Program of Work 2019

Pacific Northwest Region 6
Malheur National Forest
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2018 Forest Statistics and Accomplishments Summary

TOTAL FOREST ACRES 1.7 Million Acres

FOREST LEADERSHIP TEAM
Forest Supervisor Steve Beverlin
Deputy Forest Supervisor Leisa Cook
Administrative Program Specialist Lisa Galbreath
Blue Mountain District Ranger Bob Foxworth
Prairie City Ranger District Ed Guzman
Emigrant Creek Ranger District Greta Smith (Acting)
Fire and Aviation Management Ron Simpson
Vegetation Management Gerald Dixon
Planning and Natural Resources Amy Unthank
Budget & Administration Judy Morgan
Recreation, Engineering, Lands and Minerals Mike Montgomery
Public Affairs Officer Marc Strong (Acting)
Health and Safety Lisa Rynearson
Law Enforcement Officer John Soules

TOTAL FOREST ACRES 1.7 Million Acres

TIMBER OUTPUTS
Timber Awarded: 45.98 MMBF
Timber Harvested: 44.66 MMBF
*MMBF - Million Board Feet Offered 73.95 MMBF

RESTORATION
Precommercial thinning 5,440 acres
820 acres for the 10-Year Stewardship
4,900 acres within the CFLRP boundary
Reforestation surveys 7,900 acres
Stand exam contract 5,457 acres of stands sampled using 1,015 plots
Project areas sampled with stand exams 109,782 acres (Crow & Austin)
Commercial thinning 7,600 acres awarded

BOTANY
Invasive Plant Species Treated 3,665 acres
Treatments Monitored 986 acres
Rare Plants Surveyed 4,000 acres*
New Rare Plant Sites 15
Revegetation 230 acres
seeded, 130 acres planted with riparian shrub seedlings or cuttings
*reduced workforce from 2017

RECREATION MANAGEMENT
Campgrounds 35
Cabin Rentals 5
Trailheads (developed) 49
Miles of Hiking Trails 286
Miles Snowmobile Trails 549
Sledging Hill 1
Boating 3
Viewpoints 2
Interpretive Sites 6

RANGE MANAGEMENT
Number of Grazing Permits 99
Sheep Allotments 2
Cattle Allotments 105
AUM’s Cattle Permitted 145,184
AUM’s Sheep Permitted 7,528
AUM’s Horse Permitted 222
Wildhorse Territory 1

AQUATICS AND WILDLIFE
Fish Habitat Restored 74 miles of stream
Wildlife Habitat Restored 27,824 acres
Stream Inventory 80 miles of stream
Soil/Water Habitat Improved 11,768 acres
Lake Habitat Restored 509 acres

FIRE MANAGEMENT
Hazardous fuels treated 46,162 acres
Underburning 9,598 acres
Number of lightning caused wildfires 30
Acres Affected 61.65 acres
Number of human caused wildfires 14
Acres Affected 85.31 acres

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM ROADS
National Forest System Roads 9,637 miles Road Maintenance 975 miles

HERITAGE
Total number of recorded sites 5,251
Total number of acres surveys 1,257,643
Sites monitored 75
Permanent monitoring sites established 0
Projects monitored 10
Project acres monitored 500
New sites recorded 20
Field surveys 5
New acres surveyed 3,000
Passport In Time volunteer (PIT) projects 0
Number of volunteers 1
Volunteer days of work 110
Protecting Sacred Site

Program Area: Cultural Resources and Heritage Program
Project Contact: Allen Madril – Umatilla NF, 541-278-3719, amadril@fs.fed.us
Sarah Crump – Wallowa Whitman NF, 541-523-1249, scrump@fs.fed.us
Don Hann – Malheur NF, 541-575-3081, dhann@fs.fed.us

CTUIR Board members have expressed concern with the lack of a clear policy and process to manage and protect sacred sites on Forest Service lands. The National effort to address this issue has slowed down and the CTUIR and local Forests believe that sacred sites protection is too important to wait for National consensus. We agreed to have technical discussions between the CTUIR Cultural Resources Committee and Staff and the respective Forest Heritage Program Managers to develop an appropriate process.

Current Status: CTUIR Cultural Resources Protection Program and Forest Service archaeologists met on September 19, 2017, to discuss sacred sites and Historic Properties of Religious and Cultural Significance to Tribes. At the meeting, the Forest Service archaeologists tentatively agreed to the following:

- Consider the locations identified in the CTUIR’s Place Names Atlas (Hunn et al. 2015) as HPRCSTs.
  - Fill out site forms for these resources during cultural resource inventories which include these locations.
  - These will generally remain unevaluated for listing on the National Register and so managed as potentially eligible.
  - The tribe can provide shapefile boundaries for these resources as required.
- Insert HPRCST into the cultural resource section of the Blue Mountains Forest Plan.
  - Will not trigger additional analysis- simply clarifies that these are a type of cultural resource that are managed under the NHPA.
- Document Spring Mountain on UMA as a HPRCST on a site form and submit to the Oregon SHPO following standard processes.

Definitions: The following definitions and confidentiality discussion from the National Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Regarding Interagency Coordination and Collaboration for the Protection of Indian Sacred Sites and related documents may be useful as a starting point for developing a locally relevant sacred sites policy.

Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 defines a sacred site as:
any specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location on Federal land that is identified by an Indian tribe, or Indian individual determined to be an appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion, as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion; provided that the tribe or appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion has informed the agency of the existence of such a site.

This definition was retained in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Regarding Interagency Coordination and Collaboration for the Protection of Indian Sacred Sites (effective December 4, 2012) with some important additions:

Such sacred sites may also be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as historic properties of religious and cultural significance to Indian tribes.
Sacred sites often occur within a larger landform or are connected through features or ceremonies to other sites or a larger sacred landscape. Agencies should consider these broader areas and connections to better understand the context and significance of sacred sites. Sacred sites may include, but are not limited to geological features, bodies of water, archaeological sites, burial locations, traditional cultural properties, and stone and earth structures.

This at least partially addresses a couple issues brought forward by the CTUIR and other American Indian tribes during the National “listening sessions”:

- For sacred sites where listing on the National Register of Historic Places is appropriate they are potentially eligible as historic properties of religious and cultural significance to Indian tribes. This provides the clearest and most enforceable legal protection to the sites but may conflict with CTUIR members need to limit the dissemination of sacred information.

- “Sacredness” is often difficult, if not impossible, to limit to “specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location{s}” as called for in the definition provided by Executive Order 13007. The 2012 MOU recognizes this complexity by noting that specific sacred sites are often components of larger sacred landscapes.

Confidentiality of information about sacred sites provided by the CTUIR to the Forest Service is an important concern. The Policy Statement on the Confidentiality of Information about Indian Sacred Sites dated July 2015 offers guidance to Federal Agencies on how to approach this issue:

- When consulting with tribes to determine whether culturally sensitive locations may be affected by federal actions, federal agencies shall respect tribal desires to keep information about such locations confidential to the extent legally possible. Many tribes cannot disclose, for cultural reasons, information about the location, the significance, and even the existence of traditional religious and cultural properties and places. Federal agencies must respect and recognize tribal ownership of information.

- Agencies should seek to preclude, to the greatest extent possible, the possibility that disclosure of sensitive information may be required by the Freedom of Information Act or other authority. To that end, agencies and their contractors should request and record only that information about sacred sites that is absolutely necessary to support required administrative decisions.

