



**Klamath National Forest
Fiscal Year 2006
Monitoring and Evaluation Report**



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Introduction

The Fiscal Year 2006 Monitoring and Evaluation Report documents the evaluation of monitoring information related to the Klamath National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) from October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006. The overall objective of monitoring and evaluating Forest Plans is to determine whether programs and projects are meeting plan direction. Monitoring is the collection of information, on a sample basis, from sources identified in the plan. Evaluation of monitoring results is used to determine the effectiveness of the Forest Plan and the need either to change the plan through amendment or revision or to continue with the plan. Data are compared to data from past years, when appropriate. Monitoring results are emphasized rather than monitoring data. Evaluations are based on professional judgment when monitoring data are incomplete or lacking.

Forest-Wide Goals

The Klamath National Forest Plan contains the following goals:

- Collectively pursue ecosystem sustainability through integrated resource objectives.
- Manage for a diverse and productive environment. Utilize or emulate naturally occurring, dynamic, ecological processes to implement management actions. Manage for the long-term, broad-scale stability of local communities.
- Manage with the highest standards of stewardship by working to meet the needs of the Nation for wood, water, forage, wildlife, recreation and other resources.
- Actively cooperate and coordinate with Federal, State, local agencies, governments and Indian tribes.

Each resource program contains specific emphasis areas that tier to the Forest-wide goals. Monitoring should demonstrate the Forest's success in achieving or moving towards these goals.

Monitoring Activities and Evaluation

Although the Klamath National Forest emphasizes integrated resource management, the Monitoring Report is organized by resource areas, following the organization of the Forest Plan. Each section identifies resource-specific program emphasis areas, summarizes the monitoring actions related to this program area, notes any areas of concern, and identifies remediation actions taken, if necessary. Monitoring elements from the Forest Plan Monitoring Plan can be found in Table 5-1 of the Forest Plan on pages 5-11 through 5-14; however, this report includes a host of monitoring activities that go beyond those listed in Chapter 5. All Forest Plan pages references relate to the version on the Forest web site, which includes all amendments and errata as of August 15, 2007.

Physical Environment

Goals:

- Achieve water quality objectives through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- Eliminate or mitigate soil erosion; develop restoration efforts to reduce erosion rates.
- Treat or remove known toxic substances that present a hazard.

Geology

Emphasis Areas: Promote slope stability and maintain soil productivity on geologically unstable lands, and manage the cave resources on the Forest in compliance with the 1988 Federal Cave Resources Protection Act.

Monitoring: Landslides and flooding are systematically monitored after major winter storms. Monitoring is accomplished through field visits and air photo inventories. Monitoring was done after the moderately large landslide-producing storm during New Year 2006.

Results: Numerous landslides were mapped and recorded after the storm; few damaged facilities. Considerable infrastructure damage was caused by flooding and undercutting by high flow, primarily to roads, bridges, and some open-arched culverts designed to facilitate fish passage. Based on this information, the Forest applied for emergency funding; \$4.7 million was approved through the Emergency Relief Federally Owned program (ERFO).

Monitoring: Best Management Practices (BMPs) are used to mitigate impacts to soil and water resources from projects. Implementation and effectiveness monitoring of applicable BMPs was applied on earth materials development sites at Shinar Saddle on the Happy Camp District and near the Mouth of Matthews Creek on the Salmon River District.

Results: No sedimentation was observed at monitored sites; effectiveness criteria were met. For additional information on BMP monitoring, see the **Water Quality** section.

Monitoring: The condition of cave resources over the past 5 years has been monitored primarily by the Klamath Mountains Conservation Task Force and the Shasta Area Grotto; the Forest Service routinely monitors a few caves each year. Cave features and formations are visually monitored for damage and bat usage. In 2006, Forest personnel visited Pluto and Barnum caves and evaluated graffiti damage.

Results: Monitoring indicates that cave visitation continues to increase. The gate at Barnum Cave was damaged by vandals in 2005, and was repaired in 2006. Graffiti damage at Barnum Cave did not appreciably increase this year; some graffiti from 2002 was painted over. Shasta Area Grotto conducted its annual trash cleanup at Pluto Cave to address this continuing problem.

Soils

Emphasis Areas: Maintain soil productivity and reduce management-related soil erosion.

Monitoring: The attributes monitored are soil cover for erosion protection, fine organic matter for nutrient cycling, coarse woody debris for biological activity, and soil disturbance for root growth. Standardized sampling methodologies developed by the Forest or Region are used to collect the data. Twelve sites were monitored for effects of prescribed fire, machine mastication, road decommissioning and fish passage projects.

Results: Soil cover levels in managed stands subjected to prescribed fire on the Scott River District ranged from 85 to 95%, averaging 91% for total cover. Soil cover levels in plantations that had the brush component masticated on the Salmon River District ranged from 97 to 99%, averaging 98% cover. Soil cover for fish passage and road decommissioning projects ranged from 66 to 90% and averaged 77% cover. Only one site monitored for soil cover was less than

the objective of 70%. Forest Plan soil cover guidelines were fully met on 11 (92%) of the monitored sites, and partially met on one site. Monitoring results show that the requirement for fine organic matter continues to be met in treated areas. Disturbance monitoring of sandy loam volcanic soils in the Erickson Timber Sale on the Gooseneck Ranger District showed that some of the main skid trails had greater than 15% reduction threshold for soil porosity (10.6 to 27.8% reduction). Disturbance data showed that 13.9% of the sampled unit was in main skid trails. The area with detrimental condition (compaction) was 6.9% of the sampled unit. The monitoring showed that the monitored unit did not exceed the 15% area threshold for detrimental disturbance.

Monitoring: Determine effectiveness of Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines in reducing landslide rates.

Results: Sediment delivery to streams associated with roads occurred in the Little North Fork of the Salmon River due to road fill failures and associated debris flows in 3 unnamed tributaries. In the remainder of the forest, management associated sediment delivery to the stream system was small, despite the large number of landslides along roads during the January 2006 storm. This can be at least partially attributed to design standards and Best Management Practices applied during road construction.

Water Quality

Emphasis Areas: Provide adequate instream flows, and maintain water table levels in wet meadows.

Monitoring: The Best Management Practices (BMP) program and the Aquatic Conservation Strategy are the primary mechanisms used to maintain water quality. Calendar year 2006 was the fifteenth year of the Best Management Practices Evaluation Program (BMPEP) on the Klamath National Forest. This program is designed to evaluate how well the Forest and the Region implement BMPs, and how effectively the BMPs control water pollution from National Forest System Lands. In 2006, 45 sites were randomly drawn from Forest activity pools and each was reviewed for BMP implementation and effectiveness. Timber (10 sites), road engineering (20 sites), recreation (2 sites), grazing (1 site), vegetation manipulation (3 sites), revegetation of disturbed areas (5 sites), fire (3 sites) and mining (1 site) activities were evaluated.

