression resources remained fully staffed, resources for extended attack and large fire suppression would be severely limited due to the need for resources in states such as Montana and Idaho. In response to this shortage, the federal agencies authorized funding to increase fire suppression staffing levels.

These additional resources, called “Severity Task Forces,” were formed and positioned throughout Oregon. Starting in early August, Severity Task Forces were in place in Medford and Grants Pass. These included helicopters with water buckets, fire engines, dozers, and 20-person fire crews. Their mission was to back up and assist initial attack resources to prevent small new fire starts from growing into large, project fires.

The first test of this strategy occurred on August 8 with the Antioch Fire. This fire was held to just over 400 acres, 126 acres of which were BLM lands. This fire had the potential to grow to thousands of acres, but was stopped by the rapid commitment of all available forces of the federal agencies, Oregon Department of Forestry, and local city and rural fire departments.

The remainder of fire season saw numerous new fire starts, but all were held to small acreage. The lack of widespread dry lightning that struck many parts of the West was a major factor. The potential for devastating losses this year was equalized by efficient and effective initial attack by the Oregon Department of Forestry and other federal and local agencies.

Oregon Department of Forestry provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District BLM through a cost reimbursable contract. For the 2000 fire season the District experienced 49 wildfires which burned a total of 166 acres. Of that total, 33 wildfires were lightning caused and 16 human caused. The number of fires and acres burned this year were lower than our 10 year average.

In all cases the suppression actions were completed within the framework of the Medford District’s Resource Management Objectives.

Fuels Management—The District treated fuel on 8,707 acres in fiscal year 2000. Of that total the District used prescribed burning (underburning, broadcast burning, and pile burning) on 4,411 acres of federal land. The remaining 4,296 acres were either prepared for later burning through hand piling or excavator machine piling, or the material was chipped or crushed to reduce hazard and may be burned in the future.

The objective of the district hazardous fuels reduction program is to reduce through burning or mechanical treatment high levels of fuel available to contribute to large, severe wildfires. The Medford District conducts risk (probability of a fire) and hazard (severity if a fire starts) assessments as part of the land management planning process. These assessments help target fuels treatments in the highest risk and hazard areas and over time should reduce the chance of large catastrophic fire in the areas treated. In order to make these risk and hazard assessments easier and more accurate, the District is in the process of developing a southwest Oregon area-wide fuel model Geographic Information System data layer. This layer is being developed on an interagency basis with the USDA Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

The majority of the District's burning (71 percent) continues to be hand piles. Hand piling and burning is the best method for first entry treatment due to the tree density and understory vegetation in prescribed fire project areas. This vegetation density makes underburning difficult or impossible to accomplish without the potential for unacceptable resource damage. Underburning dense stands also increases the possibility of escape due to increased fuel loading and potential for high fire intensity.

The material generally greater than 3 inches in diameter is not included in the piling operation and will remain on site for nutrient recycling, erosion control, and wildlife habitat retention. The application and use of fire and fuels management was completed within the objectives established for each land allocation under the Medford District Resource Management Plan.

All prescribed burning on the Medford District is done in compliance with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Smoke Management Plan. There were no smoke intrusions due to BLM burning during 2000. No conformity determinations were made under the State Implementation Plan and Clean Air Act. There was no burning within the designated smoke sensitive areas identified by the Oregon Smoke Management Plan for the Ashland/Medford Air Quality Management Area and Grants Pass Designated Area.

The District is continuing the completion of a smoke and air quality monitoring network in Southwest Oregon with the cooperation of USDA Forest Service and Oregon DEQ. The Rogue River National Forest installed a site in Ruch and the Medford District will install a site in Shady Cove this winter.



Firefighter sets off material which has been handpiled the previous season as part of the Medford District's prescribed fire program.

ACCESS

Because public and private lands are intermingled within the district boundary, each party 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 logging road 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 / ROADS

The Western Oregon Transportation Management Plan was completed in 1996. One of the stated objectives of the plan is to comply with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. The Medford District's four resource areas are developing transportation management objectives as part of the watershed analysis 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 13 miles of road through timber sale projects. Another 48 miles of road were closed by gates or barricades.

