

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES
June 25, 2012 2:00 p.m.

Commissioners' Office

PRESENT: Commissioners Lewis and George; Commissioner Stern excused

STAFF: Laura Tschabold, County Administrator
 Chuck Vesper, Deputy County Administrator
 Rick Sanai, County Counsel
 Pat Anderson, HR Manager
 Ted Smietana, Community Corrections Manager
 Silas Halloran-Steiner, HHS Director
 Keith Urban, retiring Chemical Dependency Program Manager

GUESTS: Steve Small, former BLM Salem District Manager, Salem
 Kim Titus, BLM Salem District Manager

 Nathalie Hardy, News-Register
 Allen Springer

* indicates item forwarded to weekly agenda

* Personnel - Pat presented personnel action requests as requested by department heads. See agenda for details.

* Property & General Liability Binder - CIS / Marsh USA, Inc. - Annual insurance binder. Chuck stated that although worker's compensation insurance has increased by 18% total, the Marsh premium for 2012-13 has decreased to approximately \$30,000 less than 2011-12.

* Contracts - See agenda for contracts submitted for Board approval.

Request to name a road - Public works acquired a short roadway to connect 99W with Old Station Road. The affected property owner has requested the road be named "Squires Way". Board consensus was to agree to the request, pending agreement from the County's engineer and surveyor, at which time the request will be placed on an agenda.

Health & Human Services - Silas thanked Keith for his many years of service to the County and the clients of chemical dependency. Keith stated that having traveled to and evaluated other programs within the state, he is convinced that the County's attention to and sympathy for addicts is outstanding, and that the County has consistently stayed with its commitment to this important task.

Silas stated the Special Needs Task Force will meet on July 17th and each commissioner is invited. He stated that a Veterans Summit is planned for September 19 with the goal of bringing the community together with crisis partners and local agencies.

Community Corrections - Ted Smietana stated that financial cuts and layoffs of State staff have created uncertainty at the local county levels as well, and that as of next week, there will be no leadership in place at the State community corrections level. He stated that changes in staffing in his department have led to redirecting some responsibilities and to recalling Jennifer Gonzales who was initially laid off last spring due to lack of funding. Ted stated that the remodel of the office is complete and an open house is scheduled for July 9th at 1:00 p.m.

Bureau of Land Management - Steve Small and Kim Titus introduced themselves to the Board and discussed current BLM issues and concerns that affect or involve the County. Kim stated there are 32,000 acres of BLM land in Yamhill County, primarily involving forest management and timber restoration. She said that generally BLM manages foothill timber areas, while the forest service manages the higher locations. She stated that restoration projects are extremely active, and include working with the watershed management and soil & water conservation districts. She stated that a comprehensive inventory is currently underway in the Grand Ronde area, partnering with the Tribe.

Steve and Kim discussed the BLM's youth efforts which focus, among other things, on developing youth interest in science and math by having them work on BLM projects during the summer.

Kim stated that BLM is working on a comprehensive planning project anticipated to be completed by 2015 which will involve input from Yamhill and other counties. (See the attached "Fact Sheet".) She said the scope of this plan will be very important to the future of BLM's involvement and impact in western Oregon.

* Appropriation authority, supplemental budget, budget resolution for 2012-13. Laura stated she is working on finalizing all changes and will have the final budget amount at Thursday's formal session.

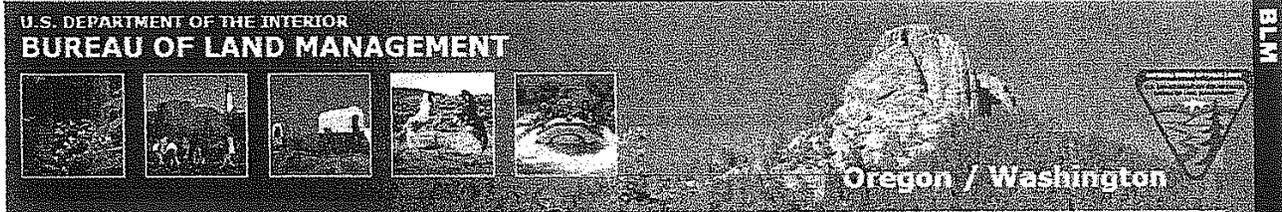
Adjourn: 3:15 p.m.

