



SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT UPDATE

Printed quarterly by the Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor's Office
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SPRING 2002

Five Rivers Landscape Project Record of Decision Complete

The Siuslaw National Forest has decided to implement all of the terrestrial and aquatic restoration actions described under Alternative 1 of the Five Rivers Landscape Management Project Final Environmental Impact Statement **not associated with the commercial thinning**. These activities include the repair of existing road failures sites and the stabilization of the road sections behind them to reduce sediment potential, pre-commercial thinning of managed stands 5 to 15 years old to improve stand diversity and complexity, closing and decommissioning roads to restore natural hydrologic functions and reduce landslide risks, placing large conifers in streams to improve the diversity and complexity of the aquatic habitat, planting riparian areas to provide shade to reduce water temperatures, and the establishment of a management study to compare management strategies to determine which strategy is most effective in developing late-successional forest conditions.

The Forest Supervisor has also decided to defer the decision to implement the commercial thinning, and associated projects, portion of Alternative 1. The decision on the remaining portion of alternative 1 is pending resolution of a lawsuit against the National Marine Fisheries Service.

For more information or to view a copy of this Record of Decision visit our web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw> or by contact the Five Rivers Project Team Leader, Paul Thomas at (541) 563-3211.

Title II Projects, The "PAYCO" Program

On October 30, 2000, Congress signed into law Public Law 106-393. This law is called the "Secure Rural School and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000" (*commonly known as Payments to Counties or PAYCO*). For each year 2001-2006, the law allows counties to receive a payment from the Federal government based on the average of their top three years (1986-1999) of payments from Federal lands. The law states that counties will receive 80-85% of their lump sum payment for schools and roads (Title I Projects). The rest of the funds (15-20% of lump sum payment) will be used for what the law calls "Title II or Title III projects." Title II projects can occur both on or off federally managed lands, but in some way they must benefit resources on Federal lands and Title III projects are county specific projects. For this year the Siuslaw will be implementing 22 Title II projects in five different counties. Projects include fish habitat projects, road maintenance projects, watershed restoration projects, and hazardous fuels reduction projects to name just a few. For more information on the Title II PAYCO program or the various projects being implemented please contact Linda Stanley at (541) 750-7210, or visit the Siuslaw web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw>. For more information on the Title III projects please contact your local County Commissioners.

Address, phone, and fax numbers for the districts are as follows:

Hebo Ranger District - Ph. (503) 392-3161 Fax: (503) 392-4203
31525 Highway 22, Hebo, OR 97122 Web Page: www.oregoncoast.com/hebord

South Zone

Waldport Ranger District - Ph. (541) 563-3211 Fax (541) 563-3124
P.O. Box 400, Waldport, OR 97394

Mapleton Range District - Ph. (541) 902-8526 Fax (541) 902-6946
4480 Highway 101 N, Bldg G, Florence, OR 97439

Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area - Ph. (541) 271-3611 Fax (541) 271-6019
855 Highway 101, Reedsport, OR 97467

FISH & WILDLIFE

Karnowsky Creek Restoration

South Zone, Mapleton Ranger District

T18S, R11W, S22, 23

This is a partnership with Siuslaw SWCD, Siuslaw Watershed Council, OWEB, and National Forest Foundation. Final design, contract preparation, and implementation of an integrated valley bottom restoration project.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Summer 2002

Implementation: Summer 2002

Contact: Johan Hogervorst, 541-902-6956

Lagoon Restoration

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

T19S, R12W, S33

Develop invasive weed control plan for lagoon and nearby lakes and ponds.

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: Not yet determined

Implementation: Not yet determined

Contact: Mike Northrop, 541-902-6960

South Jetty Noxious Weed Control

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

South Jetty Area of NRA

Develop noxious weed treatment plan including all options.

Scoping Ongoing

Decision: Summer 2002

Implementation: Summer 2002

Contact: Dan Segotta, 541-902-6980



Moon Creek Restoration

Hebo Ranger District

T3S, R8W, S29

Install about 10 wood structures to improve stream function.