If a sacred site is determined to be an historic resource or an archaeological resource, then the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) may offer some protection of information. If, however, neither ARPA nor the NHPA apply, federal agencies may find it impossible to keep information about a sacred site confidential, and should so advise the Tribe or religious leader prior to requesting sensitive information.

For more information, please visit the Forest Service-Tribal Relations: Sacred Sites webpage: https://www.fs.fed.us/spf/tribalrelations/sacredsites.shtml.
Leadership of the Malheur National Forest recognizes the significance of First Foods to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the utility of the concept to help model ecosystem restoration. As described in the Tribe’s Umatilla River Vision:

First Foods is a cultural strategy for natural resource management that may be a useful counterweight to address limitations and unintended ecological consequences of privatized and extractive resource use. It also integrates natural resources management with tribal resource needs. The initial presentation of water in tribal ceremonies underscores the importance of water both as a resource in its own right and as a critical resource for supporting the production of remaining First Foods.

The primary significance of water and sustainable use of natural resources is also reflected in founding legislation of the Forest Service- the Organic Act of 1897:

…to improve and protect the forest... securing favorable conditions of water flows, and to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of citizens of the United States.

Landscape scale restoration of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, which is generally advantageous to First Foods, is the primary goal of the Malheur’s accelerated restoration program.

Most projects being planned and implemented on the Forest are part of the accelerated restoration program. First Foods are listed below by their serving order as described in the Umatilla River Vision, with beneficial restoration projects listed under them.

1. **Water (and related riparian systems)**
   a. Aquatics Restoration EA
   b. Summit Watershed restoration
   c. Malheur Headwaters Springs
   d. Summit Creek Meadow
   e. Aspen Spring development
   f. Logan Valley Riparian Fencing
   g. Marshall Creek stream restoration
   h. Poison Creek spring development and fence
   i. Blue Mountain Ranger District Fish Passage Restoration 2019
   j. Butte Creek Reach 2a Rehabilitation
   k. Camp Creek Watershed Road Stormproofing and Decommissioning
   l. Camp Valley Aquatic Restoration
   m. Tinker Creek Aquatic Restoration
   n. West Fork Deer Creek Large Wood Placement
   o. Three Cabin Spring Water Development
   p. Range permit reauthorization NEPA
      i. Roundtop Complex
      ii. Blue Dollar Allotment
      iii. Izee Allotment
      iv. Central Malheur Allotment
   q. Malheur Headwaters riparian fencing project
   r. Malheur River Basin Water Quality Restoration Plan
   s. Austin Water Development Fencing Phipps Meadow Beaver Forage
   t. Summit planting
2. **Salmon (chinook, steelhead, lamprey, mussels, trout, whitefish, suckers)**
   a. Aquatics Restoration EA
   i. See project list under Water above
   b. Fish passage improvement projects
   c. John Day Headwaters acquisition
   d. Crane Creek Fence
   e. Malheur River Fencing
   f. Summit Rock fence
   g. John Day River bridge
   h. 2019 Blue Mountain Ranger District Range Fences
      South Middle Fork Allotment Aquatic Restoration replacement
   i. Wiwaanayt Creek Fish Passage
   j. Robert’s Creek Fish Passage

3. **Deer (mule deer, rocky mountain elk, white tailed deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goat)**
   a. John Day Headwaters acquisition
   b. Landscape scale fuels reduction projects (thinning and prescribed fire)
      i. Austin
      ii. Ragged Ruby
      iii. Camp Lick
      iv. Magone
      v. Big Mosquito
      vi. Summit
      vii. Cliff Knox
      viii. Elk 16
      ix. Pine Creek WUI
      x. Wolf
      xi. Dove
      xii. Marshall Devine
      xiii. Dairy
      xiv. Flat
   c. Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration multi-party monitoring
   d. Wildlife Aspen Thinning
   e. Laycock Creek Firewise

4. **Cous (celery, camas, bitterroot)**
   a. Canyon Meadows dam removal and restoration camas inventory
   b. Meadow encroachment thinning projects
   c. Range permit reauthorization

5. **Huckleberry (chokecherry)**
   a. Big Mosquito huckleberry restoration units
   b. Chokecherry Restoration Aquatic Restoration
   c. Landscape scale fuels reduction projects (thinning and prescribed fire)
      i. See project list under Deer above

Access by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation to First Foods is a treaty protected right and we believe the landscape scale restoration efforts taking place on the Malheur National Forest will help ensure the availability of these culturally significant resources well into the future. To borrow a final quote from the Umatilla River Vision:

...progress is measured by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation community’s continued ability to access, harvest, and process, preserve, and share First Foods at the longhouse and in their homes.
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(541) 575-3050
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# Forest-wide Ongoing Project Update

(Presented in past year’s POW packets)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
<th>NEPA process and timeline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Analysis and Implementation</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed – The Malheur National Forest continues to use the forest-wide Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) NEPA to more efficiently implement 17 categories of aquatic restoration work. Proposed projects that meet project design criteria can be expedited. They are identified on an annual cycle by the Ranger Districts and Forest. The pre-project notification is available to the public under Aquatic Restoration at: <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/land/malheur/landmanagement">http://www.fs.usda.gov/land/malheur/landmanagement</a>.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); signed on September 30, 2014. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Multi-Party Monitoring Program</td>
<td>Includes various projects across the Forest that were approved through the collaborative groups for multi-party monitoring. The work monitors effectiveness of forest restoration projects and provides recommendations for adaptive management and future proposed actions. Work is ongoing and will be primarily accomplished through partnerships, including USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station, Oregon State University, and others.</td>
<td>The Southern Blues Restoration Coalition project is a partnership with the two local collaborative groups, Harney County Restoration Coalition and Blue Mountain Forest Partners. This partnership as well as many other partners has helped bring to the Malheur National Forest an additional $4 million annually to complete restoration work across 877,288 acres of the forest. This work includes upland resiliency treatments such as thinning and prescribed fire as well as riparian restoration, fish passage improvements, wildlife habitat enhancement, and noxious weed treatment projects. In 2017, over</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
<td>Project Status</td>
<td>NEPA process and timeline</td>
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<td>32,000 acres received these treatments and the number of acres treated is expected to increase in 2018. Included with these funds is an expectation to complete on the ground monitoring of these treatments to ensure they are meeting the objectives expected or if adjustments need made going forward. With the help of the two collaborative groups, a very successful multi-party monitoring program has been set up that includes Oregon State University.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel Management (Subpart B)</td>
<td>NEPA: Developing proposals – Implement the 2005 National Travel Management Rule designating trails, roads, and possibly areas for motorized travel. Will analyze potential for motorized game retrieval and access for dispersed camping. Will not impact current firewood guidelines. Will result in publishing of Malheur Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM).</td>
<td>This project will begin in the spring of 2018 with pre-scoping public meetings and coordination with Tribes and local governments. We estimate that the Notice of Intent will be published in the Federal Register of May or June of 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Monitoring/Survey</td>
<td>No NEPA decision; Region 6 Stream Surveys are completed on a subset of streams across the Forest each year (amount depending on funding). The focus is on condition of fish habitat, additional information is collected on fish occupancy and redds in coordination with the Burns Paiute Tribe, and Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. Additional monitoring for water temperature, Pacfish-Infish Biological Opinion PIBO), aquatic mussels surveys, riparian green-line monitoring associated with livestock grazing also occur.</td>
<td>Monitoring and implementation ongoing.</td>
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Forest Plan Revision: Umatilla, Wallowa-Whitman, Malheur National Forests

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<tr>
<th>Decision Type:</th>
<th>Decision Date:</th>
<th>Estimated Implementation Year:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EIS</td>
<td>March 14, 2019</td>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
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</table>

Program Area: Forest Plan Revision

Project Contacts: Forest Supervisors -- Craig Trulock, Malheur National Forest (541-613-4279); Eric Watrud, Umatilla National Forest (541-278-3752); or Tom Montoya, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest (541-523-1201)

Location: Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests

Affected Tribes, Counties, and States:
- Burns Paiute Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Nez Perce Tribe
- State of Washington: Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Walla Walla Counties

Overview: The Revised Forest Plans were developed to update the land management plans for the Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests, which encompass approximately five million acres of public lands. On March 14, 2019, Forest Service Acting Deputy Chief and Reviewing Officer, Chris French, issued a letter to the Pacific Northwest Regional Forester, Glenn Casamassa, with instructions to withdraw the Draft Record of Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and the three Revised Forest Plans.