Carol Ann White
Secretary

Yamhill County Commissioners

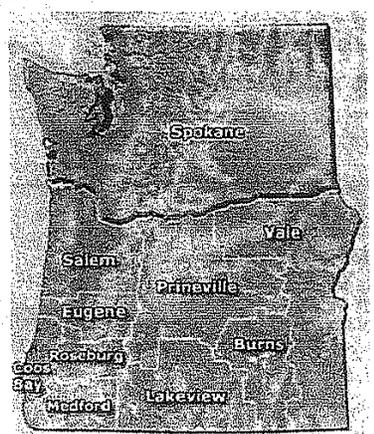
June 25, 2012

FACT SHEET

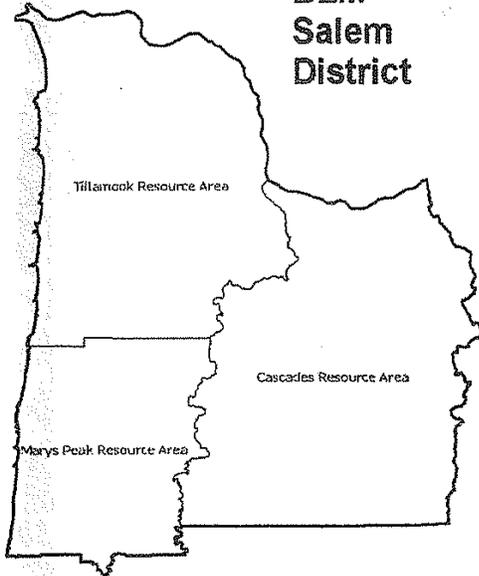


The BLM Mission Statement

To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

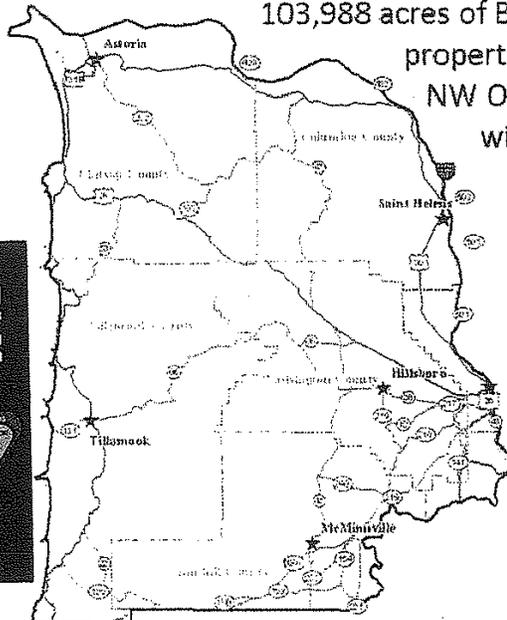


BLM Salem District



Tillamook Resource Area

103,988 acres of BLM managed properties in 6 of the 7 NW Oregon counties within the TRA boundary, and 29 miles of OHV trails



