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Agriculture

Forest Service

Pacific
Northwest
Region



Monitoring and Evaluation Report

Siuslaw National Forest

Fiscal Year 2010



**Marys Peak wildflowers, Siuslaw National Forest
Central Coast Ranger District-Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area**

September, 2011



Thank you for taking the time and interest in reviewing the results of the Siuslaw National Forest 2010 Monitoring Report. .

The report focuses on key monitoring activities and findings since the previous publication in September, 2010. It also summarizes some of our most successful restoration projects. As you read the report you will see where we are using our past successful restoration projects to build upon and improve restoration projects in the future.

The Forest still remains diligent in restoring fish and wildlife habitat including resident and anadromous fish species, northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and snowy plover habitat.

In the last several years the Forest built and maintained several partnerships, started and completed several successful restoration projects. In this report you will be able to review the outcome of this work.

The Siuslaw is currently scheduled to begin Forest Plan revision in 2014.

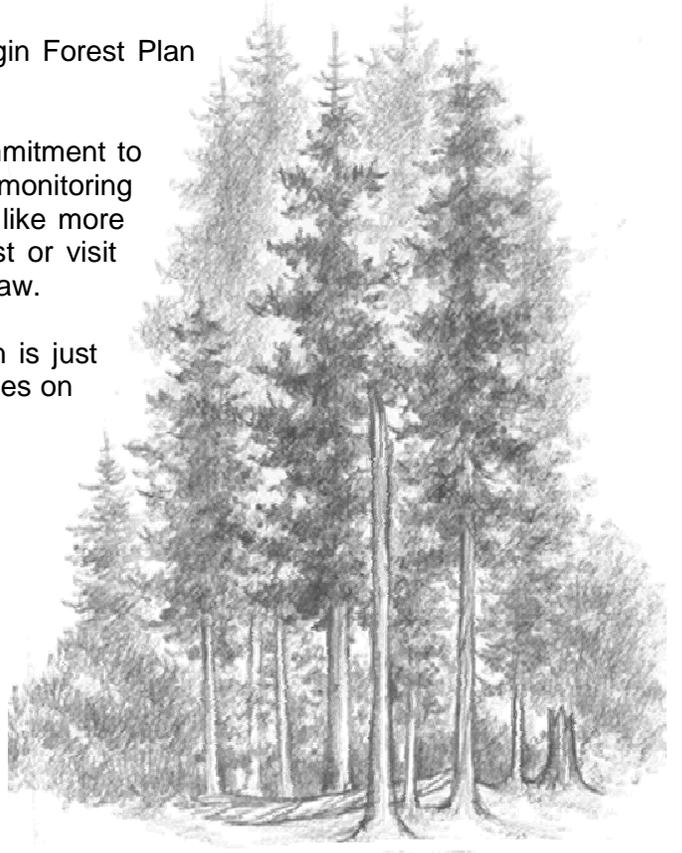
Until we begin Plan revision, it is my commitment to keep you informed of the results of monitoring through this report; however if you would like more information, feel free to contact the Forest or visit our website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/siuslaw>.

Your continued interest in the Forest Plan is just one way for you to stay current with activities on your public lands.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah C. Ingersoll

JEREMIAH C. INGERSOLL
Forest Supervisor
Siuslaw National Forest



SIU 11-09

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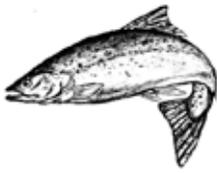
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Introduction

This report provides information to the Regional Forester, Siuslaw forest managers and the public as to how well the Forest Plan is being implemented and if the Plan objectives are being met. Monitoring is intended to keep the Forest plan responsive to change and new information, and is therefore critical to adaptive management. Monitoring and evaluation may lead to changes in management practices or provide the basis for adjustments to the Plan. Practices will be changed when monitoring results indicate the practice or standards and guidelines are not working to meet the desired conditions.

Aquatic Group

The Forest Standards and Guidelines provide direction to enable the Forest to meet the goals of maintaining and improving water quality, fish habitat and other water related resource. Below is a summary of FY10 monitoring questions designed to assist the Forest in determining the effectiveness of the Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines to meet the goals of protecting, maintaining, and improving the physical environment of the Forest.