Results: In 2006, BMPs were fully implemented at 93% of the sites evaluated and effective at 100% of the sites evaluated. Water quality was protected at some sites even when BMPs were not fully implemented. The Forest issues a separate report detailing the results of BMP monitoring, located on the web at:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/klamath/projects/forestmanagement/forestplan/reports/resourceplanreports>

Monitoring: The Forest has been involved in a four-year study, working collaboratively with the University of California Berkeley, to monitor best management practice effectiveness at in-channel construction sites. The sites were reconstructed to allow for fish passage, resulting in culverts being replaced by bottomless arches. The goal of the study is to determine the amount of sediment, if any, delivered to streams during the construction phase, as well as after one, two and three winters. Six sites on the west side of the Forest (Cecil Creek, Boulder Creek, Fox Creek, Bishop Creek, Upper Elk Creek, and Stanza Creek) were monitored.

Results: Study results have not yet been finalized. When complete, they will be posted on the Klamath National Forest website.

Monitoring: An administrative study performed for the Forest Service by UC Berkeley tested the upslope sediment production predictions for instream effects indicators. The study, "Quantitative Linkages Between Sediment Supply, Streambed Fine Sediment, and Benthic Macroinvertebrates in Streams of the Klamath National Forest" was reported in 2006 and is available online at <http://csmres.jmu.edu/geollab/may/web/Research/Reprints/UCB%20Fine%20Sediment%20Effects%20Klamath%20National%20Forest.pdf>.

Results: This study quantified the linkages between the effects of land management activities on hillslope sediment supply, channel conditions, and biologically significant habitat characteristics. These results will advance our present-day ability to monitor and predict cumulative effects.

Monitoring: The Forest does not manage flows on rivers controlled by dams (such as the Klamath River) or flows on the Scott River within Scott Valley. Stream flows on the Klamath and Scott Rivers are monitored by other agencies. Diversions from other rivers and creeks for domestic or agricultural use are regulated through Forest Service special use permits for water transmission facilities. New permits are issued subject to existing water rights. A percentage of existing permits are monitored annually for compliance with diversion capability.

Results: All monitored water transmission special use permits were found to be in compliance with permit requirements.

Aquatic Conservation Strategy monitoring is described in the **Aquatic Conservation Strategy** section.

Air Quality

Emphasis Areas: Maintain air quality consistent with legal requirements, and manage prescribed fire and wildland fire use to avoid prolonged air quality impacts to local communities.

Airborne asbestos is a concern for air quality. The Forest complies with the Asbestos Toxic Control Measures (Title 17, Section 93105 and 93106) by evaluating quarry sites in ultramafic rocks, testing for asbestos, discontinuing use of any aggregate with detectable asbestos content, and incorporating dust abatement measures during road construction, maintenance, and quarry operations in ultramafic rocks. No permits from the Siskiyou County Air Pollution District for road construction or maintenance activities were required in 2006; no monitoring was conducted.

Monitoring: The Federal Clean Air Act and the State Air Quality and Smoke Management Standards and Regulations provide guidelines and direction for air quality management. A Smoke Management Plan is completed for each project. The plan requires extensive coordination with other agencies, as well as a description of the type of monitoring to be conducted. Smoke plumes are monitored during prescribed burning projects and complaints about smoke intrusions recorded.

Results: Smoke Management Plans were submitted to the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District for all 2006 prescribed fire Forest projects. Smoke levels for all prescribed fire projects were within State and County requirements limitations

Biological Environment

Goals:

- Manage for healthy, resilient forest rangeland and aquatic ecosystems
- Produce commodities, goods and services in an environmentally sound fashion
- Translate new knowledge into management strategies and techniques
- Develop an integrated vegetative inventory
- Cooperate with other agencies during fish and wildlife habitat planning and improvement
- Promote awareness and appreciation of wildlife, fish and plant resources

Biological Diversity

Emphasis Areas: Manage for healthy, biologically diverse ecosystems and resilient populations, and emphasize the maintenance or improvement of habitat for Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive species.

Wildlife Resources

Monitoring focuses on species listed under the Endangered Species Act as threatened or endangered, designated by the Regional Forester as sensitive, and identified in the Forest Plan as management indicator species (MIS). Chapter 5 of the Forest Plan requires population monitoring for MIS only on steelhead trout and rainbow trout. Other MIS are monitored through analysis of habitat changes at the project or landscape scales.

Monitoring: Northern Spotted Owl

Northern spotted owl (NSO) presence is determined by:

- ~ Surveys conducted in Late Successional Reserves in coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service
- ~ Habitat evaluations conducted by Fish and Wildlife Service (in coordination with the Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station) to predict northern spotted owl presence
- ~ Habitat loss and potential Take throughout the Forest reported to Fish and Wildlife Service annually
- ~ Formal monitoring programs of the Northwest Forest Plan area.

Results: Monitoring reports may be found on the web at

<http://www.reo.gov/monitoring/trends/index.htm>, <http://biology.usgs.gov/s+t/SNT/noframe/pn172.htm>, and <http://www.reo.gov/monitoring/nso/index.htm>. The monitoring results can be used to adapt management practices, as demonstrated in the new Northern Spotted Owl Draft Recovery Plan recently released by the Fish and Wildlife Service and posted on the web at <http://www.fws.gov/news/newsreleases/showNews.cfm?newsId=2E89B871-9B9F-78A7-9593E1997BB12FD2>. The Forest Plan indicates the Standard requiring further action for NSO management will be set by the Recovery Plan.

Monitoring: Bald Eagle

The Forest participated in the 2006 midwinter bald eagle count, surveying the upper Klamath River, Scott River, Salmon River, Scott Valley, and Butte Valley. Initiated by the National Wildlife Federation, midwinter bald eagle counts have been taking place since 1977.

Results: Bald Eagles: Monitoring of bald eagles indicates that the 1990 Resource Planning Act goal for this species is being met. In 2006, 16 bald eagle nests were documented and monitored on the Gooseneck Ranger District; the Resource Planning Act goal for the Forest is 5 nests. Results of nest monitoring are given to California Department of Fish and Game. Mid-winter bald eagle survey results are reported to the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group for incorporation into their state-wide summary: <http://www2.ucsc.edu/scpbrg/research.htm>

Monitoring: Peregrine Falcon

Three sites were monitored for presence and nesting success.

Results: All 3 sites were occupied by nesting falcons. Success of the nesting efforts was not confirmed.

