

Mt Hood Nat'l Forest BMP Monitoring -- FY2016

Executive Summary

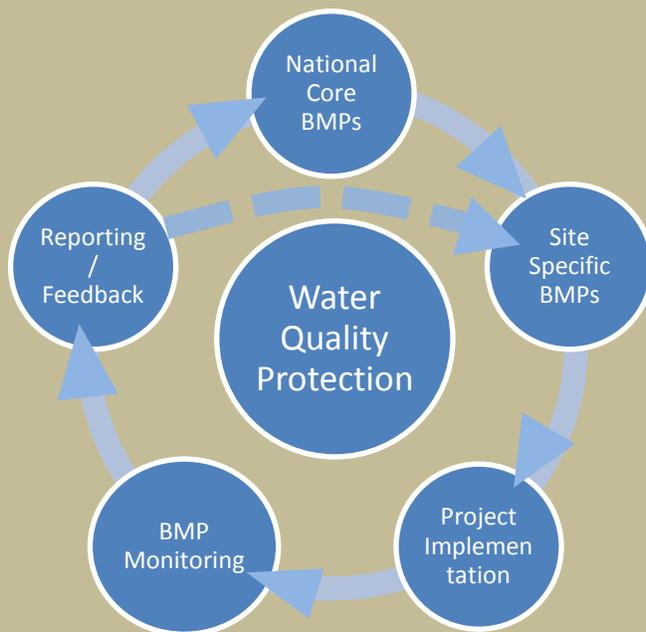
Introduction

In the summer of 2016, the Mt. Hood National Forest (MHNH) monitored Best Management Practices (BMPs) on eight forest projects as part of the Forest Service's National BMP Program (USDA 2012). This annual monitoring effort was conducted to evaluate the *implementation* and *effectiveness* of BMPs applied to select activities or randomly chosen sites. Summarized here are the results of the 2016 monitoring effort on the MHNH.

Monitoring Approach

Monitoring described in this report was conducted using protocols developed under the USFS National BMP Program.

Specific projects were selected for monitoring in 2016 based on targets set by the Regional Office, and to support a National training course.



2016 Monitoring

MHNH projects monitored in 2016:

- (2) Vegetation Management
- (1) Road Decommissioning
- (3) Recreation
- (1) Facilities
- (1) Water Uses

Projects were located in seven different subwatersheds across the MHNH's four Ranger Districts.

2016 Results

1) Implementation Ratings:

- 63% (5 of 8) Fully Implemented
- 25% (2 of 8) Mostly
- 12% (1 of 8) Marginal

2) Effectiveness Ratings:

- 75% (6 of 8) Effective
- 12% (1 of 8) Mostly
- 12% (1 of 8) Not Effective

3) Composite Rating:

- 75% (6 of 8) Excellent
- 12% (1 of 8) Fair
- 12% (1 of 8) Poor

4) Trend Analysis:

	Fully Implemented	Fully Effective
2013	89%	87%
2014	86%	86%
2015	72%	57%
2016	63%	75%

5) Principle Causal Factor for a Fair or Poor Composite Rating

- a) Poor Rating Rec A – Developed Recreation Sites: Trails improvement and relocation project at Timothy Lake's Pine Point Campground (funded and implemented by PGE) did not successfully prevent users from creating their own trails along the lakeshore.
- b) Fair Rating Rec G – Active Construction or Operation and Maintenance of Watercraft Launches: Routine maintenance of the facility was somewhat irregular due to funding limitations and competing priorities. Users had created a fire pit down near the water's edge and were using the site for more than watercraft launching and day-use only.

6a) Corrective Action and Adaptive Management Recommendations – Rec A:

- PGE is responsible for the maintenance and improvements of the recreation facilities around Timothy Lake, and have an Annual Operating Plan that guide activities to do so. At the Pine Point facility, obliterate unauthorized, user-created trails and restore excessive shoreline trampling. Reinforce eroded sections of the shore and trail with rock or possibly wood, and install erosion control devices and drainage structures. Create 2-4 access points for users to get to the lake's edge and to inhibit unintended and excessive shoreline trampling, possibly by installing post and split-rail fencing or rope and posts so that users might be more inclined to stay on the trails.

6b) Corrective Action and Adaptive Management Recommendations – Rec G:

- Plan for routine maintenance patrols to be frequent enough to identify problems or maintenance needs earlier, before patterns of contrasting use begin to develop or become problematic. Notify law enforcement of uses occurring outside of regulations at the site and solicit their help as needed.