Where we have been:
- Prior to 2014, we developed a range of Alternatives for the Draft EIS with input from a diversity of government entities, stakeholder groups, and the public.
- In 2014, we published the Draft EIS and received over a thousand letters during the formal public comment period.
- In 2015, to add context to the public comments, we followed up with a series of public listening sessions in communities across the Blue Mountains region.
- In 2016, in response to formal comments, listening-session input, and revised recommendations by resource specialists, we decided to analyze two additional Alternatives in the Final EIS.
- In 2016-2017, we re-initiated Tribal consultation. We also engaged with other government entities, including Counties, State Departments of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition to the complexities of the EIS analysis, addressing questions and concerns from government entities in 2017 contributed to a longer Plan Revision timeline. To keep everyone informed on our progress, we shared periodic public updates through newsletters, audio broadcasts, and online FAQs.
• On June 29, 2018, the Forest Service initiated the Objection Process by publishing the Final EIS, three Revised Forest Plans, and a Draft Record of Decision.
• During July and August 2018, the Forest Service received approximately 350 objections to the Forest Plans.
• In November and December of 2018, objection resolution meetings were held in five different Eastern Oregon communities. Over 300 people participated voicing concerns and clarifying objections on a wide variety of issues.
• On March 14, 2019, Forest Service Acting Deputy Chief and Reviewing Officer, Chris French, issued a letter to the Pacific Northwest Regional Forester, Glenn Casamassa, with instructions to withdraw the Draft Record of Decision, Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and the three Revised Forest Plans.

**Next steps**: To be determined. Following discussions with affected Tribes, Counties, States, and other interested parties during the spring and summer of 2019, the Forest Service plans to clarify the potential next steps during the fall or winter of 2019.
Blue Mountain Ranger District

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431 Patterson Bridge Road
John Day, Oregon 97845
(541) 575-3401
rfoxworth@fs.fed.us
# Blue Mountain Ranger District Ongoing Project Update
(Presented in past year’s POW packets)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
<th>NEPA Process and Timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Murderer’s Creek Wild Horse Joint Management Area Plan EIS.</td>
<td>NEPA: Developing proposals – Malheur NF and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Prineville District Office are jointly developing draft Purpose and Need/Proposed Action and Appropriate Management Level (AML) determinations. Once these two foundational items are established, Enterprise TEAMS would conduct the bulk of the work.</td>
<td>BLM/FS NEPA MOU signed. Interagency Agreement between BLM, ODFW, and FS signed. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); estimated decision date spring of 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>NEPA: Developing proposals.</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); scoping period is expected to begin in spring of 2019. Estimated decision date in summer of 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roundtop Complex Allotment Management Plans Project</td>
<td>NEPA: On hold.</td>
<td>Environmental Assessment; the project is currently on hold.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ragged Ruby</td>
<td>NEPA: Under analysis – Resource specialists are currently analyzing the impacts of the project’s alternatives. 33,767 total project acres.</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); estimated decision date in September 2019.</td>
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<td>Project Name</td>
<td>NEPA Status</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camp Lick</td>
<td>NEPA: Under analysis – The project has gone</td>
<td>Environmental Assessment (EA); Estimated decision date in summer of</td>
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<td>through the objection filing and resolution</td>
<td>2019.</td>
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<td>periods on the Final Environmental Assessment</td>
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<td>(FEA) and Draft Decision Notice and Finding of</td>
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<td>No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI). 38,838 total</td>
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<td>project acres.</td>
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<td>Magone</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN) signed May 2017. Implementation is ongoing.</td>
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<td>Starr Aspen</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN) signed August 2016. Implementation is ongoing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laycock Creek Meadow Fence Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Analysis completed (completed under the</td>
<td>Completed Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) checklists</td>
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<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment</td>
<td>spring 2016. Implementation began in summer 2017 and will be completed</td>
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<td>Allotment, will be fenced to exclude livestock</td>
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<td>use and to protect and improve riparian habitat</td>
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<td>Rosebud Spring and Aspen Protection</td>
<td>NEPA: Analysis completed (completed under the</td>
<td>Completed Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) checklist</td>
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<td>Project</td>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment</td>
<td>spring 2016. Implementation began in 2017 and will be completed in</td>
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<td>(EA) Project) – A combination of fencing,</td>
<td>2019.</td>
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<td>strategic tree felling, and spring developments</td>
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<td>will be implemented at the Morgan Creek Spring,</td>
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<td>Dry Soda Spring, and Stonewall Spring to</td>
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<td>reduce access by wildlife, wild horses, and</td>
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<td>livestock and allow passive restoration to</td>
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<td>improve hydrologic, geomorphic and vegetative</td>
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<td>function to the sites.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
<td>NEPA Details</td>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scotty Creek Spring Development Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Analysis completed (completed under the Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) Project) – This project authorized 12 off-channel water developments and 2 stream crossings across 3 pastures within the Scotty Creek Allotment. These developments will facilitate the establishment of a high-intensity-short duration management style that will provide better options for resting pastures to improve forage plants, minimize impacts to stream banks, and reduce sediment inputs to streams. The proposed developments will additionally help decrease livestock pressure and use along streams and riparian habitat conservation areas, including habitat for Interior redband trout.</td>
<td>Completed Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) checklist spring 2018. Implementation began in 2018 and will be completed in 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Creek Aquatic Restoration Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Analysis completed (completed under the Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) Project) – This project authorized construction of large woody debris jams and beaver dam analogues to increase pool frequency and improve habitat for beaver. In addition, 769 feet of berms were removed through two segments of stream to increase the width of floodplain that is inundated during bankfull events.</td>
<td>Completed Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) checklist spring 2018. Implementation began in 2018 and will be completed in 2019.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First Foods Component Projects

NEPA Completed:

Project(s): Big Mosquito

- Provide partially open canopies for huckleberry plants, target canopy closure of 30-40% for huckleberry enhancement
- Huckleberry enhancement treatment – some units within the understory removal and free selection prescriptions are also designated for huckleberry enhancement. For these units the desired condition would be to reduce canopy cover 30 to 40 percent where huckleberry plants exist, while still remaining within prescription guidelines. Commercial harvest would be completed during the winter over snow cover so as to protect existing plants, and units would be prescribed burned. Approximately 800 acres are designated for huckleberry enhancement.

Project(s): Big Mosquito

- Huckleberry and other native plan populations may be improved by the reduction of fuel load via specific silviculture treatments.