Monitoring: Pacific Fisher

The study of Pacific fishers, a cooperative effort between the Klamath National Forest and Pacific Southwest Research Station, continued through 2006. The purpose of the study is to document distribution and habitat suitability of fisher in the Eastern Klamath and Southern Cascades Bioregions in Northern California. Currently, 240 sites on National Forest System Lands and adjacent private timber lands are being surveyed for fishers. Presence/absence data gathered from the surveys will be analyzed in conjunction with GIS data to develop a habitat model. The model will be expressed in the form of a map that will specify the likelihood of fisher presence for any given site in the study area. This model will further assist federal and non-federal biologists to analyze potential effects of land management activities on fisher habitat. It will be a key component in developing and implementing state-wide conservation strategies on federal and non-federal land.

Results: Data analysis will begin in December 2007, and preliminary results will be reported in the 2008 Monitoring Report.

Monitoring: Goshawk

The Gooseneck Ranger District monitored 37 goshawk territories. Twelve sites received a brief search of known nests, and five territories were surveyed to Region 5 protocol (intensive search of suitable habitat with 0.5 mile of historic nests). The remaining 20 territories received an intensive search of habitat within 100 meters of known or suspected nests. Monitoring data aids District staff in pre-project evaluation of goshawk habitat modification and/or improvement.

Results: Thirteen territories were occupied; eleven of those successfully fledged twenty young. Twenty-four sites had negative survey data.

Monitoring: Siskiyou Mountain Salamander

The Forest participated in a cooperative effort with Fish and Wildlife Service to survey sites on federal lands. In a related effort, the California Department of Fish and Game and Timber Products company surveyed sites on private lands. The intent was to reconfirm occupancy of previously-occupied sites. Fifty sites on federal lands were surveyed. In addition, genetic material (tailclip) was taken from salamanders at 15 sites.

Results: About 60% of the previously occupied salamander sites on federal lands were still occupied. The genetic material that was collected will provide baseline information for a salamander Conservation Strategy currently being developed jointly by the Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife Service.

Monitoring: Butte Valley National Grassland Avian Monitoring

Monitoring of a variety of bird species, including Swainson's hawks, continued in the Butte Valley on the Goosenest Ranger District. This program has provided data on survival, reproduction and recruitment in the local population of Swainson's hawks for over 20 years. Approximately 100 Swainson's hawk territories were sampled. Monitoring was conducted for presence and nesting success of loggerhead shrikes, golden eagles, and ferruginous hawks.

Results:

Seventy nests were occupied, and 63 nests were located. Fifty nestlings were banded in the nest. Two new Swainson hawk territories were found (photos are available at www.ggro.org/photoalbum06.html#closeups). Three active loggerhead shrike pairs were observed, and two nests were found. Three golden eagle nests were active this year out of five known territories. One adult ferruginous hawk was observed early in the season on the Butte Valley National Grasslands; however, no nest was found despite intensive surveys, indicating possible abandonment of the Butte Valley as a ferruginous hawk breeding area.



Swainson's Hawk

Monitoring: Barred Owls

In 2006, the Klamath National Forest partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Academy of Sciences to evaluate the effectiveness of barred owl removal as a tool for conserving Northern spotted owls. Barred owls have recently colonized portions of the Goosenest Late Successional Reserve (LSR) and have displaced northern spotted owls. During this 2-year study (2005 and 2006), the 23,000-acre LSR was inventoried for northern spotted owls and barred owls. Surveyors documented occupancy, pair status, and reproductive success of both species of owls. Personnel from the California Academy of Sciences will remove barred owls from sites within the LSR and conduct follow-up monitoring to document the response by northern spotted owls.

Results: Seven barred owl pairs were located, one with 2 young. Five barred owls were removed by the USFWS and California Academy of Sciences.

Monitoring: Burrowing Owls

Known territories were briefly monitored; surveys were not done to protocol.

Results: No burrowing owls were detected.

Monitoring: Coopers Hawk

A multi-year research project undertaken in cooperation with Humboldt State University continued during 2006. Coopers hawks were fitted with location transmitters and video cameras. Foraging adults were tracked to determine use of recently-harvested stands. Nests were located and prey remains collected at the nest sites. Behavior and reproductive success were monitored visually at four nests.

Results: Four nests successfully fledged young in 2006. Analysis of additional study data should be available in 2007.

Botanical Resources

Forestwide Standards and Guidelines direct sensitive plant species management to ensure maintenance of reproducing, self-sustaining populations, and to prevent the need for the species to become listed under the Endangered Species Act. The noxious weed eradication program is addressed here as noxious weeds can threaten populations of endangered plants, and simplify vegetative communities.

Monitoring: Public education is a positive way to protect populations of sensitive plants. The Forest communicated its botanical management goals through efforts such as the Annual Siskiyou County Wildflower Show and field trips with the California and Oregon chapters of the Native Plant Society.



The Wildflower Show, in partnership with the Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, was a great success again in 2006. Over 300 species of wildflowers, shrubs, ferns, trees, lichens, mosses, fungi, and weeds were displayed. The show provides an opportunity for Forest Service employees to interact with the public, to share information on listed plant species issues, and to discuss native plant and invasive species management.

Results: The Forest reached over 600 individuals through its botanical education and outreach efforts.

Monitoring: Cooke's Phacelia

Monitoring for the Sensitive *Phacelia cookei*, Cooke's phacelia, was conducted on 10 acres. A partnership with the adjacent Shasta-Trinity National Forest is being initiated to further monitoring and protection efforts.

Results: Population levels continue to decline. The Forest is considering development of a strategy to protect the population and increase the number of individuals.

Monitoring: Bryophytes

A local bryophyte expert inventoried potential habitat for bryophyte species on the Sensitive list. Six acres in Shovel Creek Meadows, 5 acres in Horse Creek Botanical Area, and 2 acres in 4 other areas were inventoried for rare bryophytes.

Results: No new populations were located this year.

Monitoring: Forest Plan Effectiveness

Projects are designed to mitigate effects on rare plants. Design features usually include buffers around rare plant populations to protect them from disturbance. Approximately 20 acres were monitored to determine if the buffers were of sufficient size to protect the plants from adverse effects.

Results: Protection buffers applied around known rare plant populations were adequate to protect populations.