Scoping Summer 2002

Decision: Fall 2002

Implementation: Summer 2003

Contact: Mike Northring, 503-392-3161

Miscellaneous Small Projects

Siuslaw National Forest

Forest-wide

A five-year program of small projects including meadow maintenance, noxious weed control, riparian tree planting and fire hazard reduction in urban interface areas.

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: Summer 2002

Contact: Dan Segotta, 541-902-6980

FORESTRY

Spinreel Salvage

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

T23S, R13W, Section 23

Remove blown down and weakened trees that pose a safety hazard along public roads or utilities from approximately 6 acres. Approximately 1,100 feet of old roads will be temporarily reopened in addition to approximately 600 feet of equipment access spur. All roads and equipment access routes will be blocked after use. Spinreel Road will be closed to traffic for 2-4 days.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: Late Spring/Summer 2002

Contact: Donald Large, 541-902-6971

FORESTRY

Sparrow Blowdown Salvage and Non-Significant Amendment to the Oregon Dunes NRA Management Plan

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

T21S, R13W, Sections 17 and 18

Commercially harvest approximately 45 acres of blown down timber resulting from the February 7, 2002 storm from existing roads. The area would be reforested after harvest and burning of slash. Project would also include a nonsignificant amendment to the Oregon Dunes NRA Management Plan to define suitable management options to deal with catastrophic events such as windstorms and fires.

Scoping: Spring 2002

Decision: Summer 2002

Implementation: Fall/Winter 2002

Contact: Donald Large, 541-902-6971

Precommercial Thinning

Hebo Ranger District

District-wide

Maintain growth and vigor by precommercial thinning of 10 to 20 year-old plantations.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: 2002-2003

Contact: John Johansen, 503-392-3161



LAND EXCHANGE

Lamm Small Tracts Act

South Zone, Mapleton Ranger District

T17S; R10W; Sec 23

Involves well house on USFS land.

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: 2002

Implementation: 2002

Contact: Mike Schwartz, 541-750-7175

ROADS

Road 4800 Road Repair

South Zone, Mapleton Ranger District

T19S, R10W, Section 9

Repair of road 4800 by relocating existing road at three sites, rebuilding one fill, adding and replacing ditch relief culverts, and adding riprap at selected culvert outlets. Aggregate and asphalt will be added at all disturbed sites and as a leveling course at two other sites.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Completed

Implementation: Summer 2002

Contact: Wid Thompson, 541-563-3211

Blaine Road Reconstruction

Hebo Ranger District

T3S, R8W, Sec 29,31,32,33

T4S, R8W, Sec 3

Reconstruction and stabilization of County road by Federal Highways (FH). FH has completed environmental analysis work.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Fall, 2002

Implementation: 2003

Contact: Dave Braley, 541-902-6942

ROADS

Forest Road 17—Easement

Hebo Ranger District

T7S, R10W, Sections 10 and 11

Grant an easement to Lincoln County of about .2 mile of Forest Road 17 between two private land parcels.

Scoping: Summer 2002

Decision: Fall 2002

Implementation: Fall 2002

Contact: Brent Erskine, 503-392-3161

Moon Creek Road Decommissioning

Hebo Ranger District

T3S, R8W, Sections 19-23, 27-33

T3S, R9W, Sections 12, 13, 22-24

Analyze Forest Roads and identify roads that need to be waterbarred and closed due to maintenance concerns or unacceptable levels of risks to fish habitat.

Scoping: Summer 2002

Decision: Fall 2002

Implementation: Summer 2003

Contact: Wayne Patterson, 503-392-3161

Flood Damage Road Repairs

Forest-wide

Winter storms in February 1996 through winter 2000 damaged roads on the Siuslaw National Forest. Work includes culvert replacement, slope stabilization, debris removal, and geotechnically constructed fills.

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: Ongoing

Implementation: Ongoing

Contact: Marci Truhn, 541-465-6696

RECREATION

Sand Lake Forest Lab

Hebo Ranger District

T13S, R10W, S17

Develop an environmental education trail on an isolated 11-acre National Forest parcel. Intent is to provide a short fully-accessible trail for all ages of students.