ENERGY AND MINERALS

The Medford District has more than 150 active mining notices. Each year we inspect about half of all mining sites on the district. In 2000, 75 sites that were the most likely to have impacts on other resources were inspected. One site was placed in noncompliance status. In FY 2001 the District anticipates reviewing all mining claim occupancies to determine if those residential occupancies are reasonably incident to mining. Those occupancies that have been determined to be necessary to an active, ongoing mining operation may be allowed. Those that have been determined not related to active mining may be contested. At the present time there are approximately fifty residential occupancies on mining claims within the District.

The district continues to sell mineral materials to the public including clay, decorative rock, and quarry rock used for driveways and roads. Materials sales were made to business and private citizens in FY 2000.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS

The Pilot Rock Land Exchange was completed with Boise Cascade during FY 2000. The Bureau of Land Management acquired 282 acres and disposed of 280 acres. The acquired land was within the newly created Cascade Siskiyou National Monument.

Currently a parcel of about seven acres is being pursued for purchase outside of the town of Jacksonville.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

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

- Conducted facility inspections to ensure environmental compliance.
- Completed eight (8) environmental site assessments for easement acquisitions and land exchanges.
- Activated and administered the emergency response contract for three hazardous waste incidents.
- Coordinated environmental testing and removal actions at various sites for asbestos containing materials and lead containing paint.
- Recovered refrigerant and waste oils while disposing of 22 junk appliances from illegal dumping on public lands.
- Performed preliminary investigations and carried out appropriate actions on 18 reported hazmat incidents.
- Prepared and administered site characterization testing contract at Charles A. Sprague Seed Orchard.
- Responded to DEQ facility inspection findings and completed corrective actions.
- Promoted waste minimization plan by organizing office clean up day.

COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

The Medford District participates in the southwest Oregon Provincial Executive Committee (which includes the heads of federal agencies in southwest Oregon). The district continued an interagency effort on late-successional reserve assessments and worked with agencies on the endangered species act consultation process involving Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. Intergovernmental tribal coordination continues on the district with many planned projects. The Applegate Adaptive Management Area continues to be a strong focal point for the Bureau, the Forest Service, and local, private landowners.

The Medford District continued to meet with the Jackson County Forest Subcommittee and environmental groups on a regular basis. Interagency discussions continued on the Rogue Basin assessment with the Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Environmental Quality and local watershed councils.

RESEARCH AND EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING

The Medford District continues to implement the five-year research and monitoring plan that was started in 1998. Three areas of emphasis were identified:

- a) Young stands' biodiversity.
- b) Riparian reserves structure and function
- c) Habitats needs assessment for survey and manage species under the Northwest Forest Plan.

Some of the research topics that are underway include:

- a) The ecology of rare plants, *Cypripedium fasciculatum*
- b) Response of Small Mammals to Fuel Management in Southwest Oregon
- c) Influence of Thinning on In-stream Habitat and Fish Population
- d) Effect of Landscape Patterns on Fish Distribution
- e) Fire History in Forest Stands in Southwest Oregon

Furthermore, the Medford District has been cooperating with other federal agencies in southwest Oregon and northern California to prepare a regionwide assessment for Port Orford Cedar and the impact of the root rot disease. The report will be made available early in 2001.

CADASTRAL SURVEY

Fiscal year 2000 was a busy year for the Medford District cadastral survey organization. The section was made up of four permanent land surveyors, including a new lead land surveyor, and four term survey technicians.

Cadastral survey crews completed six projects and continued work on two large projects in fiscal year 2000. A total of 57 miles of line were surveyed, 18 miles of federal boundaries were posted, and 58 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. Two of the surveys were for work in the Applegate Adaptive Management Area, three were for timber or occupancy trespass cases, and three were for timber sales, vegetative management, or fuel hazard reduction projects.

Cadastral survey serves as the district lead for all levels of GPS work, both resource grade and survey grade. Cadastral survey also completed abstract and adjustment work on 8 townships for the Geographic Coordinate Database (GCDB), and collected resource grade GPS data on nearly 300 corners on the Medford District for coordinate control in support of the GCDB.

Cadastral survey crews also completed a field investigation and prepared a comprehensive investigative report, as well as draft special instructions, for a corrective dependent resurvey in the Glendale Resource Area which will begin next field season. The crews also conducted site surveys at two different locations and completed five road easement surveys.