Monitoring Question: Anadromous Fish Habitat

How is anadromous fish habitat changing?

The Forest-wide Level II Stream Survey Program continues to be one of our most important aquatic monitoring tools on the Siuslaw National Forest. In 2010, we surveyed 11 miles of stream habitat on the Hebo Ranger District. The survey data provides a record of current physical stream conditions and baseline information about the aquatic species present in the streams using physical survey protocol and divers' snorkel surveys. This stream survey data will be especially useful to document current habitat before planned aquatic habitat restoration projects as well as a monitoring tool to document the success of past restoration projects. For long-term monitoring of change to fish habitat we rely on the Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program (AREMP) which was developed to fulfill the monitoring component of the Northwest Forest Plan including the Aquatic Conservation Strategy. A 15-year assessment of watershed condition in 6th field watersheds with at least 25% federal ownership along the stream was done in the fall of 2010. A brief of this information noted that the "majority of watersheds had a positive change in condition scores" based on upslope and riparian data between 1994 and 2008. Although there were areas of the study areas with decreasing trend, most watersheds on the Siuslaw NF were ranked as improving (Lanigan 2011).

In 2009, the MidCoast Watersheds Council proposed to expand the Green River monitoring effort with an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board project to monitor coho juvenile salmon response to large wood placement when spawning coho salmon are expected to return in numbers that should approach full seeding. The proposal was funded by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board with the Siuslaw NF as a funding partner. Monitoring was conducted in the summer of 2010 and the winter of 2011. Past monitoring to assess the effectiveness of the Green River large wood placement project and Tenmile Creek large wood placement (Johnson et al. 2005) has been highlighted in previous Forest Plan Monitoring Reports. The Green River monitoring documented a threefold increase in juvenile salmonids showing a dramatic difference between the pre-project over winter survival rates for coho and the post project over winter survival rates. More juvenile coho were retained at higher densities farther up in the river system after

the wood placement. This supports the hypothesis that large wood is creating the low velocity habitats necessary for retaining over wintering populations of salmonids. Unfortunately, the results of this report were not available in time for the 2010 monitoring report, but should be available for the 2011 report.

In 2010, the Siuslaw National Forest staff in cooperation with our partners Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Alsea Watershed Council, Plum Creek Timber Company, and Forest Capital placed large wood in a combined 5 miles of anadromous and resident fish habitat.

In April 2009, the National Marine Fisheries Service initiated an ESA status review for Oregon Coast coho salmon to give themselves time to be more deliberative. On May 25, 2010 NMFS announced a proposed affirmation of the threatened ESA listing status of Oregon coast coho salmon. On May 16, 2011, NMFS issued their Draft Revised Report of the Biological Review Team confirming these results (Stout et al. 2011). The status review included an assessment of freshwater habitat conditions throughout the range of the Oregon Coast coho salmon. Through analysis of Landsat imagery from 1986 to 2008, NMFS could conclude that the most intense land disturbance has moved from Federal land to private land. In conducting the habitat trend analysis NMFS used Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife habitat survey data and their Habitat Limiting Factors Model version 7 (Anlauf et al. 2009) and a model developed by the Forest Service Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program (Reeves et al. 2004 and Reeves et al. 2006). The analysis indicated that habitat complexity over the ESU has not improved over the past decade, holding steady in some areas and declining in others. NMFS concluded that stream habitat restoration activities may be having a short-term positive effect in some areas, but the quantity of impaired habitat and the rate of continued disturbance outpace agencies' ability to conduct effective restoration.

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Monitoring Question: Lake Fish Habitat

How is the quality of lake fish habitat changing?

The primary influences on the quality of lake fish habitat are introduction of aquatic invasive species, chemical pollution, and increased rates of eutrophication caused by human nutrient inputs. Of these parameters only aquatic invasive species, particularly invasive plants, has been examined in any detail by the Forest. Although eutrophication has not been examined by the Forest, some inferences can be made from studies conducted at Tenmile Lakes.