Projects under analysis

Project(s): Camp Lick, Ragged Ruby

- Purpose and need includes an objective to maintain and increase the availability of traditional use foods within the planning areas (e.g., huckleberries, mushrooms, and riparian hardwoods).

Projects under developments

Project(s): Austin

- Purpose and need includes an objective to maintain and increase the availability of traditional use foods within the planning areas (e.g., huckleberries, mushrooms, and riparian hardwoods).
**Project Name:** Bark Project

**Program Area:** Integrated Vegetation Management – Fire, Fuels, Timber and Silviculture

**Project Contact:** Beth Parker, 541-575-3187, bethanysparker@fs.fed.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Type:</th>
<th>Estimated Decision Date:</th>
<th>Estimated Project Implementation Year:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)</td>
<td>March 2021</td>
<td>2021</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** Murderers Creek and Middle South Fork John Day River watersheds. Township 14 South, Range 28 East, sec. 21-22, 26-35; Township 14 South, Range 29 East, sec. 20-22, 26-29, 31-35; Township 15 South, Range 27 East, sec. 1, 12-14, 23-27, 34-35; Township 15 South, Range 28 East, sec. 1-36; Township 15 South, Range 29 East, sec. 2-24, 26-32; Township 15 South, Range 30 East, sec. 7-8, 17-19; Township 16 South, Range 27 East, sec. 1-3, 10-15, 22-25; Township 16 South, Range 28 East, sec. 1-30, 32-35; and Township 16 South, Range 29 East, sec. 5-8, 17-19.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** This project is in the very early stages of development and could include upland restoration, aquatic restoration, wildlife habitat restoration, prescribed burning and unplanned ignitions, road activities (such as road maintenance and temporary road construction), road system changes (such as road decommissioning, closure, opening, and relocation), and recreation system changes (such as trail construction).

**Impacts to tribal resources:** This project is anticipated to improve forage for big game. Tribal resources, including edible plants, would be enhanced. Aquatic habitat and cultural resources would be protected through the use of project design criteria and activity location. A cultural resource survey will be completed.

**Map:** (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** Blue Mountain Ranger District Fish Passage Restoration 2019

**Program Area:** Aquatics, Fish and Watershed

**Project Contact:** Dan Armichardy, 541-575-3391, darmichardy@fs.fed.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Type:</th>
<th>Estimated Decision Date:</th>
<th>Estimated Project Implementation Year:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA)</td>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>2019-2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** Work will occur at the East Fork Beech Creek – National Forest System (NFS) Road 3600052, Tinker Creek – NFS Road 3620, Cottonwood Creek – NFS Road 3600, Summit Creek – NFS Road 2622, Summit Creek – NFS Road 1940, Summit Creek – NFS Road 1940281, Idaho Creek – NFS Road 2622, Idaho Creek – NFS Road 2622172, Deadwood Creek – NFS Road 4560, and East Fork Deer Creek – NFS Road 4020 crossings. Township 9 South, Range 33 East, sec. 20; Township 10 South, Range 23 East, sec. 35; Township 10 South, Range 29 East, sec. 7; Township 11 South, Range 35½ East, sec. 23, 25, and 27; Township 11 South, Range 36 East, sec. 36; Township 12 South, Range 31 East, sec. 12; and Township 12 South, Range 32 East, sec. 5.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Replacement of 10 fish passage barrier culverts with aquatic organism passage culverts.

![Figure 1. East Fork Beech Creek (left), Tinker Creek (center), and Deadwood Creek (right) culverts](image)

**Impacts to tribal resources:** The project is anticipated to restore passage for Middle Columbia River steelhead, Columbia River bull trout, and other aquatic species. In-stream work will be completed during a low flow period to reduce
impacts to fish.

Map: (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** Butte Creek Reach 2a Rehabilitation Project

**Program Area:** Aquatics, Fish and Watershed

**Project Contact:** Mary Lou Welby, 541-575-3368, mwelby@fs.fed.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA)</td>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>2019</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** Camp Creek-Middle Fork John Day River Watershed. Township 11 South, Range 34 East, sec. 5

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Relocate small parts of National Forest System Roads 2050 and 2050072 away from Butte Creek, place large woody material (some with root wads attached) into Butte Creek, seed and plant hardwoods in decommissioned areas install two flood relief culverts at the Butte Creek – National Forest System Road 2050072 road crossing.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** This project is anticipated to improve riparian and aquatic habitat, including critical habitat for Middle Columbia River steelhead and other aquatic species. In-stream work will be completed during a low flow period to reduce impacts to fish.

**Map:** (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** Camp Creek Watershed Road Stormproofing and Decommissioning Project

**Program Area:** Aquatics, Fish and Watershed

**Project Contact:** Bob Hassmiller, 541-575-3433, rhassmiller@fs.fed.us

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Decision Type:</th>
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<th>Estimated Project Implementation Year:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA) and Camp Lick EA</td>
<td>Spring 2019</td>
<td>2019-2024 (depending on if road will be used for haul)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** Camp Creek-Middle Fork John Day River Watershed. Township 10 South, Range 32 East, sec. 19-36; Township 10 South, Range 33 East, sec. 18, 19, 30-32; Township 11 South, Range 32 East, sec. 1-36; Township 11 South, Range 33 East, sec. 4-10, 15-22, 28-32; and Township 12 South, Range 32 East, sec. 1-5, 8-12.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** This roads project will decommission approximately 19.3 miles of both closed and open roads and stormproof 157.6 miles that are having adverse impacts to hillslope and watershed hydrologic processes, riparian and aquatic habitats. Ecological goals of this project include improving summer base flows through reducing drainage efficiency from ridge to stream and for improving water quality standards in a high priority watershed. This project will use a combination of NEPA documents from the Camp Lick Decision Notice and the Aquatic Restoration checklist.

Figure 1. Gully draining down the road prism
Impacts to tribal resources: This project is anticipated to improve water storage and hillslope processes, along with riparian and aquatic habitat, including critical habitat for Middle Columbia River steelhead, juvenile chinook, and other aquatic species. Work occurring directly next to a stream would be completed during the instream work window to reduce impacts to fish. The ecological goals are aligned well with CTUIR’s profound river vision.

Map: (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** Camp Valley Aquatic Restoration  
**Program Area:** Aquatics, Fish and Watershed  
**Project Contact:** Dan Armichardy, 541-575-3391, darmichardy@fs.fed.us  

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<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA)</td>
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</table>

**Location:** Camp Creek-Middle Fork John Day River Watershed. Township 10 South, Range 32 East, sec. 25, 35, and 36 and Township 11 South, Range 32 East, sec. 2, 3, 9, 10, and 16  

**Affected Counties:** Grant  

**Brief Description of Project:** Remove railroad grade berms that effectively split the valley in half, redistribute the soil in the railroad grade as a growth medium for riparian grasses and shrubs, activate secondary side channels, place wood at strategic locations, fence existing hardwoods and shrubs, plant cottonwood and willow, and rebuild existing wildlife exclosure.

![Figure 2. Railroad grade levee going up middle of valley in Camp Creek Reach 4](image)

**Impacts to tribal resources:** This project is anticipated to improve riparian and aquatic habitat, including critical habitat for Middle Columbia River steelhead and
other aquatic species. In-stream work will be completed during a low flow period to reduce impacts to fish.