Noxious Weeds: A total of 545 noxious weed sites are monitored annually across the Klamath National Forest. In 2006, eradication projects addressed 2,000 (gross) acres; a total of 76 acres were cleared of weeds using manual methods (hand digging). No chemical treatment was used. Trailheads and other high use recreation sites are treated, along with projects designed to protect populations of rare plants. Some project examples are described below:

Monitoring: Siskiyou Mariposa Lily (*Calochortus persistens*)

This is the fourth year of a US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) partnership project to implement conservation actions related to invasion of the noxious weed, dyer's woad. We expanded our partnership this year to include the local California Conservation Crew to assist with weed removal. Manual treatment methods were used in areas adjacent to lily populations and along roads being used as containment lines, for a total of 31 acres on Federal and private lands.

Results: Monitoring of annual treatments indicate that hand-cutting along roads is effective as a control measure, if done consistently.

Monitoring: Spotted Knapweed

A cooperative knapweed eradication project with the Salmon River Restoration Council has been active for 9 years. They have contributed over 18,000 volunteer hours hand digging knapweed in the Salmon River drainage. Ten acres were treated in 2006.

Results: On-the-ground monitoring indicates that the treated infestation has been reduced by about 95% over the last 9 years, and plant densities continue to decrease. However, the number of gross acres covered (about 300) has remained fairly constant.

Monitoring: Dyer's Woad in the Marble Mountain Wilderness

FY 2006 was the 8th year of treatment in Kelsey Meadows to prevent spread of this noxious weed in the Wilderness. The work this year was funded by a Centennial Challenge Grant awarded to the Klamath National Forest for continuing partnerships in noxious weed management. A local California Conservation Corps group assisted in the treatment of 5 acres. Photo comparisons were used to determine effectiveness of the treatment.

Results: Monitoring of the site suggests that hand treatment can reduce the infestation, but treatments must be conducted annually in order to be effective.

Aquatic Conservation Strategy

Emphasis Areas: The goals are to maintain and restore all nine components of the aquatic ecosystem as outlined in the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS). Four components addressed here include Riparian Reserves, Key Watersheds, Watershed Analysis, and Watershed Restoration.

Monitoring: Compliance with ACS

Inclusion of ACS requirements in planning is monitored by planning personnel prior to signature of decision documents.

Results: All projects adequately addressed compliance with ACS requirements.

Monitoring: Riparian Reserves

Riparian reserves were monitored in 6 units of the Goosenest Late Successional Reserve - Southeast Habitat Restoration project. The monitoring was conducted to determine if the reserves were properly designated, and to confirm if tree marking was consistent with goals for maintaining riparian conditions.

Results: A site on one unit of the Goosenest LSR project had more trees marked than appropriate for watershed protection needs (although it was noted that when the mark was done in November, it appeared adequate at the time). This information was provided to the marking crew, the site was revisited and some trees that had been marked for cutting were marked to be left. Subsequent monitoring has shown that the marked trees were left after harvest.

Monitoring: Watershed Analysis

A completed watershed analysis is required prior to ground-disturbing work in Key watersheds. The information in these analyses is intended to inform decisions regarding appropriate land management activities.

Results: Watershed analyses have been completed for most watersheds on the Forest as reported in previous Monitoring and Evaluation Reports. As proposed projects are analyzed, new information updates the watershed analyses and associated data layers. Cumulative Watershed Effects modeling is the primary mechanism for updating watershed level information.

Monitoring: Watershed Restoration

Road restoration projects are monitored concurrently by the contract administrator, so that

problems can be identified early and corrected immediately. Ten miles of road were restored and received concurrent monitoring.

Results: All work was completed within contract specifications, and no issues were identified during final inspections.

Wildlife

Emphasis Areas: Coordinate habitat improvement with the California Department of Fish and Game, and develop or maintain unique wildlife habitats.

Monitoring activities for wildlife include those described in the **Biological Diversity** section for Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive species, and Management Indicator Species. This section deals with monitoring of wildlife species without special designation. Monitoring is conducted by the state, research groups (private and federal), universities, and partnerships with qualified groups to determine current habitat conditions and species presence.

Monitoring: Landbird monitoring continued at two Breeding Bird Survey routes located at Horse Creek and Medicine Mountain. Data collected in 2006 were added to existing data sets at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland, where they are used to produce an index of relative abundance of each bird species detected, and local and national population trends.

Results: As the data are processed, they are posted on the web at: <http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs>

Monitoring: The Seiad Valley Constant Effort Mist Net Station was operated in 2006 for the 15th year. This project provides information about adult population status, breeding status, productivity, annual adult survival, proportions of resident species, and recruitment into the adult population. The United States Geologic Service North American Bird Banding Laboratory, the Institute for Bird Populations Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship program, the Klamath Demographic Monitoring Network, and the North American Migration Monitoring Network utilize this data.

Results: The Institute for Bird Populations, (a California nonprofit corporation, dedicated to fostering a global approach to research and the dissemination of information on changes in the abundance, distribution, and ecology of bird populations), analyzes the Constant Effort Mist Net data and makes it available on their website: <http://www.birdpop.org/nbii/nbiihome.asp>. This data is also being used in the analysis conducted for the Federal Energy Relicensing Commission effort regarding the dams on the Klamath River.

Fisheries

Emphasis Areas: Coordinate management internally and externally to implement the Aquatic Conservation Strategy, and increase public awareness and appreciation of aquatic resources.

Monitoring: In 2006 the Klamath National Forest worked with US Fish and Wildlife Service to complete a status review of anadromous fish survey data and population trends.

Results: The report was reviewed by the Klamath River Basin Technical Work Group and is

being finalized by the US Fish and Wildlife Service prior to publication.

Monitoring: In the fall of 2005 (FY 2006) Fall Chinook salmon spawning escapement was monitored for the Klamath River Basin in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and other federal, tribal and local stakeholders using methods developed by CDFG and the Forest Service (carcass mark-recapture and/or redd count techniques). Surveys were funded by the Fish and Wildlife Service with funds contributed by each stakeholder, including the Klamath National Forest. Early winter storms during November raised water levels in the Salmon and Scott Rivers, limiting the number of surveys.

Results: Estimated escapement numbers were highly variable across the basin. Based on redd surveys, approximately 1,432 fish returned to the Salmon River, 1,731 fish returned to the Scott River, and 2,121 fish returned to miscellaneous mid-Klamath River tributaries. These estimates will be refined by the California Department of Fish and Game using mark/recapture surveys. These numbers were the 6th lowest return of wild Chinook since the surveys were initiated in 1978, and follow two record-setting low escapement years for both the Salmon and Scott Rivers.

The complete fall Chinook spawning escapement report is available from the Klamath National Forest Supervisors office on request.

Monitoring: Special Forest Service funds were used to monitor Forest Service designated Sensitive fish species (Chinook salmon and steelhead trout) during the spring and summer. The annual Spring Chinook and Summer Steelhead dive on the Salmon River was truncated by the summer-long wildfires on the Klamath National Forest.