Aquatic Invasive Species

Invasive species includes both plant and animals species that are both non-native and create a nuisance. Many invasive species come to dominate a landscape and alter the ecosystem to the detriment of other species or uses beneficial to humans. Some non-native species, such as tapegrass or water celery *Vallisneria americana*, are not invasive because they are readily eaten by waterfowl. Other species, such as warm-water game fish, may come to dominate an ecosystem to the detriment of other species such as salmon, but are considered a desirable species instead of invasive. In some instances native species may be considered a nuisance by some people but, because they are native, they do not fit the definition of invasive.

Species of Concern – A variety of aquatic invasive species are of concern in lakes on the Oregon Coast. These include species that are already present in some of the lakes and streams in the area such as New Zealand mud snails *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*, Brazilian waterweed *Egeria densa*, parrot’s feather *Myriophyllum aquaticum*, fragrant water lily *Nymphaea odorata*, and Fanwort *Cambomba caroliniana*; and species not yet known to inhabit the area, but could become a nuisance if introduced, such as Chinese mitten crabs *Eriocheir sinensis*, zebra and quagga mussels *Dreissena spp*, and hydrilla *Hydrilla verticillata*.

Aquatic Plant Surveys – The Forest contracted with Portland State University’s Center for Lakes and Reservoirs (CLR) to conduct aquatic plant surveys in lakes on the central Oregon Coast with an emphasis on detecting the presence of aquatic weeds. In order to get a better understanding of the abundance and distribution of aquatic weeds, an effort was made to survey all lakes regardless of management jurisdiction. The surveys were conducted over three summers from 2003 to 2005. All told 134 separate bodies of water were surveyed for a total of 7,990 acres. Water bodies ranged from unnamed ponds less than a quarter acre in size to Siltcoos Lake at 3,164 acres.

Findings – The surveys documented a total of 55 species of aquatic plants. Of these 48 species were native; 4 species were non-native, nuisance species (invasive); and 3 species were non-native, non-nuisance species (non-invasive). Most of the invasive species were associated with lakes that had public boat ramps. This is most likely due to spread from plant fragments associated with trailered boats. Most of the larger lakes have one or

more boat ramps and also contain one or more invasive plant species. Fragrant water lily, a species commonly cultivated in ornamental ponds, was more closely associated with lakes that had large number of lakeside homes. The most likely cause for this is the intentional release of this plant by homeowners for aesthetic reasons.

The four invasive non-native nuisance species were not widely distributed. Brazilian waterweed was found in eight lakes and was always associated with a boat ramp.

Parrot's feather was found in six lakes. Fragrant water lily was the most commonly found invasive species having been found in a total of 18 lakes and ponds. Cambomba was found in three lakes; Sutton, Woahink, and Siltcoos lakes.

The effect that invasive aquatic plants are having on fish habitat is not entirely known but can be illustrated by one example at Loon (Erhart) Lake. The lake is a small, 5-acre lake just south of the Siltcoos River in Lane County, Oregon and should not be confused with the more well known and popular Loon Lake located south of the Umpqua River in Douglas County. Parrot's feather became established in Loon Lake in the mid-1990's. The method of introduction is unknown. By 2003 the perimeter of the lake was ringed by parrot's feather, although the deeper middle section of the lake appeared to be free of the plant. The lake had been popular with anglers, but due to the difficulty of reaching open water from the bank, the Oregon department of Fish and Wildlife decided to no longer stock the lake and interest in fishing became less popular. In 2004 the water level in the lake was drawn down and hand removal of the weed was attempted. This control effort was unsuccessful because hand pulling was ineffective at removing the plant's rhizome growing in the bed of the lake. Our monitoring in 2006 through 2008 found Parrot's feather still present in Loon Lake but at a much reduced level. Additional monitoring in 2009 found the plant to be on the increase. Control of the invasive Parrot's feather and monitoring work will continue at Loon Lake in an effort to restore the aquatic plant community and refine invasive plant treatment techniques.

Eutrophication

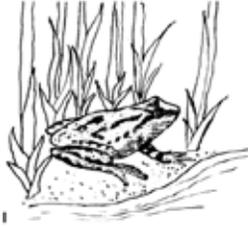
The Forest has not been systematically monitoring eutrophication rates associated with increased inputs of nutrients, however, inferences can be made by studies on the Tenmile Lakes conducted by the Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership, and by delta monitoring in Mercer Lake conducted by the Forest.