**Map:** (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** Laycock Creek Firewise Project

**Program Area:** Integrated Vegetation Management – Fire, Fuels, Timber and Silviculture

**Project Contact:** Amanda Lindsay, 541-575-3333, alindsay@fs.fed.us

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<tr>
<th>Decision Type:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Categorical Exclusion</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** Laycock Creek-John Day River Watershed. Township 14 South, Range 30 East, sec. 22, 25-27, and 34-36.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Commercial and non-commercial thinning of approximately 2,600 acres directly adjacent to private property within the Wildland Urban Interface boundary. Thinning will be followed by fuels reduction treatments and prescribed burning. Treatments will be designed to reduce fire risk and enhance wildlife habitat.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** This project is anticipated to improve forage for big game. Aquatic habitat and cultural resources would be protected through the use of project design criteria and activity location. A cultural resource survey will be completed.

**Map:** (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** 2019 Blue Mountain Ranger District Range Fence Project

**Program Area:** Range

**Project Contact:** Nick Stiner, 541-575-3496, nstiner@fs.fed.us

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<tr>
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<td>2019</td>
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</table>

**Location:** Big Creek-Middle Fork John Day River, Camp Creek-Middle Fork John Day River, and Murderers Creek watersheds. Township 9 South, Range 32 East, section 34; Township 9 South, Range 33 East, sec. 19, 20, 29, and 30; Township 10 South, Range 32 East, sec. 2, 3, and 11; Township 11 South, Range 34 East, sec. 11 and 12; Township 15 South, Range 28 East, sec. 20; and Township 15 South, Range 29 East, sec. 19 and 20.

**Affected Countires:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Constructing fence exclosures around Most Sensitive Riparian Area (MSRA) and/or critical habitat on Bear Creek, Big Creek, Caribou Creek, Dans Creek, Deadwood Creek, Middle Fork John Day River, Orange Creek, and South Fork Murderers Creek in the North Middle Fork, Lower Middle Fork, and Murderers Creek allotments.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** This project is anticipated to reduce impacts to riparian and aquatic habitat, including critical habitat for Middle Columbia River steelhead and other aquatic species. A cultural resource survey will be completed. In-stream work will be completed during a low flow period to reduce impacts to fish.

**Map:** (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** Tinker Creek Aquatic Restoration Project  
**Program Area:** Aquatics, Fish and Watershed  

**Project Contact:** Dan Armichardy, 541-575-3391, darmichardy@fs.fed.us

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<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA)</td>
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</table>

**Location:** 1 mile east of Magone Lake. Township 12 South, Range 32 East, sec. 5.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Tinker Creek is one of three primary perennial tributaries to East Fork Beech Creek, a tributary to the John Day River. Historically, steelhead spawned in large numbers in this stream (see Figure 1). Due to degradation of the stream channel and riparian area from legacy logging and livestock use, portions of Tinker Creek become intermittent during drought years. The Tinker Creek Aquatic Restoration Project focuses work on the headwaters of Tinker Creek which are low gradient wide valleys (which trap, store, and gradually release water). Work will entail removing encroaching lodgepole pine and placing these trees within the stream to facilitate streambed aggradation and floodplain expansion. Lodgepole pine will also be used to create riparian hardwood exclosures to facilitate beaver habitat expansion and protect willows from ungulates. An abandoned concrete gauging station and dam, as well as a legacy berm which blocks fish passage completely too approximately 2 miles of cool headwater stream, will also be removed as part of this project. Work will be completed using a single excavator.
Figure 3. Middle Columbia River steelhead redd counts in Tinker Creek

Figure 4. General riparian and stream channel condition within the project area
Impacts to tribal resources: This project is anticipated to improve riparian and aquatic habitat, including critical habitat for Middle Columbia River steelhead and other aquatic species. In-stream work will be completed during a low flow period to reduce impacts to fish.

Map: (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
**Project Name:** West Fork Deer Creek Large Wood Placement Project  
**Program Area:** Aquatics, Fish and Watershed  
**Project Contact:** Dan Armichardy, 541-575-3391, darmichardy@fs.fed.us

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</table>

**Location:** Lower North Fork John Day River Watershed. Township 10 South, Range 28 East, sec. 14 and 15

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Trees will be hand-felled within West Fork Deer Creek Reaches 2 and 3 and its floodplain.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** This project is anticipated to reduce impacts to riparian and aquatic habitat, including critical habitat for Middle Columbia River steelhead and other aquatic species. In-stream work will be completed during a low flow period to reduce impacts to fish.

**Map:** (only if it gives a good, visual description of project area. Must have identifying labels to orient the user. Also, please try to use black and white maps if possible to save on color printing)
Ed Guzman, District Ranger
327 Front Street
Prairie City, Oregon 97869
(541) 575-3801
eguzman@fs.fed.us
# Prairie City Ranger District Ongoing Project Update

(Presented in past year’s POW packets)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
<th>NEPA Process and Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cliff Knox Restoration</td>
<td>NEPA: Under Analysis. Resource specialists are currently analyzing the impacts of the projects alternatives. 40,000 total project acres.</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); estimated decision date in January 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit Restoration</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete.</td>
<td>Environmental Assessment (EA); Decision date September 2017. Implementation is ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Dollar Complex Allotment Management Plans Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete.</td>
<td>Environmental Assessment (EA); Decision December 2017. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk 16 Restoration</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete.</td>
<td>Environmental Assessment (EA); signed decision September 2015. Implementation is ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiwaanayt Creek (formerly Sq*** Creek) on Middle Fork of John Day.</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete. Phase 1: Construction completed in 2015, planting of willow seedlings and willow and cottonwood stakes along 0.5 miles of stream in 2016 Phase 2: Construction completed in 2016 with historic channel reconnected for approximately 1 mile, and improvements made throughout 70 acre meadow to restore floodplain connectivity.</td>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA); signed September 30, 2014. Implementation near completion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit Watershed Aspen and Large Wood Projects</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete. Ongoing project using mule deer initiative funds to pay for fire crew.</td>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA); signed September 30, 2014. Implementation is ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malheur River Large Wood Project – Phase 1</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete. Placement of over 500 pieces of large Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA);</td>
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</table>