Kim M. Titus

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

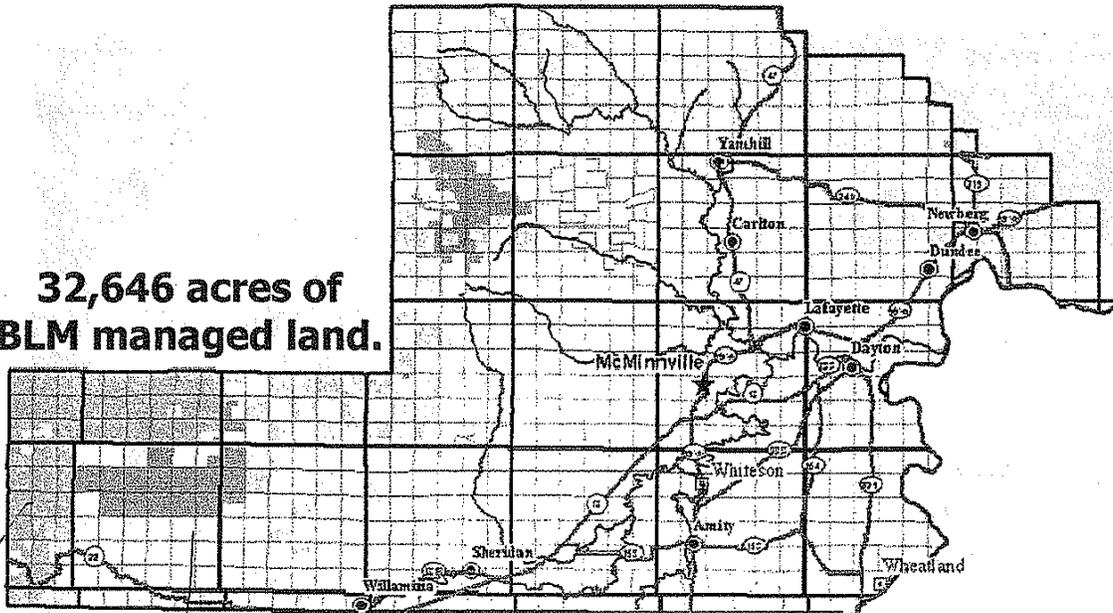


Yamhill County

BLM Managed Public Lands in Yellow



**32,646 acres of
BLM managed land.**



Tillamook Resource Area

Major Programs

- Forestry
- Recreation
- Restoration
- Youth Involvement

Forestry

BLM



Tillamook Resource Area

2011 3 Timber Sales sold 11,379 MBF 587 acres

2012 2 Timber Sales sold 4,327 MBF
Planned to Sell: 12,686 MBF

2013 2 Timber Sales
planned to auction 15,330 MBF 851 acres

2014 3 Timber Sales
planned to auction 16,050 MBF 778 acres

Yamhill County

2010 2 Timber Sales Sold 4,049 MBF - 232 acres
(both sold as SBA)

2011

2012 1 Timber Sales sold 3,276 MBF - 154 acres
(sold as SBA)

1 Timber Sales to be auctioned

8,181 MBF - 362 acres

2013 1 Timber Sale planned
to be auctioned 6,150 MBF - 364 acres

2014 2 Timber Sales planned
to be auctioned 10,000 MBF - 550 acres

*4/13/11
No more
comedy*

Recreation 2011:

OHV trail maintenance contract – Oregon State Parks & Recreation grant

Special recreation permits and CXs –

Categorical Exclusions

Willamette Motor Club – hill climb/race

Applegate Rough Riders – OHV

Mudslingers – Mountain Bike – Marys Peak

League of American Bicyclists – road bicycle – Marys Peak

Farm to Farm Century Ride – road bicycle – Marys Peak

Contract w/Yamhill County Sheriff for assistance w/patrol of OHV area.

Nestucca River Campgrounds

on the

National Back Country Byway

Alder Glen, Elk Bend,

Fan Creek &

Dovre Campgrounds



Restoration – Botany

National Landscape Stewardship Award on behalf of the National Public Lands Foundation

Recipient of Multiple Awards for the Tillamook Riparian Restoration Project

First Annual Director's Excellence Through Stewardship

Award presented by Bob Abbey and Mike Pool in Washing-

Applied 15 miles of Stream/Riparian Treatments,

Tillamook Native Plants Coop BPS #14443

Applied 443 acres of Weed Treatments



Restoration 2011 cont.

Fish

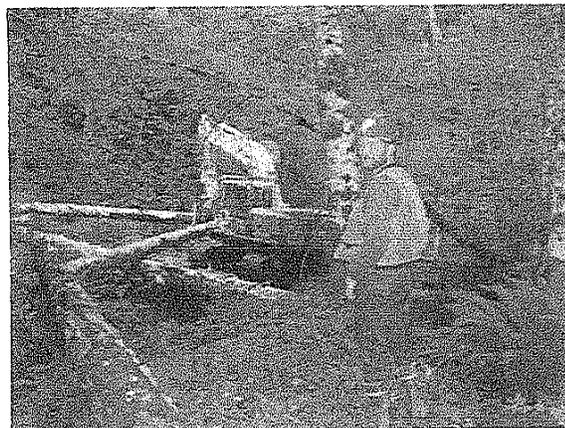
East Fork Nehalem River fish habitat restoration (1) in-stream habitat contract (cooperative with Upper Nehalem Watershed council and OWEB), (2) 8 new riparian exclosures and planted native stock with Columbia River Youth Corps, and (3) existing riparian exclosures.

Little North Fork Wilson River fish habitat restoration –riparian exclosures constructed with Nestucca-Tillamook Youth Crew (packing materials in 1 mile.)

Annual coho population monitoring conducted in the **Nestucca-Trask** and **East Fork Nehalem**. Trask results in Elkhorn and Cruiser Creek indicated a 300% to 700% increase in overwinter survival of coho juveniles due to habitat restoration work in previous years.

First phase of the **Upper Nestucca In-Stream Fish Habitat** contract completed. Logs over 100 ft. in length and logs with root wads were moved down the Bald Mountain and Nestucca Access segments of the Backcountry Byway.

