



United States Department of the Interior

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

SEP 10 2003

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1792(117)
Wild Rose Fuel Hazard Reduction
GG6757(SM:bhk)

Dear Neighbor and Interested Citizen:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has begun planning an urban interface fuel reduction project on public land in T. 35 S., R. 5 W., Section 5 in the Grants Pass and Murphy watersheds.

We are sending you this letter because you live or own property near the project area, have a special interest in this area, or have requested to be informed about projects of this type. The enclosed map shows our initial planning area for the Wildrose Urban Interface Fuel Reduction project.

We are in an early project planning phase called "scoping." Scoping identifies site specific resource concerns, unique or sensitive features in the project area, and issues and concerns that should be considered during project planning. Examples of this kind of information that you may be able to provide include:

- important or popular recreation sites
- old mines or other hazardous conditions
- rare or unique plant sites
- areas used by rare or endangered animals
- springs relied upon as domestic water sources
- roads that need erosion control work
- sources for special forest products such as poles, mushrooms or medicinal herbs
- areas where the fire hazard is especially high
- opportunities to compliment fire hazard reduction efforts on adjacent lands

This project will focus on hazardous fuels reduction on BLM lands bordering rural residential private property. Activities may include prescribed burning, understory thinning, and brush removal using mechanical and manual methods. In all of our land management work we pay particular attention to stream and riparian protection.

This project is consistent with the Medford District Resource Management Plan and supports the National Fire Plan, which has identified hazardous fuels problems in many parts of the country including communities at risk from wildland fires. More information regarding the National Fire Plan can be found at www.fireplan.gov.

Early comments are especially helpful, although your ideas are welcome at any point in the planning process. When we have a specific project proposal and an environmental assessment has been prepared, there will be another formal opportunity for public review and comment. If at any time over the next few months you would like more information or would like to talk with us

about the project, please contact Tim Gonzales, project team leader, at 618-2470. Please send written comments to me at 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504 or you can email them to me at or110mb@or.blm.gov.

If you would like to comment confidentially, you may request that we withhold your name and/or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Please state this clearly at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All comments received from organizations or officials of organizations, businesses or government agencies will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

At times our planning and inventory work will be much more efficient if we are able to cross adjacent private land. We would appreciate your assistance with this. We will, of course, contact landowners for permission prior to crossing private property.

We appreciate your interest and involvement in the resource management activities of the BLM and the Grants Pass Resource Area.

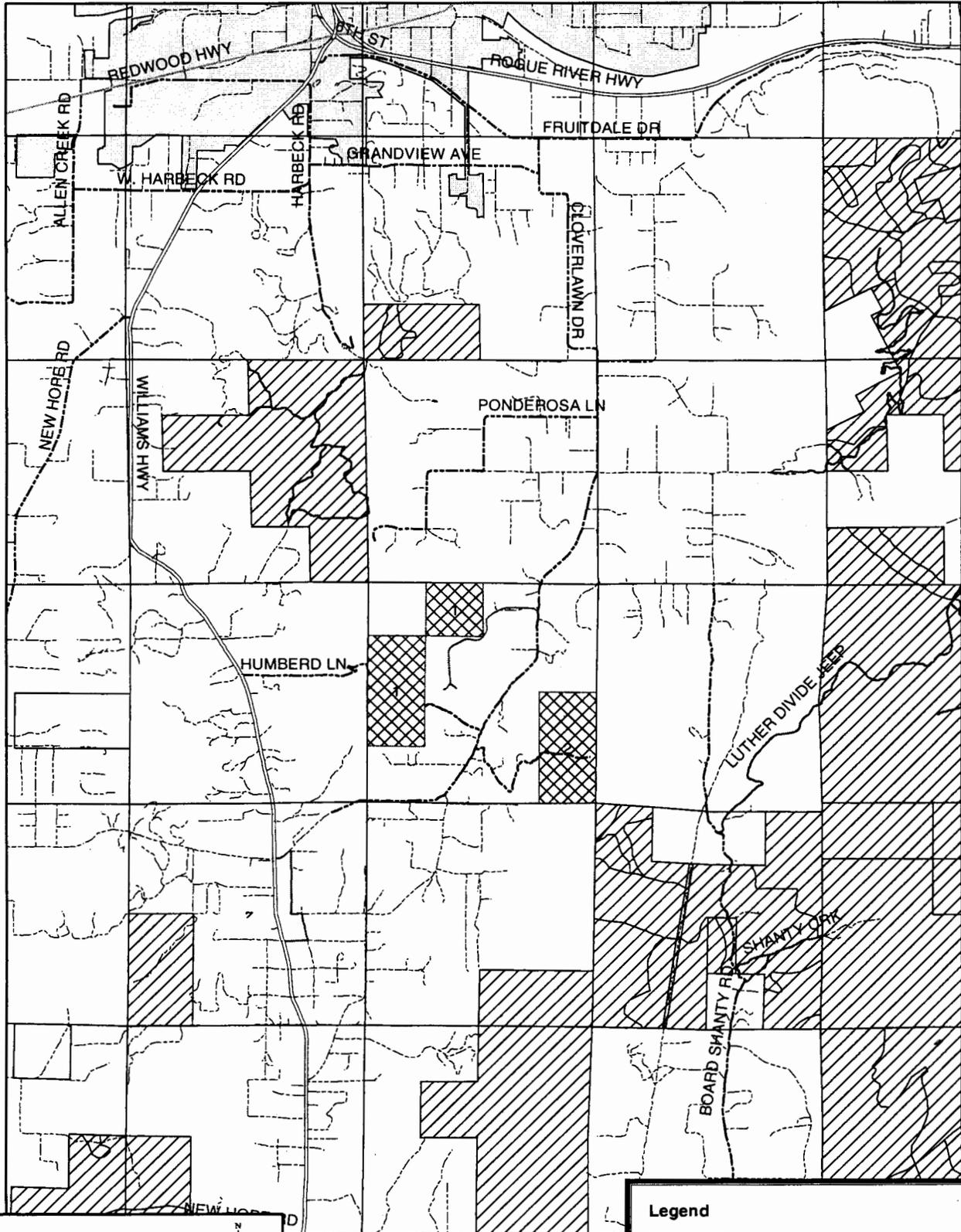
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abbie Jossie". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Abbie Jossie
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area

Enclosure (as stated)

Wild Rose Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Vicinity Map



T36S

T37S

R5W

1:40,000



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Legend

- Wild Rose Project Area
- BLM Administered Lands
- Grants Pass Urban Growth Boundary

June 2003