- **Phase 3a**: Construction completed in 2017 with approximately 1 mile of instream weir removal/large wood placement and replacement of one fish passage barrier culvert.
- **Phase 3b**: Proposed implementation in 2018 with approximately one mile of instream work including weir removal, large wood placement and historical channel reactivation. In addition, two fish barrier culverts are scheduled for replacement with Aquatic Organism Passage designed culverts. This project will aim to improve juvenile fish passage, spawning and rearing habitat and floodplain connectivity. Phase 3b was completed in 2018.
- **Phase 3c**: Proposed implementation in 2019 with 25 acres of lodgepole thinning and piling in the lower meadow reach to remove conifers encroaching on the meadow. Piles will be burned in 2020 or 2021.
<p>| Project Name                                      | Project Status                                                                                                                                                                                                 | NEPA Process and Timeline                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Riparian Fencing                                 | NEPA: Complete. Ongoing riparian fence construction. Phase 1: Two exclosures along Summit Creek in Sagehen Pasture – one completed in 2016, other to be completed in 2018. Phase 2: two exclosures along West Summit Creek, completed 2016. Phase 3: exclosures along Summit Creek in Little Logan Pasture. Phase 4: exclosures along Summit Creek in Summit Rock Pasture. | Work being completed under Summit Logan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); Decision Notice signed September 2013. Implementation is ongoing as funding becomes available.                                                   |
| Summit and Bosonberg subwatershed RHCA roads decommissioning | NEPA: Complete.                                                                                                           | Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA); signed September 30, 2014. Implementation ongoing.                                                                                                                       |
| Lake Creek Site Mitigation                       | NEPA: No NEPA decision. Completed initial consultation on the proposed mitigation. MOA formalizing the mitigation. Completed excavation of two 1x1 meter test units in Fall 2015. Artifact analysis and testing report to be completed in Winter 2019. | No NEPA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Headwaters/Logan Valley Interpretive Sign Installation | NEPA: Categorical Exclusion (CE) in progress.                                                                                                                                           | Planned to complete NEPA by October 2019 with implementation in 2020.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Summit Creek Restoration Planting (Turkey Federation) | NEPA: Aquatics restoration checklist. Seed collected from sites on Prairie City Ranger District seed zone locations similar to Summit Creek. Seed stratified, stored, and currently | Completed October 2018.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |</p>
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<tr>
<td>being grown out by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. During the fall of 2018, stock grown by CTWS will be planted at identified areas along Summit Creek. This work was funded by the Wild Turkey Federation in an effort to improve habitat for Wild Turkeys and other wildlife species.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rail Post Fire Planting</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete.</td>
<td>Categorical Exclusion (CE) Decision Memo (DM); signed May 2018. Planting to be implemented 2019 and 2020 in April/May; weather dependent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild and Scenic Rivers Fence Relocation</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete.</td>
<td>Categorical Exclusion (CE); Project location is being flagged, implementation possible beginning 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Field Corner Fence</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete.</td>
<td>Categorical Exclusion (CE); Implementation pending funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sullens Fence</td>
<td>NEPA: Under Analysis.</td>
<td>Categorical Exclusion (CE); Project is designed, possible implementation beginning 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Prairie Corral Relocation</td>
<td>NEPA: Needs new NEPA if moved off former footprint. Project is still under discussion</td>
<td>Project is currently in the design phases, pending time and funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocking Chair Fence</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed.</td>
<td>Summit Logan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); signed 2013. Project is to be completed by Dollar Basin permittee before livestock turnout into that.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
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<td>pasture, pending use of pasture.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Project Name: Clear Creek Aquatic Restoration

Program Area: Aquatics

Project Contact: Jeff Nelson, 541-820-3818, jeffreynelson@fs.fed.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Type:</th>
<th>Estimated Decision Date:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completed under the Aquatic Restoration Environmental Analysis (EA) Final Decision</td>
<td>The Decision Notice for the Aquatic Restoration Project was signed in 2015</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Location: Clear Creek, Clear Creek Subwatershed, T10S, R35E, Sec 34 & T12S, R35E, Sec 3; approximately 13 miles Northeast of Prairie City, Oregon.

Affected Counties: Grant

Brief Description of Project: This project will remove 10 legacy structures which are acting as juvenile migration barriers to allow native salmonids access to over 5 miles of quality aquatic habitat upstream of the project area. We will also add large wood structures to the channel and floodplain to increase frequency of floodplain inundation, in-channel habitat complexity and re-invigorate the riparian hardwood community.

Impacts to tribal resources: Restoration would improve stream habitat for native salmonids such as Chinook, steelhead, bull trout, and redband trout by enhancing habitat complexity and access to spawning and rearing sites. A cultural resource survey will be completed prior to implementation and all prehistoric resources will be avoided. In-stream work will be completed during ODFW’s in-water work period to minimize negative impacts to native trout and other aquatic organisms.
**Project Name:** Exclosure Construction; Isham Spring Exclosure, L&H and Barnett Aspen Exclosure, Halfway Aspen Exclosure, and Big Field Fen Exclosure

**Program Area:** Range

**Project Contact:** Jason Spence, 541-820-3849, jspence@fs.fed.us

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<td>2019-2022</td>
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**Location:** Isham Spring Exclosure: T 13S, R 34, S12; approximately 7 miles east of Prairie City, OR, east of FS 16 Road.

L&H and Barnett Aspen Exclosure: T 16S, R 35E, S15; approximately 19 miles southeast of Prairie City, OR, east of FS 16 Road

Halfway Aspen Exclosure: T 16S, R 35E, S29; approximately 19 miles southeast of Prairie City, OR. There are 4 separate exclosures to be built.

Big Field Fen: T 16S, R 33 1/2E, S 14 and 15; approximately 19 mile south of Prairie City, OR, north of the FS 16 road in Logan Valley.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Fencing off sensitive riparian areas to protect the riparian areas and related sensitive riparian species from grazing. The protection of the riparian areas aims to improve forest health and resiliency by encouraging desirable riparian conditions including increase productions of riparian obligate graminoid and woody species, and the spring fed recharge of critical habitat fisheries.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** The project is anticipated to improve forage for big game. Protection of natural spring areas will improve forest conditions with springs not being trampled shut by livestock. Wildlife friendly buck and pole fencing to be used to restrict access from livestock grazing, without removing the habitat from available big game forage. Aquatic habitat and cultural resources would be protected under the design and implementation of the projects.
Project Name: Infrastructure Design: No Mans Exclosure, Crane Prairie Corral Relocation, McCoy Allotment Pasture Redesign, Anderson Creek Redesign, Beaver Pond Fence Relocation, and Knox Meadow Redesign

Program Area: Range

Project Contact: Jason Spence, 541-820-3849, jspence@fs.fed.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Type: Completed under the Aquatic Restoration Environmental Analysis (EA) Final Decision</th>
<th>Estimated Decision Date: The Decision Notice for the Aquatic Restoration Project was signed in 2015</th>
<th>Estimated Project Implementation Year: 2019-2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Location: No Mans Exclosure: T16S, R35E, S30 at the junction of FS 1663 road and FS 673 road
Crane Prairie corral relocation: T16S, R34E, S 24 and 30
McCoy Allotment pasture redesign: T16S, R33 1/2E, S22 and 27 – 18 miles south of Prairie City, OR, south of FS 16 road in the Logan Valley.
Anderson Creek redesign: T15S, R36E, S25, 26, 27, 28 and 32
Beaver Pond fence relocation: T16S, R34E, S30
Knox Meadow redesign: T17S, R35E, S 18 and 19

Affected Counties: Grant

Brief Description of Project: The purpose of this project is to redesign fences in order to improve or protect habitat. The fence redesigns would remove sensitive riparian areas from grazing or more effectively distribute grazing to limit resource damage from livestock grazing.

Impacts to tribal resources: The project is anticipated to improve forest health by relieving grazing impacts on riparian areas by better distributing livestock across the landscape. The reduction of grazing on riparian areas will minimize risk of livestock trampling of redds, remove riparian species from grazing pressures, and improve habitat cover for critical fisheries. Cultural resources would also be protected through the design criteria and implementation of the projects.
**Project Name:** Interpretive Sign Installation: John Day Headwaters Viewpoint and Logan Valley

**Program Area:** Wildlife

**Project Contact:** Rachael Vaughn, 541-820-3857, rmvaughn@fs.fed.us

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<tr>
<td>Categorical Exclusion (CE)</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Location:** Logan Valley (T16 R33½ 15 SE/SW) (wayside pullout along the 16 road); View site location of the John Day Headwaters project (T15 R35 1 NE/SE).