Fan Creek Fish Passage Correction Contract awarded by Tillamook Estuaries Partnership (BLM, NFWF & OWEB funded.) Work is planned for summer 2012.



Youth Programs

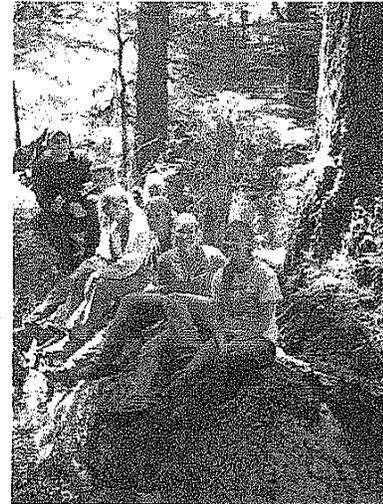
Outreach

SMILE program with Willamina School District.

Salmon Watch events with McMinnville School District.

Provided staff ecological support to Tillamook County Outdoor School Program.

Supporting Vernonia School District's establishment of a native plant propagation program, and developing a summer botany-focused youth program with the Tigard School District.



Summer Crews

5th year successful partnership with Nestucca Valley School District hosting a 12 student, 8-week summer program.

Projects with Columbia River Youth Corps from St. Helens School District.

- Forestry
- Recreation
- Restoration
- Youth Involvement

Youth Hires

STEP and seasonal employee development in Fisheries, in Timber/Engineering, in Silviculture, and in Timber and youth crew project management.

Steve Small

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BLM

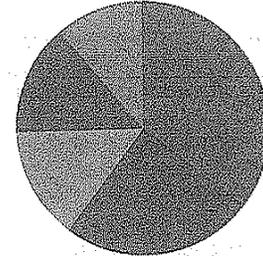
BLM

Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon Resource Fact Sheet

This fact sheet provides baseline information about some of the resources found on BLM-administered lands in western Oregon. Other resources BLM manages for include air quality, cultural resources, energy and minerals, noxious weeds, water and soils, wildlife and botanical resources, special status species, visual resources, land tenure, hazardous materials, special forests products, biomass, reforestation, rights of way, roads and fire/fuels. BLM seeks public input on this wide spectrum of resources.

BLM Administered Lands & Land Use Allocations

The 2.6 million acres of BLM administered lands in western Oregon are generally non-contiguous sections of land that resemble a checkerboard ownership pattern. These lands make up 11% of the total land base in western Oregon. These lands are managed in accordance with BLM's 1995 Resource Management Plans which incorporated the land use allocations and Standards and Guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan. The Forest Service, whose land base makes up 30% of the western Oregon planning area, also manages their lands in accordance with these land use allocations. Following is a description of the management allocations and the BLM administered acres found in each.



Late-Successional Reserves: 905,100 acres

These areas are intended to maintain a functional, interactive, late successional and old-growth forest ecosystem.

Matrix: 623,000 acres

The matrix is the federal land outside the other categories of designated areas. It is also the area in which most timber harvest and other silvicultural activities can be conducted. Lands in the Matrix contain all seral stages (tree ages).

Riparian Reserves: 362,900 acres

Administratively Withdrawn Areas: 362,300 acres

These areas include recreational and visual areas, back country and other areas not scheduled for timber harvest.

Adaptive Management Areas: 193,300 acres

These areas are designed to develop and test new management approaches to integrate and achieve ecological, economic, and other social and community objectives. A portion of timber harvest can come from these lands.

Congressionally Reserved Areas: 83,200 acres

Included in this category are Monuments, Wilderness Areas, and Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Threatened & Endangered Fish, Wildlife & Botanical Resources

Resource Management Plans address the habitat needs of fish and wildlife species and special attention is given to the habitats of Endangered Species Act threatened or endangered species. Following is a list of the threatened and endangered fish, wildlife and plant species found on BLM lands in western Oregon.