Results: Surveys counted 317 spring-run Chinook, and 42 adults and 75 half-pounder steelhead trout.

Resource Management Programs

Goals:

- Integrate resource needs through ecosystem analysis and project planning
- Develop a consistent approach to determining current resource conditions and make predictions about effects of proposed management actions.

Visual Resource Management

Emphasis Areas: Manage visual resources to conserve the forest's natural scenic character, and rehabilitate areas not currently meeting Visual Quality Objectives.

Monitoring: Informal post-project monitoring involved an assessment by the scenery manager as to whether the scenic character was maintained per the objectives in the project analysis and the Forest Plan. The assessment was supported by virtual monitoring through 3D photographic simulations (Google Earth). Monitoring was conducted on the following projects:

Kendel Timber Sale, Pomeroy Timber Sale, Little Horse Peak Research Project, Erickson Timber Sale, Five Points Timber Sale (Goosenest RD); Salmon River Heli Timber Sale, Sixmile Timber Sale, Bowerman Fire Salvage, North Russian Timber Sale, Olsen Fire Recovery Project, Russell Timber Sale (Salmon/Scott River RDs);

Glade Timber Sale, Colestine Fire Salvage, Ladd Timber Sale, King Titus Fire Salvage, Slater Fire Salvage (Happy Camp/Oak Knoll RDs).

Results: Application of scenery protection measures was adequate in all monitored projects except for one unit in Five Points. District employees reviewed that project and developed a more effective process for applying these measures in future. Project monitoring indicates that scenery analyses predict future scenic integrity with approximately 95% accuracy.

Recreation Management

Emphasis Areas: Support communities' diversification efforts, offer a wide range of recreation attractions and opportunities, design developed sites to support recreationists in off-site activities, provide barrier-free access, and implement national, regional, and Forest recreation strategies.

Monitoring: Forest-wide use of recreational facilities and opportunities was assessed based on the professional judgment of recreation specialists, public comments, information from Forest Service recreation managers, and the number of commercial recreation permits.

Results: Forest-wide, recreation use and demand continues to experience gradual, steady growth in most sectors. Use is concentrated along scenic byways, rivers, lakes, backcountry roads, and trails typically within wilderness and backcountry areas. Several large wildfires on the Forest burned from mid-summer until fall of 2006, filling the skies with smoke and limiting many recreation opportunities due to temporary closures of some roads, recreation sites and trails. Sites and trails affected by closures experienced reduced use (see **Wilderness** section).

Monitoring: Commercial river use was monitored through a review of permitted days.

Results: Commercial whitewater use was affected by several unusual events, including the December 31, 2005 flood event on the Klamath River that impacted recreational facilities, some of which were not repaired or replaced until the end of the year; a 10-day river closure (due to a helicopter crash and subsequent recovery efforts); and wide-spread information about toxic algae in the river. These events are believed to be responsible for a 10% reduction in total commercial whitewater user days in 2006.

Monitoring: Forest employees floated over 300 miles during the season, including reconnaissance patrols on sections of the Klamath River outside the Forest boundary (on BLM lands). Monitoring identifies safety issues (such as abandoned campfires and underwater hazards), and sites that need cleanup. Hazard logs were identified and mapped. River users were monitored to determine compliance with voluntary restrictions regarding presence and behavior in and near Karuk ceremonial sites along the Klamath River.

Results: No abandoned campfires were found. A new logjam was located on Seiad Creek. Locations of dangerous logs were communicated to rafting groups. Three private groups breached the ceremonial closure area during the first few days of the ceremonies.

Monitoring: River use by commercial outfitter/guides was monitored during annual Karuk Tribal ceremonies to determine compliance with directives regarding areas of use and behavior.

Results: Permittees were 100% compliant with directives. In response to several complaints regarding behavior of non-permitted rafters during ceremonies, FY 2007 monitoring will include

both outfitter/guides and nonpermitted rafters.

Monitoring: Barrier-free facilities were assessed for effectiveness per the Forest Accessibility Action Plan of 2000, which prioritizes barrier removal for 190 recreation sites over 10 to 20 years. Specific sites monitored include Tree of Heaven Campground, Kangaroo Lake Campground, Juanita Lake Campground, Gottville takeout, Hidden Horse equestrian site, and approaches to all the accessible toilets.

Results: All monitored accessible facilities were determined to be functional. The trail at Kangaroo Lake was determined to be in need of repair and was listed as a priority for work in 2007.

Monitoring: Conditions of all recreation facilities are assessed periodically to identify and prioritize annual critical maintenance needs. Condition surveys were performed on 20% of our recreation facilities in 2006.

Results: Condition surveys identified additional deferred maintenance needs. Items that affected public safety were addressed immediately. The gap between existing funding and the amount of funding required to eliminate the deferred maintenance workload continues to grow due to aging facilities, the downward trend in maintenance budgets, and the loss of spending power due to inflation.

Monitoring: Facilities all along the Klamath River were damaged in the New Year's Flood. Forest employees monitored the condition of riverside facilities, including toilets, signs, and access surfaces.

Results: Sluice Box: Large interpretive signs were swept away
Rocky Point: Interpretive signs were laid down and partially (one panel) swept away.
Indian Creek: Signs were knocked over; tons of sand were dumped on the access parking lot.
Chambers Flat: Signs were knocked over.
Curly Jack: All the sand at the beach washed away.
Developed facilities: Three permanent toilets were flooded; numerous river access ramps were severely damaged.

This information was used to prioritize repair work, including sign refurbishment and replacement, toilet repair and pumping, removal of sand and rocks, and repair of driving surfaces at numerous river access points.

Wilderness Management

Emphasis Area: Maintain or enhance wilderness values.

Noxious weed removal efforts and monitoring in wilderness are addressed in the **Biological Diversity (Botanical Resources)** section.

Monitoring: Wildernesses are used primarily by recreationists and grazing permittees. Relative levels of wilderness use were assessed based on the professional judgment of wilderness specialists, public comments, and information from Forest Service recreation managers. Large wildfires ignited mid-summer and burned until fall on the west side of the forest, resulting in smoke-filled air, and closures of roads and trails accessing the Marble Mountain and Trinity Alps Wilderness areas. This situation affected the number of wilderness visitors using these two

wildernesses.

Results: Use levels are generally light compared to other wilderness areas in the Region. Use continues to slightly increase. Visitor numbers in the Marble Mountain Wilderness were reduced during the period when trail closures were in effect, although some through hikers on the Pacific Crest Trail did not choose to comply with the closures.