The Tenmile Lakes study (Eilers et al. 2002) examined nutrient inputs from upstream forest and farm lands, and from areas along the lakeshore dominated by lakeside housing. In general the study found very little nutrient input from an unharvested forested watershed, an initial increase in sediment and nutrients from a recently harvested forest stand, a flush of nutrients associated with fall rains coming from predominantly agricultural (pasture) lands, and a relatively high contribution of nutrients associated with lakeside housing during the summer months when stream flow is lowest.

Other factors that were found to influence the rate of eutrophication in Tenmile Lakes included the channelization of streams, draining of wetland buffers, introduction of exotic aquatic macrophytes, and introduction of exotic fish. Stream channelization has increased erosion rates and led to increased sediment and nutrient transport to the lakes. The draining of wetlands to create farmland upstream from Tenmile Lakes has reduced

the amount of sediment and nutrients filtered and sequestered from the stream from previous freshwater marshes. Aquatic macrophytes have the ability to draw nutrients up from lake sediments and incorporate them into their tissues. When the plants senesce in the fall the nutrients contained within them are made available through decay. Exotic macrophytes such as *E. densa* are believed to be at much higher densities and contain much more biomass than native species, and thus have increased the amount of nutrients released from lake sediments of Tenmile Lakes than in prehistoric times. Introduced fish species such as bluegill *Lepomis macrochirus* and largemouth bass *Micropterus salmoides* compete and prey on native fish species such as coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch*.

Although many of the smaller lakes on the central Oregon Coast are surrounded by land managed by the Forest Service, most of the shoreline on the larger lakes such as Tenmile, Tahkenitch, Siltcoos, Sutton, and Mercer is in private ownership. Effects from Forest Service management to these larger lakes are mostly limited to upslope forest and tributary stream activities. By inferring from the conclusions reached by the Tenmile Lakes study, Forest Service projects are lessening nutrient inputs into the lakes from Forest Lands. Nutrient inputs from timber harvest activities are less than those experienced at Tenmile Lakes due to streamside no-harvest buffers and the lack of burning activities associated with tree thinning projects. Projects such as the Bailey Creek restoration project at Mercer Lake reduce erosion from ditched streams and recreate nutrient retaining wetlands. However, even though these activities reduce nutrient loads to the larger lakes, they may represent a relatively small fraction of the total anthropogenic nutrient load.



Monitoring Question: Fish Populations

How are anadromous fish populations changing?

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued their determination of record to list the Oregon Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit of coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on February 11, 2008 in response to a court ordered deadline. The protective regulations and designation of critical habitat were effective May 12, 2008. In April 2009, NMFS initiated an ESA status review for Oregon Coast coho salmon to give themselves time to be more deliberative. On May 25, 2010 NMFS announced a proposed affirmation of the threatened ESA listing status of Oregon coast coho salmon (Stout et al. 2010) which was confirmed in a draft revised report of the scientific conclusions on May 16, 2011 (Stout et al. 2011). Oregon coast coho salmon are a Forest Plan indicator species and are found in all major Ocean tributaries of the Forest and are most common in low gradient streams.

Coho salmon production for the Oregon Coast ESU declined substantially in the 1980's and 1990's with very low wild coho returns. Returns since 2002 have shown improvement but it is too early to draw conclusions about the status of this ESA listed fish. The Oregon Coast Coho Conservation Plan for the State of Oregon, March 16, 2007, identifies the desired status for the ESU as: *Populations of naturally produced coho salmon are sufficiently abundant, productive, and diverse (in terms of life histories and geographic distribution) such that the ESU as a whole is 1) self-sustaining into the foreseeable future, and 2) providing significant ecological, cultural, and economic benefits.* The goal for returning wild spawners targets an average return that ranges from a low of greater than 100 thousand spawners when marine survival is extremely low to a high of 800 thousand spawners when marine survival is high. The 2010 estimated abundance of wild adult coho spawners in the Oregon coast ESU based on information from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Adult Salmon Inventory and Sampling Project is 283,478 coho.