Threatened Species

Birds

Marbled Murrelet
Northern Spotted Owl
Western Snowy Plover

Fish

Lower Columbia River Chinook
Columbia River Chum
Lower Columbia Coho
Oregon Coast Coho
Bull Trout
Upper Willamette River Chinook
Lower Columbia River Steelhead

Plants

Golden paintbrush
Kincaid's lupine
Water howellia
Nelson's checker-mallow

Endangered Species

Fish

Shortnose Sucker
Lost River Sucker

Plants

McDonald's rockcress
Western lily
Gentner's fritillary
Large-flowered wooly meadow-foam
Bradshaw's desert parsley
Cook's desert parsley
Rough popcorn flower
Applegate's milk-vetch
Willamette Valley daisy



Threatened & Endangered Fish, Wildlife & Botanical Resources (continued)

There are approximately 483,000 acres of Fish and Wildlife Service revised critical habitat for the Marbled Murrelet on BLM-administered lands. There are approximately 1.3 million acres of Fish and Wildlife Service proposed revised critical habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl on BLM-administered lands. Although the 1995 Northwest Forest Plan anticipated that the Northern Spotted Owl would experience a decline for approximately 30 years, the observed rate of decline has prompted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to propose expanding their critical habitat area. Under the proposed critical habitat rule, BLM would manage its forests to maintain habitat through the promotion of forest resilience, the restoration of ecological processes, and promote development of forest structure associated with owl habitat.

Forest Health – Ecological Forestry

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar set in motion a plan to apply the principles of ecosystem restoration, as suggested by Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin, on BLM lands within the Roseburg, Medford and Coos Bay Districts. A pilot project was conducted on each of these Districts in 2011-2012 to explore these ecosystem restoration principles in moist and dry forests. Franklin and Johnson believe that an active management program is needed on federal lands in the Pacific Northwest to restore ecological values and contribute to sustainable local communities. They state that new policies are needed that focus on:

- Restoring functional and sustainable ecological conditions in federal forests;
- Conserving old-growth forests;
- Recovering federally listed species, such as the Northern Spotted Owl;
- Sustaining local communities; and
- Maintaining a highly skilled workforce and milling infrastructure needed for restoration activities.

Moist Forests

44% of western Oregon BLM-administered lands can be characterized as moist forests. These northern forests are found predominantly in the **Salem, Eugene and Coos Bay Districts**. These forests have a lower fire risk and the trees tend to grow faster than in the drier, southern forests. These forests have 418,000 or 38% of the Northern Spotted Owl habitat found on BLM-administered lands. These forests tend to be younger than those in BLM's southern districts. The trees found in these forests represent the following approximate ages: 236,000 acres that are 0-30 years old, 357,000 acres that are 40-70 years old, 111,000 acres that are 80-110 years old, 109,000 acres that are 120-150 years old, 26,000 acres of land that are 160-190 years old and 125,000 acres that are 200+ years old.

Dry Forests

56% of western Oregon BLM-administered lands can be characterized as dry forests. These southern forests are found predominantly in the **Roseburg and Medford Districts and the Klamath Falls Resource Area** (there are areas within southwestern Oregon that exhibit both dry and moist forest characteristics). These forests have a higher fire risk than moist forests and the trees generally grow slower and are smaller in diameter than those found in the moist forests. The forests tend to be older and have higher amounts of Northern Spotted Owl habitat than the northern, moist forests. These forests have 682,000 acres or 62% of the Northern Spotted Owl habitat found on BLM-administered lands. These southern, drier forests have approximately 212,000 acres that are 0-30 years old, 211,000 acres that are 40-70 years old, 213,000 acres that are 80-110 years old, 239,000 acres that are 160-190 years old and 226,000 acres that are 200+ years old.

Timber Harvest & Revenue

In fiscal year 2011, 209 million board feet of timber was harvested from BLM lands in western Oregon. One board foot is a piece of lumber that is 1 foot wide, 1 foot long and 1 inch thick. In fiscal year 2011, revenues from forest treatments in western Oregon were \$18.1 million from O&C Grant Lands and \$6,000 from Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant Lands.

Recreation & Special Areas

BLM-administered lands in Western Oregon offer a myriad of recreational opportunities and in Fiscal Year 2011, there were approximately 5.5 million recreational visits. There are approximately 36 developed campgrounds and picnic areas, and 6 backcountry byways. Recreational activities include hiking, biking, nature viewing, off-highway vehicle use, whitewater rafting, camping, fishing, hunting, hand-gliding and boating.

BLM-administered lands in western Oregon are also home to some very unique and special areas. There are three Wilderness Areas, one National Monument and approximately 87 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers. There are 92 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, of which 34 are Research Natural Area status and nine are Outstanding Natural Area status. The Pacific Crest Trail, a National Scenic and Historic Trail; the Applegate Trail, a National Historic Trail; and the Rogue River Trail, a National Scenic Trail all cross BLM lands in western Oregon.



Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon Questions and Answers

Questions and Answers

Why is the BLM planning now?

The economic stresses occurring in western Oregon communities is concerning to the Congressional delegation, the Governor and the federal government. The BLM would like to be part of the solution. There is a need to address the forest health, endangered species recovery and socio-economic needs facing western Oregon. The BLM would like to work with the public to identify areas where there is agreement on natural resource management approaches and work on potential solutions for those areas where there is disagreement.

What's going to happen during the scoping process?

The BLM would like to brainstorm with the public about the direction the new plans should take, the issues that the plans should address and the geographic scope that is most appropriate for these plans. The BLM is interested in a diversity of viewpoints and welcomes suggestions for new and innovative approaches to managing western Oregon forests.

During the scoping period, the BLM will be hosting public meeting on each district in western Oregon. The dates and locations of these meetings can be found at www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon. Scoping comments may be submitted to the BLM until July 5, 2012. Comments may be submitted via the following methods:

website: www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon

email: BLM_OR_RMPs_WesternOregon@blm.gov

fax: 503-808-6333

mail: P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

What's on the table? What's being considered?

The BLM is open to a wide variety of ideas and suggestions for new and innovative approaches to managing western Oregon forests. During this public scoping period, the BLM wants to brainstorm with the public the role BLM lands should play in the region and possible solutions for the management challenges facing these lands.

Some questions BLM would like to explore with the public include:

- What would a successful plan look like to you?
- What kind of management should BLM do more/less of?
- What is the appropriate geographic scale and scope of the plan?
- What new or innovative ideas should BLM consider in this planning process?
- What is the appropriate mix of old, mid-aged, and young forests on BLM lands and how should these forests be managed?
- How should BLM provide habitat for fish and wildlife and contribute to the recovery Endangered Species Act listed species?
- How should BLM manage forests to protect property and ensure our forests are fire resilient?
- How should BLM-administered lands be managed to contribute to clean water and safe drinking water?
- How should BLM manage for recreation in western Oregon?
- How can BLM lands contribute to local economies and support local communities?

What plan(s) is the BLM revising? The 1995 Northwest Forest Plan-based RMPs, or the 2008 Western Oregon Plan Revisions?

The six western Oregon BLM districts completed RMPs in 1995 that incorporated the land use allocations and Standards and Guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan. In 2008, the BLM completed RMP revisions for the six western Oregon districts. Pending litigation seeks vacatur of the 2008 RMPs. The BLM intends to revise its RMPs notwithstanding the pending litigation. Currently, due to pending litigation, BLM actions are conforming to both the 1995 and 2008 RMPs.

Are the pilot projects going to be part of the new planning effort?

The BLM Oregon has recently developed Pilot Projects intended to fulfill the Secretary of the Interior's direction to apply ecological forestry principles developed by Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin, on BLM-administered lands within the Roseburg, Medford, and Coos Bay Districts. The pilots are ongoing and the BLM is learning a great deal from these efforts. The pilot experience will help inform the plan revisions and allow for the study of ecological forestry principles across a broader landscape.

What will this new planning effort mean for fish and wildlife?

The planning area has populations of several key threatened and endangered species including the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and several anadromous salmon.

The range of alternatives analyzed would be designed, in part, to explore alternative approaches to contributing to the recovery of Endangered Species Act-listed species. The BLM is interested in the public's ideas on how BLM can best contribute to the recovery of listed species.

How will this planning effort address the socio-economic needs of western Oregon communities?

Recognizing the unique tie between the O&C Act and BLM lands and county funding, the BLM wants to work with the public to identify ways BLM administered lands can contribute to the social and economic stability of local communities. The range of alternatives analyzed would be designed, in part, to explore alternative approaches to contributing to the economic stability of local communities.

What's BLM's take on the proposals to transfer most of BLM's O&C lands to the Forest Service?

We are aware of the bipartisan discussion draft of the "O&C Trust, Conservation, and Jobs Act". However, the BLM has not formulated a position on this discussion draft.

Preparation of a formal BLM/Administration position would require an in-depth analysis of the legislation and vetting of a position through the BLM senior management, the Department, and the Office of Management and Budget. Although we cannot provide a position on the discussion draft at this time, we do wish to note the BLM worked closely with U.S. Congressman DeFazio's office to provide mapping services and detailed geographic information used to delineate the proposed transfer and splitting of BLM administered lands into production and conservation lands.

B.O. 12-434