Monitoring: Restoration efforts at high use sites at Campbell Lake, Sky High Lakes, and in Marble Valley include removal of trash, rehabilitation of campsites, and removal of fire rings. At key high use areas such as Campbell Lake, campsites were significantly reduced in number from previous years. Signing at trailheads reminds users to use No Trace principles and establish camps away from lake shores. User compliance and effectiveness of restoration efforts were monitored by Wilderness Rangers.

Results: Restored campsites are showing reduced repeat use, and recovery has been noted at several sites. However, some sites still have exposed mineral soil and minimal native vegetation, indicating that conditions are not improving. For many sites, restoration is a long-term process that will require repeated visits and treatment.

Monitoring: Trailhead bulletin boards have largely been refitted with durable “lexan” covers to protect visitor information. Durability and effectiveness have been monitored by recreation specialists.

Results: Lexan covers at trailheads have been found to effectively protect posted information from the elements. This saves money, as there is no need to repost the information annually. However, the Forest is currently monitoring how well the material holds up against myriad types of vandalism (including bullets, axes, and graffiti).

Wild and Scenic River Management

Emphasis Area: Maintain and enhance the “outstandingly remarkable” values and free-flowing conditions of the Forest’s designated and recommended Wild and Scenic Rivers.

The only outstandingly remarkable value for our designated Wild and Scenic Rivers (the Klamath River and 3 of its tributaries – the Scott River, Salmon River and Wooley Creek) is fish. See the **Fisheries** and **Aquatic Conservation Strategy** sections for information on monitoring of fish and aquatic resources. Water quality monitoring is described in the **Water Quality** section. No monitoring was done regarding free-flowing conditions on the 4 rivers.

Specially Designated Area Management

Emphasis Areas: Emphasize the diversity of the Forest, recognize the many special areas and unique values, provide information about these areas, develop partnerships for research within Research Natural Areas, and promote interpretive opportunities within Special Interest Areas.

See the **Geology** section for monitoring of cave-related Geologic Research Natural Areas.

Monitoring: Inventories of native plants were conducted in the Kangaroo Lake Special Interest Area and the Sugar Creek Research Natural Area with volunteers from the California Native Plant Society.

Results: The survey results supplemented the list of species known in the area, and provided information for environmental education or research projects.

Butte Valley National Grassland Area

Emphasis Areas: Promote soil, water, forage, fish and wildlife resources, and enhance wildlife habitats and wetlands.

Monitoring: The Forest completed monitoring of range utilization, Swainson's hawks, and loggerhead shrike.

Results: Results of range utilization monitoring are covered in the **Range Management** section, Swainson's hawk monitoring is covered in the **Biological Diversity** section, and loggerhead shrike monitoring is covered in the **Wildlife** section.

Lands Program Management

Emphasis Area: Achieve a land ownership pattern that improves management options, while reducing conflicts and administrative costs. The Forest maintains a second emphasis on administering Land Use Authorizations to minimize unauthorized use, and facilitate those needs of adjacent landowners that can only be accommodated through the legal use of National Forest System lands.

Monitoring: The Forest acquired one 80-acre isolated parcel in Thompson Creek on the Happy Camp Ranger District through a tripartite land exchange.

Results: This acquisition eliminated an inholding and consolidated federal land ownership in the Thompson Creek drainage.

Monitoring: Land Use authorizations (special use permits, easements, rights-of-way) were monitored to determine compliance with permit requirements.

Results: The Forest met its target for permit monitoring and Section VI (civil rights) compliance. All reviewed permits were in compliance. No new unauthorized uses were identified.

Minerals Management

Emphasis Area: The goal is to manage mineral exploration and development of surface resources to maintain environmental quality.

Monitoring: Minerals operations for locatable minerals are controlled by the surface use regulations. The Forest regulates a continuing program of small dredging and mining activities. A mineral administrator periodically visits operations to ensure compliance with the approved plans of operations. Operators who are not in compliance with their plans are provided an opportunity to come into compliance. Leaseable minerals and minerals materials are regulated by permit and monitored for compliance with permit requirements.

Results: Forest employees visited all minerals operations on the Forest in 2006. All operators were in compliance with their Plans of Operation. Occupancies under a Notice of Intent continue to increase in number. These occupancies are monitored and, where occupancy exceeds 14 days, self-contained sanitary systems are required. The geothermal lease on the Goosenest District was inactive in 2006 and no monitoring occurred there.

Transportation and Facilities Management

Emphasis Areas: Provide an economical, safe, and environmentally sensitive transportation system, emphasize maintenance and restoration of existing roads over new construction, and provide safe and effective administrative sites and facilities.

Monitoring: Transportation Management

The Forest Plan calls for 521 miles of road to be maintained each year, and 10 miles of new road construction. Most maintenance work is routine in nature and is done within the existing road prism. Road maintenance projects are monitored concurrently with operations, and a sample number are monitored after the fact to ensure compliance with applicable Best Management Practices (see BMP monitoring under **Water Quality**). Monitoring of stormproofed roads is done as a final inspection to validate the quality of the work for contracting purposes. The Engineering staff works closely with Forest resource personnel to review the effectiveness of completed work and identify future road related projects that will improve watershed health, reduce maintenance needs and mitigate potential resource impacts.

Results: During 2006, 912 miles of road were maintained and less than one mile of new road was constructed. All were found to be in full compliance with BMPs. In addition, 10 miles of road were storm-proofed to reduce maintenance needs and improve watershed health. The Final Inspection indicated that all work was completed to standard and complied with existing direction.

Monitoring: Facilities Management

All Forest-owned facilities receive condition surveys on a five-year cycle; the surveys are used to identify and prioritize annual critical maintenance needs to abate health and safety problems. Eight facilities were surveyed in 2006.

Results: Condition surveys identified new maintenance needs. Work that was required to abate a health and safety risk was undertaken immediately. Other tasks were added to the deferred maintenance list. The gap between existing funding and the amount of funding required to eliminate the deferred maintenance workload continues to grow due to aging Forest structures coupled with a downward trend in maintenance budgets and the loss of spending power due to inflation.

Timber Management

Emphasis Areas: The goals are to implement silvicultural prescriptions to achieve desired conditions, reforest lands allocated to sustained timber production within five years of harvest, actively reforest areas damaged by extreme events (such as floods, wind, fires, insect infestations), offer the allowable sale quantity, utilize dead and dying trees, implement post-sale treatments, and manage the spread and occurrence of insects and disease.

Monitoring: Marking for the Colestine Timber Sale was reviewed on the ground to determine whether silvicultural prescriptions had been appropriate applied. Reforestation success was

monitored through survival surveys and certification of planted stands. Post-sale treatments required under contract were monitored by sale administration personnel.

Results: Silvicultural prescriptions in the Colestine Sale accurately reflected the silvicultural prescriptions.