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** The district proposal to install two interpretive signs: one in Logan Valley and one at the view site location of the John Day Headwaters project. These signs will include information on wildlife security and the John Day Headwaters Project. This sign installation project will require excavation for post holes (a minimum quantity of four, maximum quantity of eight, dependent on the size of the signs) using hand held tools (post hole digger, shovel and pry bar), for which each excavation would be 3 feet deep by 1 foot wide.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** Completion of the CE is in progress. Logan Valley is a significant site identified by the CTUIR as well as the Burns Paiute Tribe. Consultation with the Tribes would occur to design and place an interpretive sign that would reduce adverse effects to this significant resource and be supported by the tribes.
**Project Name:** John Day Headwaters Access Management

**Program Area:** Wildlife

**Project Contact:** Rachael Vaughn, 541-820-3857, rmvaughn@fs.fed.us

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<tr>
<td>Categorical Exclusion (CE)</td>
<td>May 2019</td>
<td>2019</td>
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</table>

**Location:** Gate and sign location along the 6200-778 road at the 041 junction (T. 15 S, R. 34 E, NE ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 1); Boulders installed to block off the 6200-043, 044, and 046 roads along the 6200-778 road (T. 15 S, R. 35 E, S ½ of the SE ¼ of Section 7).

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** The John Day Headwaters Access Management project is part of the 2014 land acquisition between Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Malheur National Forest. Previously, the project area was under private land ownership and closed near County Road 62 with two steel gate closures. The two existing closures, although still in place, are currently not effective and facilitate motorized access along County Road 62.

In order to protect the area’s vital natural resources for fish, wildlife, and recreationist who enjoy remote forest settings, the Prairie City Ranger District is proposing to close and maintain four motorized vehicle Forest Service roads that had been previously rarely used as private access roads. The district proposes to install a gate in a more suitable location and establish boulders (2 to 4 foot diameter) and/or earth berms at the intersections of three other roads. Each site would be accessed by tracked and/or wheeled vehicles resulting in ground disturbance. The proposed closures would still allow pedestrian access for the public to enjoy the unique resources in this area, while simultaneously protecting the John Day Watershed and providing security to local wildlife and fish.

Relocating the existing gates and installing boulders would protect a high priority area of the headwaters of the John Day River by preventing vehicle disturbance on a Forest Service road that intersects the river where bull trout redds have been documented.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** A cultural resource survey would be completed and any cultural or heritage concerns would be addressed and mitigated prior to implementation. Surveys in this area would occur during the summer of 2019.
**Project Name:** Little Crane Creek Aquatic Organism Passage Culvert Replacement

**Program Area:** Aquatics/Engineering

**Project Contact:** Hazel Wood, 541-820-3892, hwood@fs.fed.us

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<thead>
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**Location:** Little Crane Creek is a major tributary to Crane Creek on the Prairie City Ranger District. It is located approximately 22 miles Southeast of Prairie City, Oregon (T.15S, R.351/2E, section 33).

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** The goal of this project is to improve aquatic organism passage and restore sediment transport processes to Little Crane Creek. A triple-barrel culvert on Forest Service Road 1660478 will be removed and replaced with a single span, open arch culvert.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** Replacement of the culvert will improve stream habitat for native salmonids such as bull trout and redband trout by increasing access to spawning habitat upstream of the migration barrier. Ground-disturbing activities would be limited to the road bed and existing culvert area. A cultural resource survey will be completed prior to implementation and all prehistoric resources will be avoided. In-stream work will be completed during ODFW’s in-water work period to minimize negative impacts to native trout.
**Project Name:** Marchbanks Diversion Relocation and Fish Screen Installation Project

**Program Area:** Aquatics

**Project Contact:** Jeff Nelson, 541-820-3818, jeffreynelson@fs.fed.us

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**Location:** Wiwaanaytt Creek, Squaw Creek Subwatershed, T11S, R35½E, Sec 34; approximately 17 miles Northeast of Prairie City, Oregon.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** The purpose of the Marchbanks Diversion Relocation & Fish Screen Installation project is to relocate the current point of diversion and install an appropriately sized headgate, water measuring device, and rotary fish screen to prevent entrainment of threatened Mid-Columbia River juvenile steelhead within the point of diversion on Wiwaanaytt Creek.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** Project would improve instream flows over current conditions and prevent entrainment of native salmonids into an existing diversion. A cultural resource survey will be completed prior to implementation and all prehistoric resources will be avoided. In-stream work will be completed during ODFW’s in-water work period to minimize negative impacts to native trout and other aquatic organisms.
**Project Name:** New Fence Construction: Cougar Fence

**Program Area:** Range

**Project Contact:** Jason Spence, 541-820-3849, jspence@fs.fed.us

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**Location:** T18S, R34E, S2 and 11, fence would be from the existing Cougar Riparian pasture fence, run in proximity and parallel to the road, and up to approximately Lee’s Creek, where it would be tied into the terrain along the creek.

**Affected Counties:** Grant and Harney

**Brief Description of Project:** The project aims to improve forest conditions by adjusting the area where livestock grazing is to be focused. The fence implementation will better distribute livestock by fencing livestock into the dryer, and subsequently less used, southwestern portion of the Cougar Pasture in the Bluebucket Allotment. The fence project will reduce the likelihood for livestock grazing to negatively impact wildlife forage availability.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** The project area is covered under the Blue Dollar Complex Allotment Management Planning NEPA. The project aim is to improve big game forage through better distribution of livestock grazing, as well as lessen livestock utilization on sensitive habitat. Cultural resources and aquatic habitat will be protected through fence design and implementation.
**Project Name:** Spring Development: Kit Kat Spring, Hankins Spring, Lost Camp Spring, Aspen Spring Extension, and Skookum Spring

**Program Area:** Range

**Project Contact:** Jason Spence, 541-820-3849, jspence@fs.fed.us

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**Location:** Kit Kat Spring: T16S, R36E, S33; 1.5 miles east of the privately owned land in Flag Prairie.
Hankins Spring: T16S, R35E, S10; ¼ mile south of the Little Crane Campground
Lost Camp Spring: T16S, R34E, S23; west of FS 14 road, off the 1410 road.
Aspen Spring Extension: T16S, R36E, S22; 21 miles southeast of Prairie City, OR
Skookum Spring: T17S, R34E, S35; 22 miles east of Silvies, OR.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** These projects purpose is to decrease risk of damage to springs cause by livestock use. The projects aim to promote forest health by protecting natural spring sources, ensure range improvements are properly functioning, and encourage desirable riparian conditions including: increase productions of riparian obligate graminoid and woody species, and increase spring fed recharge of critical habitat fisheries.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** The project is anticipated to improve forage for big game. Protection of natural spring areas will improve forest conditions with springs not being trampled shut by livestock, and moving livestock watering locations off of the sensitive riparian area and into a less damage susceptible area. Wildlife friendly buck and pole fencing to be used to restrict spring fed areas from livestock grazing, without removing the habitat from available big game forage. Aquatic habitat and cultural resources would be protected under the design and implementation of the projects.
Project Name: Summit Priority 1 Restoration

Program Area: Fuel/Aquatics

Project Contact: Allen Taylor, 541-820-3864, allentaylor@fs.fed.us

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<th>Decision Type:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Completed under the Summit Project Environmental Analysis (EA) and Aquatics Environmental Analysis (EA) Checklist</td>
<td>The Decision Notice for the Aquatic Restoration Project was signed in 2015</td>
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</table>

Locations:

West Summit Creek & North Summit Creek, T15S, R35E, Sec 28 & 33; Wickiup Creek & Little Logan Creek, T16S, R34E, Sec 18 & 28; Summit Creek Subwatershed approximately 19 miles Southeast of Prairie City, Oregon.