The staff 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.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Medford District has two full time BLM rangers and, through a law enforcement agreement with the counties, the services of three deputy sheriffs from both Jackson and Josephine Counties. Law enforcement efforts on the Medford District for fiscal year 2000 included the following:

- Participating in operations at Medford District during active protests and other demonstrations having the potential for confrontation, destruction of government property, or threatened employee or public safety.
- Investigating occupancy trespass cases.
- Exchanging information concerning illegal or planned illegal activities on BLM lands.
- Regular patrols and other ongoing investigations.

Cases and incidents have resulted in written warnings, citations, physical arrests, and the referral of cases to other agencies.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

The Medford District rangeland program administers grazing for 70 livestock operators on 104 allotments. These grazing allotments include approximately 352,313 acres of the Medford District's 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 range conditions and riparian areas. To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Bureau conducts monitoring studies to help management 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 friends, neighbors, and 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 that lease renewal applications be filed four months prior to expiration of the existing lease. This time frame will allow 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 this year and summarizes changes which have occurred since the last update. Copies of this document are available by contacting our office. All future updates will be reported annually in this report, the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

Fiscal Year 2000 Accomplishments/Changes

Rangeland Health Assessments

Ashland Field Office—Rangeland Health Assessments were drafted for the Soda Mountain Allotment, 35,471 acres; Keene Creek Allotment, 10,240 acres; and the Jenny Creek Allotment, 1,316 acres. Due to language in the proclamation establishing the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, it was determined that the assessments would not be completed until we study the effects of grazing on the objects of ecological interest within the Monument.

Butte Falls Field Office—Completed the assessment of the Big Butte Allotment, 22,118 acres.

Allotment Monitoring—Collected utilization, trend, and riparian studies on six high-priority allotments.

Rangeland Improvements—September 23, 2000, was the thirteenth annual Jenny Creek Riparian Volunteer project. This year the project was cosponsored 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 public/private relationships dedicated to caring for our public lands. A total of 91 volunteers participated in this year's project.

Projects Completed

- Protective fences were constructed on Moon Prairie within the Deadwood Allotment around two aspen clones being browsed by elk.
- One spring was fenced for protection and another developed in Big Glads on the Conde Creek Allotment.
- A high tensile fence was constructed to improve fisheries habitat on Soda Creek on the Conde Creek Allotment.
- Approximately 200 bird boxes were maintained.
- Weeds were pulled and tree seedlings were mulched on the Box O Ranch.

Weeds—Approximately 100 acres of hand spraying for Canada thistle control was completed along roads in the Soda Mountain Allotment. Dyers wode, another noxious weed, was hand pulled and removed from the Box O Ranch and along Skookum creek.

Maps Improved—Allotment boundaries and rangeland improvements were loaded into the District Geographic Information System (GIS)

Allotment Changes—The Cascade Siskiyou National Monument was established by proclamation on June 9, 2000. A management plan is currently being written which could affect future grazing management on the Soda Mountain #10110, Keene Creek #10115, Jenny Creek #10108, Siskiyou #10118, and Agate #10109 allotments.

An environmental analysis was completed during the spring of 2000 and the Field Manager determined that grazing use should be cancelled on the Courtney Individual Allotment #10113.

Wild Horse and Burro Program—Medford District held a Satellite Wild Horse Adoption on April 1, 2000, at the Josephine County Fairgrounds. The adoption was coordinated with the Burns office and assistance provided by the Josephine County Sheriff's Posse and the Pacific Wild Horse Club of Eugene, Oregon. The adoption was well attended and included a training demonstration and oral auction. Twenty-eight wild horses and eleven burros were placed.

The wild horse and burro program completed four mandatory compliance checks, seven other field compliance checks and 24 telephone inquiries to ensure proper care of adopted animals. A promotional horse was displayed and adopted at the Jackson County Fair.



Each July, during the Jackson County Fair, the Medford District offers a wild horse for adoption with the adoption fee waived. The name of the lucky adoptor is drawn from a group of pre-approved adoptors. Each potential adoptor must go through a screening process to determine their ability to properly care for the horse in a suitable setting. After one year, title to the horse is turned over to the adoptor.



Susan Olson training her adopted mustang Oreo.

PLANNING AND NEPA DOCUMENTS

Plan Maintenance

The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) 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 2000. 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 2000

Existing Roads Within Key Watersheds. Guidance on how to define the baseline roads or the discretionary ability to close roads was not included in the RMP Management Action/Direction for Key Watersheds. Information Bulletin OR-2000-134 issued on March 13, 2000, clarified what roads shall be included in the 1994 BLM road inventory base used as a starting point to monitor the reduction of road mileage within key watersheds.