Monitoring: A thinning project in the Tennant Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) was reviewed to determine if a density reduction project reduced tree mortality from insects.

Results: Thinning in the Tennant WUI appears to have reduced insect-related mortality. Untreated areas adjacent to the project show continuing mortality.

Monitoring: A recently-discovered infestation of Port-Orford cedar root rot (*Phytophthora lateralis*) in the Siskiyou Wilderness on the Happy Camp Ranger District was investigated.

Results: *P. lateralis* was found to be associated with the Clear Creek trail and was mapped. The information will be used to develop options to minimize spread of the organism.

Monitoring: Monitoring results for ASQ, reforestation and timber stand improvement activities are reported or derived from data in the Planned Timber Sale Accomplishment Report (ASQ), the Forest Service Activity Tracking System (FACTS) and the yearly Plantation Survival Report.

Results: The Forest offered approximately 40,500 hundred cubic feet of timber in FY 2006. This exceeded the assigned target of 36,100 hundred cubic feet by 12%. This volume included 32,100 hundred cubic feet of green material and 8,400 hundred cubic feet of salvage material produced through a combination of commercial thinning, sanitation, biomass harvest, and salvage. The reforestation program remains at a very low level, due mostly to the lack of regeneration harvesting and no fires outside of the wilderness. Most of the reforestation efforts are confined to interplantings of understocked plantations. Monitoring indicated that survival rates in all monitored units are within the acceptable range.

Fire Management

Emphasis Areas: Reintroduce fire into the environment through prescribed fire and Wildland Fire Use, reduce unacceptable fuel buildups, use appropriate minimum impact suppression methods, and develop management strategies for intermixed State and private lands.

Refer to the **Air Quality** section for information on smoke management.

Monitoring: Acres of fuel management are used as the indicator. Target achievement is tracked in the Management Attainment Report, and reported upward using the National Fire Plan Operations Reporting System (NFORS).

Results: The Forest exceeded its fuels reduction target of 6,250 by 1181 acres, totaling 7,431 treated acres for the year. Over 30% of these acres are within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Most of the treatment was conducted using mechanical methods. The Red Rock Underburn in the Marble Mountain Wilderness treated 445 acres in 2006; the project will eventually treat 4,100 acres with prescribed fire. The Forest managed three Wildland Fire Use (WFU) fires. The Caribou WFU burned about 248 acres on the Salmon/Scott River Ranger District, and two other small fires burned less than 1 acre each.

Range Management

Emphasis Areas: Provide for healthy ecosystems, manage grazing activities to not prevent attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives, and provide forage for big game.

Monitoring of Best Management Practices on range allotments is described in the **Water Quality** section.

Range health and forage availability are monitored through a combination of methods that look at utilization, riparian condition, and vegetative trend. Monitoring methods include landscape analysis, ocular estimates, paired plots, photo points, and stubble height. All these methods were used in 2006 to evaluate conditions on key areas (sites that represent allotment conditions, or are indicators of a specific habitat type, such as riparian reserves). Permitted Animal Unit Months are monitored through on-the-ground administration.

Monitoring: Monitoring was conducted on 137 of 207 key areas, and 11 non-key areas, for a total of 148 sites on 45 separate grazing allotments.

Results: Conditions on 141 of the 148 monitored sites complied with resource standards; 9 sites on 6 allotments did not comply. For the 6 allotments with noncompliance, the following actions were taken:

- ~ Ball Mountain/Kucks, Bray, and Panther/Ball Mountain Allotments: Forest sent permittee a letter regarding the issue and a copy of the annual range monitoring report
- ~ Kidder Creek Allotment: Forest sent permittee a notice of noncompliance
- ~ Granite Fox and South Fork Saloon Allotments: Forest proposed cancellation of permit

Monitoring indicates that range health on permitted allotments is generally good, with a stable or upward trend on most sites.

Wild Horse Management

Emphasis Area: Manage 1 viable horse herd.

Monitoring: The Forest Plan lists population goals for the two horse herds on the Forest. The Three Sisters herd has a population goal of 10; the McGavin Peak herd has a goal of 0. Population estimates for both are generated through periodic census of total numbers, sex and age class. When numbers exceed population goals, horses should be removed from the area.

Results: Current population estimates are 15 head for the Three Sisters herd and 72 head for McGavin Peak herd. Based on these numbers, Forest Plan population goals are not being met. The Forest did not receive funding to capture and remove horses in 2006, so numbers are expected to increase.

Heritage Resource Program

Emphasis Areas: Develop partnerships with local Native American organizations, sustain a progressive heritage resource program, and inventory known cultural sites to determine significance.

Monitoring: Two types of heritage monitoring were done. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires that we locate and protect properties that are potentially

eligible to, and sites that are on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), during project planning and implementation. Post-project monitoring may be done to ensure adequacy of protection measures. Section 110 of the NHPA requires monitoring and evaluation of the condition of existing historic properties that are not affected by planned management activities. Twenty percent of the structures and sites on the list of heritage priority assets are monitored annually.

Results: During 2006, 11 historic properties and sites were monitored during project development and implementation, and 72 new sites were recorded. Twenty-five sites were monitored for condition and vandalism (per Section 110). One site showed evidence of vandalism. Most monitored heritage priority assets are being managed to standard. Some problems with historic structures on Forest Service compounds were identified during condition surveys and will be addressed as funding becomes available.

Tribal Government Program

Emphasis Areas: Improve relationships and increase understanding, communications and partnerships between the Forest Service and Indian tribes, organizations and communities.

Monitoring: In FY 2006 the Forest continued government-to-government consultation efforts with the Yurok, Karuk, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation, Klamath, and Pit River Tribes. The Forest, the Karuk Tribe, and the Happy Camp community continue to emphasize common interest and goals and to work collaboratively to facilitate the implementation of a variety of projects.

In FY 2006 the Forest continued consultation and coordination with the Klamath Tribes, Shasta Nation (Quartz and Butte Valley), and the Pit River Tribes in the development of the Medicine Lake Highlands Historic Properties Management Plan (Draft).

Consultation and coordination with the Karuk Tribe of California, Klamath Tribes, Shasta nation/Shasta Tribe, Inc. (Quartz Valley), Quartz Valley Indian Reservation, Pit River Tribe, Yurok Tribe, Shasta Nation (Butte Valley), and Forks of Salmon Indian Council continued in 2006 for wildland fire and numerous Forest Service projects.

Results: Monitoring indicates that established consultation processes with federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes are effective in addressing processes and agreements. The Happy Camp District has been successful in working with the Karuk Tribe to accomplish vegetation management, fuels reduction and cultural burning projects.