Bosonberg Creek & Tributaries, T16S, R33½E, Sec 11, 12, & 14; Bosonberg Creek Subwatershed approximately 18 miles South of Prairie City, Oregon.

Affected Counties: Grant

Brief Description of Project: Meadow stream restoration on West Summit Creek, North Summit Creek, Wickiup Creek, Little Logan Creek, and Bosonberg Creek and its tributaries. Project area streams are habitat for bull trout, redband trout, and other native aquatic organisms. Due to past management activities, these streams have become incised with reduced floodplain inundation frequency and connectivity to extensive sidechannel networks. Many active headcuts are working their way through the drainage networks further disconnecting the streams from their floodplains through channel incision and meander cut-offs.

Meadow restoration treatments using hand and heavy equipment would halt active channel incision, elevate the water table to increase floodplain and sidechannel connectivity, reduce stream width/depth ratios, and increase stream shading along 7 miles of project streams identified. Approximately 2.3 miles of West Summit Creek and an unnamed tributary would
be restored in 2019, with the remaining streams restored in 2020.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** Meadow restoration would improve stream habitat for native salmonids such as bull trout and redband trout by enhancing complexity and quantity of spawning and rearing sites. A cultural resource survey will be completed prior to implementation and all prehistoric resources will be avoided. In-stream work will be completed during ODFW’s in-water work period to minimize negative impacts to native trout and other aquatic organisms.
**Project Name:** Summit Project AOP Design 4 Culverts

**Program Area:** Aquatics/Engineering

**Project Contact:** Allen Taylor, 541-820-3864, allentaylor@fs.fed.us

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**Location:** Summit Creek, West Summit Creek, and North Summit Creek; Summit Creek Subwatershed; T15S, R35E, Sec 33 & 28; T16S, R34E, Sec 3. Approximately 19 miles Southeast of Prairie City, Oregon.

**Affected Counties:** Grant

**Brief Description of Project:** Complete engineering design work for replacement of four culverts in the Summit Creek Watershed to provide for aquatic organism passage. The fish passage barriers were identified in the Summit Large Landscape NEPA signed in 2017. The identified culverts have been evaluated for their capacity for passage and have been found to be inappropriately designed. Each culvert is unable to pass all life stages of resident fish, and all are located on Summit Creek and tributaries which are designated as Critical Habitat for bull trout. The culvert replacements once implemented would cumulatively restore passage and access to over 4.7 miles of aquatic habitat.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** Work would facilitate access of native salmonids to over 4.7 miles of stream habitat. Most work would occur within the previously disturbed footprint of the road crossings. A cultural resource survey will be completed prior to implementation and all prehistoric resources will be avoided. The timing of work during ODFW’s in-water work period would minimize impacts to native trout and other aquatic organisms. Work would minimize impacts to aquatic organisms from the transportation network while facilitating tribal access to culturally significant resources.
Greta Smith, Acting District Ranger
265 Highway 20 South
Hines, OR 97738
(541) 573-4344
gretchensmith@fs.fed.us
Malheur National Forest
Emigrant Creek Ranger District FY 2019 Program of Work

Map showing various locations and roads within the Malheur National Forest, with labels for roads and other features.

- Malheur National Forest
- Emigrant Creek Ranger District
- FY 2019 Program of Work
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<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
<th>NEPA process and timeline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flat Vegetation Management Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed – Activities include commercial timber sales, pre-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning and road treatments.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); signed February 2, 2018. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Izee Allotment Management Plan</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed – Activities include fencing, spring developments, and riparian vegetation restoration.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); decision signed August 14, 2015. Implementation started in 2016 and is on schedule to continue through 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed – Activities include commercial timber sales, pre-commercial thinning, prescribed burning and road treatments</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); decision signed July 23, 2015. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Malheur Allotment</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed - Activities include fencing, spring developments, juniper removal, and riparian vegetation restoration.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); decision signed May 11, 2015. Implementation began in 2015 and is scheduled to continue through 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall Devine</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed - Activities include commercial timber sales, pre-commercial thinning, and prescribed burning and road treatments.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); signed June 2012. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed - Activities include commercial timber sales, pre-commercial thinning, and road treatments.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); signed January 2012. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
<td>NEPA Status</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campground Tree Protection Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed. Spray legacy trees in campgrounds to protect these trees from beetle infestation. Occasional thinning of small diameter trees as well.</td>
<td>Letter to document decision; signed April 10, 2018. CE complete. Implementation on hold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Completed. Farm Bill CE to reduce the risk and extent of, and increase resilience to insects and disease by density management.</td>
<td>Decision Memo (DM); signed December 30, 2017. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rattlesnake Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Scoping complete. Estimated decision – summer 2019. Activities include commercial timber sales, pre-commercial thinning, and road treatments.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); estimated decision July 2019. Implementation following decision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emigrant Creek District Wide Danger Tree Removal Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Complete. Removal of danger trees along arterial and collector roads, as well as campgrounds and administrative sites.</td>
<td>Decision Notice (DN); October 24, 2018. Implementation ongoing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Site Improvements Project</td>
<td>NEPA: Categorical Exclusion (CE). Various campground improvement projects including trail realignments and updating signage.</td>
<td>Decision Memo (DM); estimated decision 2019. Implementation following decision.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Project Name: Pierpont Aquatic Restoration Project**

**Program Area:** Range

**Project Contact:** Noe Reyes, 541-573-4314, noerreyes@fs.fed.us

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<th>Decision Type:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aquatic Restoration Project</td>
<td>Summer 2019</td>
<td>2019</td>
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</table>

**Location:** West Malheur Allotment, Emigrant Creek Ranger District.

**Affected Counties:** Grant County

**Brief Description of Project:** The purpose of this project is to redevelop the spring source to install a water trough in place of a stock pond for improved riparian health as well as to improve livestock distribution during the time frames that livestock are scheduled to graze. The spring source would also be fenced.
**Project Name:** Ideal Spring Restoration Project

**Program Area:** Range

**Project Contact:** Noe Reyes, 541-573-4314, noerreyes@fs.fed.us

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<td>Aquatic Environmental Assessment (EA)</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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</table>

**Location:** Pine Creek Allotment, Emigrant Creek Ranger District

**Affected Counties:** Harney County

**Brief Description of Project:** The purpose of this project is to redevelop the spring source to replace a water trough that is currently located in the riparian area for improved riparian health as well as to improve livestock distribution during the time frames that livestock are scheduled to graze. The spring source would also be fenced.
**Project Name:** Crow Vegetation Management Project

**Program Area:**
- Integrated Vegetation Management – Fire, Fuels, Timber and Silviculture

**Project Contact:** Frank Heide, 541-573-4385, frankheide@fs.fed.us

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<tr>
<td>Decision Notice</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
<td>2020</td>
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**Location:** The project area is located northwest of the town of Burns, and southwest of John Day. Landmarks in the project area include Snow Mountain, Donnelly Butte, and Swain Prairie. Forest Road 43 bisects the project as well.

**Affected Counties:** Harney and Grant Counties

**Brief Description of Project:** Project activities could include timber harvest, pre-commercial thinning, prescribed burning, related road treatments, and possible watershed restoration activities.

**Impacts to tribal resources:** Proposed treatments generally would benefit first foods, including upland vegetation, wildlife and fisheries.