Change in Survey Schedule for Seven Survey and Manage Fungi. On April 4, 2000, the BLM State Director issued a decision in Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-49, to "...further delay the effective date by which surveying would be necessary for 7 'survey and manage' and protection buffer fungi species, until such time as either (1) the decision is made to eliminate or modify survey requirements for these species pursuant to a proposal now being analyzed in a supplemental environmental impact statement, or (2) the level of disturbance, as described in the October 1998 Environmental Analysis, is reached. This decision is needed because surveys for these 7 species continue to be infeasible."

Survey and Manage Species Management

The following survey protocol or management recommendations were transmitted via Instruction Memoranda or Informational Bulletins in FY 2000:

— Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-003 dated October 1999 transmitted management recommendations for 23 terrestrial mollusks.

- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-004 dated October 1999 transmitted survey protocol for five amphibians.
- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-015 dated November 1999 transmitted management recommendations for four terrestrial mollusks.
- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-017 dated December 1999 and June 2000 transmitted survey protocol and corrections for six bryophyte species.
- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-018 dated December 1999 transmitted survey protocol for seven fungi.
- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-037 dated February 2000 transmitted survey protocol for the red tree vole.
- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-042 dated March 2000 transmitted management recommendations for 29 lichens.
- Instruction Bulletin No. OR-2000-315 dated August 2000 transmitted revised survey protocol for the marbled murrelet.
- Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2000-086 dated September 2000 transmitted management recommendations for the red tree vole.

Survey and Manage EIS

The Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture signed the Record of Decision (ROD) on January 12, 2001, which finalizes changes to the survey and manage mitigation measures in the Northwest Forest Plan. These mitigation measures, in conjunction with other elements of the Northwest Forest Plan, provide direction for managing the approximately 400 rare species which are thought to be closely associated with late-successional forests. The ROD implements Alternative 1 of the Final SEIS, with modifications, and will provide approximately the same level of protection intended in the NWFP but will also eliminate inconsistent or redundant direction and establish a process for adding or removing species when new information becomes available. Survey and manage requirements apply to all forest management activities, such as timber harvesting, prescribed burning, trail construction, road construction or other activities that could disturb habitats of the species covered within the ROD.

Copies of the ROD and Final SEIS can be obtained by writing the Regional Ecosystem office at PO Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208, or they can be accessed at <http://www.or.blm.gov/nwfpnepa>

This Record of Decision effectively amends the Medford Resource Management Plan/ Record of Decision (April 1995) for Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines.

**MONITORING REPORT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2000**

MONITORING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

Introduction

This document represents the fifth monitoring report of the Medford District Resource Management Plan for which the Record of Decision was signed in April 1995. This monitoring report compiles the results of implementation monitoring of the fifth year of implementation of the Resource Management Plan. Included in this report are the projects that took place from October 1999 until September 2000. 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. 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 fifth 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 1999 to September 2000. A summary of the district monitoring follows.

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects for FY 2000					
Project Type	# Ashland R.A.	# Butte Falls R.A.	# Glendale R.A.	# Grants Pass R.A.	Total # District
Timber Sales	1	3	1	1	6
Silviculture Projects	0	6	2	6	14
Riparian Projects	0	0	1	1	2
Fish Habitat Projects	0	1	0	1	2
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	1	0	0	0	1
Road Restoration/Bridge Replacement	0	2	1	2	5
Other Projects	5	18	3	5	31

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects Selected for Monitoring FY 1999					
Project Type	# Ashland R.A.	# Butte Falls R.A.	# Glendale R.A.	# Grants Pass R.A.	Total # District
Timber Sales	1	2	1	1	5
Silviculture Projects	0	2	2	3	7
Riparian Projects	0	0	2	0	2
Fish Habitat Projects	0	1	0	0	1
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	0	0	0	0	0
Road Restoration	0	1	1	2	4
Other Projects	3	4	3	4	14