Social and Economic Environment

Goals:

- Develop partnerships with local and regional groups to emphasize environmental education, public awareness, and knowledge about Forest processes.
- Incorporate non-discrimination and fairness into every program and process on the Forest.

Adaptive Management Area

Emphasis Area: Develop and test new management approaches.

Monitoring: The Forest, in partnership with the Pacific Southwest Research Station, initiated the Little Horse Peak research project in 1997 to determine which types of management treatments can accelerate development of late successional forest attributes. Annual monitoring of northern spotted owl and goshawk activity on this project is included in the **Biological Diversity** section. Under a partnership agreement, a graduate student from Humboldt State University monitored Cooper hawk activity and colonization of treated stands. Data from that study will be used to inform future management decisions.

Results: Little Horse Peak is a long-term project and some preliminary results should be available in the next several years. Results from Coopers hawk monitoring will be available in 2007.

Public Interaction and Involvement

Emphasis Area: Use all opportunities to gather and share information regarding Klamath National Forest management, use the best information available to make decisions, and seek public interaction from potentially affected individuals when implementing Forest activities.

Monitoring: Success in communicating with the public can be gauged by the number and types of communication methods used, the opportunities provided for two-way communications, and the number and type of environmental education opportunities provided by the Forest.

Results: The Klamath Forest interacted with the public in myriad ways. Some examples:

Information was provided to the public through news media and the internet. The Forest sent numerous news releases to print, television and radio media; receptivity was high and nearly all releases were published or aired, although very little television coverage occurred. The news releases covered a variety of forest programs including fire, administrative issues, wildlife, botany, forest-sponsored events and others. Decision documents, planning schedules and news releases were posted to the Forest's website. The Schedule of Proposed Actions was updated quarterly so that members of the public could track project development. The site invites comments, and the Forest maintained several electronic inboxes for submission of input. Calls and personal contacts with local residents indicated that news releases and website postings were reaching interested members of the public. The website has proven to be especially effective as a method of disseminating information, and the Forest received very few requests for hard copy documents that were posted on the web.

The Forest sponsored several family-oriented outreach events, including the annual Mother's Day wildflower show, and family fishing derbies at Juanita and Kelly Lakes.

Fire prevention messages were delivered during risk assessments at residences, at FireSafe Council meetings, during informal discussions at campgrounds and other Forest venues. Smokey Bear visited with numerous children and their parents at the Siskiyou County Fair. Prevention personnel also participated in the Sportsmen's Expo, the State Special Olympics, and the Siskiyou County Balloon Faire.

The Forest maintained numerous partnerships with an educational focus:

- o Oregon and California Chapters of the Native Plant Society (Annual Wildflower Show, inventories of native plants with information made available to researchers and the public)
- o Shasta Area Grotto (cave cleanup and education)
- o Salmon River Restoration Council and California Conservation Corps (noxious weed eradication, public notification and awareness)

- o California Department of Transportation (interpretive signing along the Shasta Volcanic National Forest Scenic Byway)
- o Local FireSafe Councils (public information and awareness about fuels management on private lands)
- o California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (fire prevention messages)

Monitoring: The Klamath National Forest strives to provide accurate, timely information to the public in a variety of ways. Sharing information is a vital part of public education.

Results: The Forest utilized newspaper, television and radio news programs to apprise the public of area and trail closures during the Uncles and Titus Fires. Flyers were posted at trailheads, and Forest personnel were briefed daily to ensure that they provided up-to-date information to recreationists using the Marble Mountain Wilderness.

The Forest maintained well-trained front office staffs at all offices to answer questions and provide information to visitors, both in person and over the telephone.

The Forest responded to written information requests, both informally and through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Thirty-two FOIA requests were handled in 2006.

Forest Service employees made presentations to local classes and professional organizations.

Coordination and cooperation efforts with local Indian tribes are documented in the **Tribal Government Program** section.

Economic

Emphasis Areas: Promote economic stability of local communities, develop partnerships for promoting economic stability, promote non-traditional Forest-based resource uses, emphasize a diversity of goods and services, highlight scenery and recreational opportunities, and encourage the utilization of wood products.

Monitoring: The Forest contributes to the local economy through employment, expenditures for goods, community development grant programs, and projects derived from, as well as payments to, the county through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393).

Results: In a partnership with the Siskiyou County office of Education, the Forest provided employment for 8 challenged youth under the Workability Program. The young people participated in a variety of projects such as trail maintenance, wilderness cleanup, and an introduction to firefighting. The program successfully provided program participants with skills they can use later in life.

The Klamath National Forest entered into a number of agreements that promoted economic stability of local communities. Examples include:

Thirteen agreements with groups providing employment to young adults for trail maintenance worth a total of \$238,000.

Three agreements with local tribes worth \$11,800.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 established a stable payment to Siskiyou County of approximately \$9 million per year for 6 years. Eighty-five percent

of the payment is dedicated to schools and roads with the remaining 15% benefiting National Forest System lands, split between projects initiated by the County and those based on Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) recommendations. Fifteen RAC project agreements were executed in FY 2006, for a total of \$852,000. About \$562,000 was from the RAC, and the rest was cooperative money or in-kind contributions from the grant proponents.

Northwest Forest Plan Monitoring

Implementation monitoring on the Forest related to the Northwest Forest Plan has been ongoing for ten years. Effectiveness monitoring at the Northwest Forest Plan scale is currently in progress to test the effectiveness of the Forest Plan land allocations and standards and guidelines relating to key issues; watershed, old growth, northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, social, economic and tribal. Monitoring documents and results are available on the web:

<http://www.reo.gov/monitoring/implementation>

Forest Plan Amendments and Corrections

The acreage for the Inam Cultural Area was updated (from 4,100 acres to 7,227 acres).

Public Participation Plan

A notice of the Fiscal Year 2006 Monitoring and Evaluation Report will be mailed to those who have requested it. The report will be posted on the Forest's web page.

Supporting Documentation

Most of the supporting information for this report is on file in the various resource departments at the Klamath National Forest Supervisor's Office and at the Salmon/Scott River, Happy Camp/Oak Knoll, and Gooseneast District offices. Where noted, reports can be found on the Forest's website.

Monitoring for the Northwest Forest Plan has been conducted for 10 years and the following reports are now available on the web at <http://www.reo.gov/monitoring/10yr-report/index.html>:

- Northern Spotted Owl Final Report
- Watershed Condition Final Report
- Late-successional and Old Growth Final Report
- Implementation Draft Report
- Implementation Final Summary of Interagency Monitoring Results
- Social Economic Final Report
- Marbled Murrelet Final Report
- Tribal Final Report