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: Undetermined

Implementation: Undetermined

Contact: Carol Johnson, 503-392-3161

Drift Creek Loop Trail

Hebo Ranger District

T7S, R9W

The district is considering the development of a loop for the Drift Creek trail

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: Summer 2002

Contact: Brent Erskine, 503-392-3161

South Jetty/Horsfall Entrance Stations

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

South Jetty and Horsfall roads.

Construct entrance stations. Includes construction of septic systems for a toilet in each building.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: Undetermined

Contact: Tom Johnson, 541-272-6070

Devil's Churn Phase II

South Zone, Cape Perpetua Scenic Area

T15S, R12W, S3

Construction of concession and information station, and new restrooms. Includes accessible trail from upper to lower parking lots

Scoping Completed

Decision: Summer 2002

Implementation: Fall 2002/Winter 2003

Contact: Wayne Gale, 541-271-6080

RECREATION

Outfitter Guide Permit Re-issuance

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

Various locations on NRA
Reissue six outfitter/guide permits for motorized tours of the Oregon Dunes NRA.

Scoping: Complete

Decision: Summer 2002

Implementation: Winter/Spring 2002

Contact: Gina Owens, 541-602-6377

Whispering Spruce Trail Reconstruction

South Zone, Cape Perpetua Scenic Area

T15S, R12W, S3

Reconstruct trail for accessibility to the West Shelter

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Summer 2002

Implementation: Fiscal year 2004

Contact: Margie Pace, 541-271-6072



SPECIAL USE PERMITS

Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area Sand Dune Aquifer Investigation Project

South Zone, Oregon Dunes NRA

T24S, R13W, Sections 9, 10, 15, and 16

Project proposes to conduct seismic surveys in five locations to map the geophysical profile to identify any potential barriers for water production. Test wells will be installed to assess flow.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: Summer 2002

Contact: Shannon Souza, 541-266-0877

Powerline—Tillamook People's Utility District

Hebo Ranger District

T4S, R10W, Section 13

T4S, R9W, Sections 8,9,10,15,17 and 18

Bury 5.3 miles of powerline cable in Forest Road 14 Right-Of-Way (ROW) to Mt. Hebo Electronic Site and remove 3.2 miles of existing overhead line.

Scoping: Summer 2002

Decision: Fall 2002

Implementation: Fall 2002

Contact: Nancy Craft, 503-392-3161

Miscellaneous Special Use permits

Forest-wide

Water systems, road, transmission lines, road easements, minerals, commercial haul, tailholds, concessions and recreation events

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: Ongoing

Implementation: Linda Montanez, 541-563-3211, or Nancy Craft, 503-392-3161

MULTI-PROJECTS

Gauldy Project Thin

Hebo Ranger District

T4,5S, R9,10W

Develop late-successional stand characteristics by commercially thinning 1,000 acres in stands 35 to 70 years of age within LSR and AMA lands, add stream structure, and decommission, stabilize, or close specific roads.

Scoping: Spring 2002

Decision: Fall 2002

Implementation: Fall 2003

Contact: Brent Erskine, 503-392-3161

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MULTI-PROJECTS

Lower Siuslaw Landscape Management Project

South Zone, Mapleton Ranger District

T17S, R9-11W, T18S, R9-11W, T19S, R9-11W

Lower Siuslaw Watershed

Plantation Thinning - 3700 acres of commercial thinning and 3900 acres of precommercial thinning. Thinning includes opening and re-closing 1 mile of classified roads and 19 miles of unclassified roads, and construction of 1 mile of new temporary road.

Road Management - Close 63 miles of road and decommission 17 miles. Road 2127 would be maintained for high clearance vehicles as an alternate route when county road 5110 (Thompson Creek Road) fails at a future date. Where road closures affect access to private land, private access will be maintained.