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

The monitoring team consisted of district core 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 62 projects from October 1999 through September 2000. 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	Riparian Projects
Silvicultural Projects	Fish Habitat work
Wildlife Habitat	Prescribed Burns
Road Restorations	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 1999 Implementation Monitoring Selection Categories			
Selection categories from Data Base	# Projects FY 00	# Projects Monitored FY 00	% Monitored
Ground Disturbing Activities	44	33	75%
Projects occurring in Riparian Reserves	22	5	23%
Structures within Riparian Reserves	8	8	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	4	2	50%
Projects in Municipal Watersheds	1	1	100%
Projects within or adjacent to Special Areas	2	2	100%
Projects which include or are adjacent to Special Habitats	17	4	23%
Projects in VRM II or III areas	2	1	50%
Projects in Wild & Scenic River Corridors	1	1	100%
Projects in Rural Interface	11	3	27%
Noxious Weed Project	0	0	N/A
Prescribed Burn Projects	2	1	50%
Projects which required dust abatement	5	1	20%

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. The district monitoring group reviewed the entire monitoring package and attended the necessary field trips.

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.

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 sales. In two instances, a review of the documentation of the projects showed that linkage from the watershed analysis to the environmental assessment or categorical exclusion could be improved. While it was there, it could be strengthened.

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 four 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 the projects in the following list and will be reviewed again when the project has been completed. Some projects may take up to three years to complete.

Bieber Wasson # 1	Sucker Ck. Restoration
Bieber Wasson # 2	Poor Angora's Folly T. S.
Indian Soda Project	Spring & Fall Brushing 2000 - 2001

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. MONITORING

Projects subjected to sampling:

Timber Sales

Indian Soda Project
Bieber Wasson # 1
Bieber Wasson # 3

Wayout Saddle Blowdown Timber Sale
Bieber Wasson # 2
Poor Angora's Folly

Silvicultural Projects

FY 2000 Tree Planting
Spring & Fall Maintenance Brushing
Young Stand Pruning FY 1999
Minuscule PCT
PCT, Brushing & Hardwood Cutting
Conifer Pruning
PCT/Release 2000- 01

Spring & Fall Brushing FY 2000 - 01
PCT & Hardwood Maintenance
Young Stand Pruning FY 2000
Gopher Trapping
Tiny PCT
Ginger Ck PTS Thin/Root Rot Disease
Pruning

Roads and Construction

Repair of Flood Related Road Damage
Elk Creek Watershed Roadside Brush
Roads Decommissioning and Barricading

GP Enterprises Road Use Permit
Fuels Hazard Reduction

Fish Habitat Improvement Projects

Fish Culvert Replacement Project

Aquatic Restoration

Other

Appleseed Maintenance Project
Wellington Butte Project
Mine Shaft Grate Installation
Leopold Mine Stabilization
Lewis Homesite Clean-up
Kerby Peak Trail Brushing
Blowdown Salvage
Fuels Research
Christmas Tree Cutting
Gold Nugget Rec Site Hazard Trees

Courtney Grazing Allotment
Protective Enclosure Construction
CSEEA - Noxious Weed Control
Sucker Creek Restoration
Installation of Cave Gates
Greyback Trail Construction
Jackass Ck Spring Exclosure and Crossing
Madrone Burls
Rancheria Christmas Trees
BLM Gate Installation

Longbrake Road Access & Bridge
North Obenchain Trespass
Seneca Jones Sugar Creek R/W Permit
West Fork Cow Creek Gate

Pacific Corp Power Line
SPRINT Telephone Line
Dad's Creek Watershed Restoration
Quines Run Hauling Permit

FY 2000 Sampled Project List (by category)

Timber Sales

Wayout Saddle Blowdown Timber Sale
Bieber Wasson # 1
Indian Soda Project

Bieber Wasson # 2
Poor Angora's Folly

Silvicultural Projects

FY 2000 Tree Planting
PCT & Hardwood Maintenance
Young Stand Pruning FY 2000
Gopher Trapping
Tiny PCT

Spring & Fall Brushing FY 2000 - 01
Young Stand Pruning FY 1999
Minuscule PCT
PCT, Brushing, Hardwood Cutting
Pruning

Roads and Construction

Fuel Hazard Reduction

Road Decommissioning & Barricading

Fish Habitat Improvement Projects

Fish Culvert Replacement Project

Other

Courtney Grazing Allotment
Mine Shaft Grate Installation
Sucker Creek Restoration
Installation of Cave Gates

Wellington Butte Project
Leopold Mine Stabilization
Lewis Homesite Clean-up
Kerby Peak Trail Brushing

Madrone Burls
Longbrake Road Access & Bridge
West Fork Cow Creek Gate

Gold Nugget Rec Site Hazard Trees
Dad's Creek Watershed Restoration
Quines Run Hauling Permit

APPENDIX B

Implementation Monitoring for FY 2000

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for FY 2000. The first list 2000 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, have been used for specific projects for monitoring. Completed forms for individual projects are available for review at the district office.

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

Medford District 2000 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

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 225)

1. Are surveys for the species listed in Appendix C conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur?
2. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the upland forest matrix?
3. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being protected?

Riparian Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 226)

- 7A. Are watershed analyses being completed before on-the-ground actions are initiated in Riparian Reserves?
- 7B. Were the concerns identified in the watershed analysis addressed in the project's environmental assessment?
- 8A. Is the width and integrity of the Riparian Reserves being maintained?
- 8B. Did the conditions that existed before management activities change in ways that are not in accordance with the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

10A. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines?

10B. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with RMP management direction?

10C. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

11A. Are new structures and improvements in Riparian Reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths?

11B. Do new structures and improvements reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream?

11C. Do new structures and improvements protect fish and wildlife populations?

11D. Do new structures and improvements accommodate the 100-year flood?

12A. Are all mining structures, support facilities, and roads located outside the riparian reserves?

12B. Are those located within the riparian reserves meeting the objectives of the aquatic conservation strategy?

12C. 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?

Matrix

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 230)

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?

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

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

Air Quality

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 231)

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

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

Soil and Water

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 232)

26. Are site-specific Best Management Practices identified as applicable during interdisciplinary review carried forward into project design and execution?

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

Wildlife Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 234)

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?

39. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

Fish Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 235)

45A. Is documentation regarding fish species and habitat and related recommendations and decisions in light of policy and SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction occurring?

45B. If mitigation was required, was mitigation incorporated in the authorization document?

45C. Was the mitigation carried out as planned?

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 236)

46A. Are special status species being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?

46B. During forest management and other actions that may disturb special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances?

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?

Special Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 238)

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

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

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

**Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values
(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 239)**

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

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

**Visual Resources
(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 240)**

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

**Wild and Scenic Rivers
(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 241)**

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

**Rural Interface Areas
(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 242)**

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?

**Noxious Weeds
(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 247)**

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

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 nonnative 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?

APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF ONGOING PLANS AND ANALYSES

Hellgate Segment, Wild and Scenic River Plan EIS

The Medford District is revising its river plan for the 27-mile Hellgate Recreation Area of the National Wild and Scenic Rogue River. The Hellgate Recreation Area begins at the confluence of the Applegate River and the Rogue River and proceeds downstream to Grave Creek. The public review period for the Hellgate Recreation Management Plan/Draft Environmental Statement is scheduled for spring 2001.

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 the appropriate orchard manager. Harvey Koester, 541-618-2200 (Medford District).

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 Plan/EIS will be out in summer 2001 for review by the public. Following the public review period, a decision will be made and the final plan will come out for the public.

Two other environmental impact statements are being developed on the Medford District, Kelsey/Whiskey Creek and the Upper Illinois Project plans. Kelsey/Whiskey Creek is in parts of the Glendale and the Grants Pass Resource Area. The Upper Illinois Project is in the Illinois Valley and is being completed as a joint project with the Siskiyou National Forest. The drafts of both are expected to be out for

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
DEQ	-	Department of Environmental Quality
EEA	-	Environmental Education Area
EIS	-	Environmental Impact Statement
FY	-	Fiscal Year
GCDB	-	Geographic Coordinates Data Base
GFMA	-	General Forest Management Area
GIS	-	Geographic Information System
GPS	-	Global Positioning System
LSF	-	Late-Successional Forest
LSR	-	Late-Successional Reserve
MBF	-	Thousand board feet
MMBF	-	Million board feet
MMCF	-	Million cubic feet
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
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
RA	-	Resource Area
REO	-	Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC	-	Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP	-	Resource Management Plan
RMP/ROD	-	The <i>Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision</i>
RNA	-	Research Natural Area

- ROD - Record of Decision
- SA - Special Attention Species
- SCEP - Student Career Education Program
- S&G - Standards and Guidelines
- SS - Special Status Species
- USDA - U.S. Department of Agriculture
- USFS - U.S. Forest Service
- WQMP - Water Quality Management Plan

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.

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.

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.