Stream Enhancement - Place about 725 trees and root wads along 23.5 miles of streams to add complexity to streams and increase spawning habitat, restore 2 miles of Karnoowsky Creek by reconnecting the stream to its historic channel and floodplain. Plant about 800 acres of streamside meadows and alder stands with conifers and hardwoods

Scoping: Completed

Decision: Spring 2002

Implementation: 2002

Contact: Bruce Buckley, 541-563-3211



Five Rivers Landscape Management Project EIS

South Zone, Waldport Ranger District

T15S, R10-11W

Thin and harvest about 3230 acres of 25-35 year-old managed stands, decommission about 49 miles of road, stabilize and close 77 miles of road, build and maintain a road to access private property, create and maintain 40 acres of meadows, add structures to 18 miles of stream, precommercially thin about 2366 acres, plant trees, create snags and down wood, and treat noxious weeds.

Scoping: Completed

Decision: 04/10/02

Implementation; Begin 2002

Contact: Paul Thomas or Bruce Buckley, 541-563-3211

Yachats Landscape Management Project

South Zone, Waldport Ranger District

T14S, R10, 11, 12W; T15S, R 10, 11, 12W

Yachats Watershed

Plantation Thinning: Commercial and precommercial thinning to maintain stand health and growth and enhance diversity. Thinning includes opening and re-closing classified and unclassified roads and building new temporary roads that will be waterbarred and closed after use.

Road Management: Close and decommission some roads. Where road closures affect access to private land, private access will be maintained.

Stream Enhancement: Place trees and root wads in some streams to increase stream complexity and spawning habitat. Plant conifer trees in some riparian areas.

Scoping: Ongoing

Decision: 2002

Implementation: 2004

Contact: Bruce Buckley, 541-563-3211

WATERSHED ANALYSIS

Twenty-two watershed analyses have been completed (about 90% of the Forest) including Nestucca Complex, North Fork of Siuslaw, Cummins/Tenmile (coastal stream watersheds between Cape Perpetua and Heceta Head), Yaquina/Big Elk, Mercer/Berry, Oregon Dunes NRA, Indian/Deadwood, Drift Creek-Siletz, Lobster/Five Rivers, Drift Creek (Alsea), Smith River, Yachats, Little Nestucca, Lower Siuslaw, Lower Umpqua, Sand Lake, Salmon Neskowin, Coastal Lakes, Beaver Creek, Lake Creek, and Lower Alsea. The analyses provide a better understanding of the aquatic and terrestrial environments within the watershed and reveal some management implications for meeting objectives of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The following watershed analysis is being completed or conducted.

Lower Siletz Watershed Analysis

Hebo Ranger District

Modify existing analysis done by the Mid-Coast Watershed Council to highlight road, stream, riparian, and vegetative conditions on National Forest lands.

Status: Start 01/2002

Contact: Wayne Patterson, 503-392-3161



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

SIUSSLAW NATIONAL FOREST
P.O. BOX 1148
CORVALLIS, OR 97339



SIUSSLAW NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT UPDATE

This is the quarterly edition of Project Update notifying you of Siuslaw National Forest proposed actions for which there is an opportunity for your involvement. The list contains proposed actions and actions for which the analysis process is already underway. This update is provided to give you an overview of proposed actions on the Siuslaw National Forest in the event you would like to comment. Detailed descriptions of proposed actions can be obtained by notifying the “contact person” associated with the given project. In some cases, mailing lists have already been established for an action or category of actions. If you are already on a mailing list, you will be notified of scoping periods for those proposed actions. If you would like to be on a mailing list, notify the contact person by mail or phone.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for proposed projects and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who only submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Part 215. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets.

Proposed actions are grouped by category (Recreation, Special Use permits, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife, Land Exchanges, Watershed Analyses, Roads, Plan Amendments and Multi-Projects), and within each category in alphabetical order by Ranger District. The information provided for each action includes name, Ranger District, legal description of location, a brief description of the proposed action, and three dates: scoping, decision, and implementation. These projected or actual dates will be updated in subsequent quarterly reports.