Oregon coast coho salmon pre-harvest and spawning abundance shows negative trends from 1970 through 1999 (Stout et al., 2010). Trends in both Oregon coast pre-harvest and spawning abundance has improved in the period from 2000 to 2009, with 2007 being an exception. NMFS attributes the recent improving trends in abundance to the favorable marine productivity conditions of the last few years, not improvements in freshwater habitat.

Based on GRTS Random Sampling Sites for Rivers, Dam count for N. Umpqua, and Traditional Surveys for Lakes.

Data Source: Geographic Scale ESU / Strata / Population	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	NMFS&OCCCP	GRTS Est.	GRTS Est.	GRTS Est.	GRTS Est.	GRTS Est.	GRTS Est.
	Spawner Abundance by Return Year														
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
North Coast Strata:															
Necanicum River	416	97	575	351	359	4,832	2,047	2,377	2,198	1,218	750	431	1,055	3,827	4,445
Nehalem River	527	1,187	1,206	3,555	14,462	21,928	17,164	32,517	18,736	10,451	11,614	14,033	17,205	21,753	32,215
Tillamook Bay	733	437	358	1,831	2,178	1,944	13,334	13,008	2,532	1,995	8,774	2,295	4,828	16,251	14,890
Nestucca River	440	230	202	2,357	1,219	4,164	16,698	10,194	4,695	686	1,876	394	1,844	4,252	1,947
NC Dependents	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	661	2,116	1,121	376	639	2,052	1,473
Total	2,116	1,951	2,341	8,094	18,218	32,868	49,243	58,096	28,822	16,466	24,135	17,529	25,571	48,135	54,970
Mid Coast Strata:															
Salmon River	82	16	86	14	179	225	543	42	1,642	79	513	59	652	753	1,382
Siletz River	395	298	316	1,209	3,387	1,595	2,129	8,038	8,179	14,567	5,205	2,197	20,634	24,070	6,283
Yaquina River	4,578	419	510	2,563	637	3,589	23,800	16,484	5,539	3,441	4,247	3,158	10,913	11,182	8,589
Beaver Cr	1,296	497	401	1,511	1,464	1,832	3,217	5,552	4,569	2,264	1,950	611	1,218	3,575	2,072
Alsea River	1,060	601	108	1,341	3,363	3,228	9,073	10,281	5,233	13,907	1,972	2,146	13,320	14,638	9,688
Siuslaw River	7,234	501	1,020	2,980	6,532	10,606	55,445	29,003	8,729	16,907	5,869	3,552	17,491	30,607	25,983
MC Dependents	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	8,179	242	1,468	547	3,910	1,610	2,548
Total	14,645	2,332	2,441	9,618	15,562	21,075	94,207	69,400	42,070	51,407	21,224	12,270	68,138	86,435	56,545
Umpqua Strata:															
Lower Umpqua River	7,985	1,257	4,552	2,623	5,781	11,639	18,881	16,494	8,989	18,591	7,994	4,237	9,023	19,245	17,516
Middle Umpqua River	5,086	563	1,257	1,748	4,555	8,940	10,738	11,090	6,375	7,608	4,852	1,587	4,472	15,075	18,123
North Umpqua River ^a	1,069	577	765	1,194	1,677	2,634	3,368	2,862	3,559	1,969	3,000	1,410	3,438	7,720	9,462
South Umpqua River	7,040	937	3,177	3,011	2,581	11,871	10,517	4,337	10,997	14,364	2,246	4,549	20,935	15,944	24,983
Total	21,180	3,334	9,751	8,576	14,594	35,084	43,504	34,783	29,920	42,532	18,092	11,783	37,868	57,984	70,084
Lakes Strata: ^b															
Siltcoos	4,707	2,653	3,122	2,756	3,835	5,104	4,636	6,628	7,998	4,364	5,452	1,447	3,873	5,197	7,678
Tahkenitch	1,627	1,842	2,817	3,664	634	3,510	3,480	3,188	3,496	1,897	3,611	3,551	2,604	2,977	10,681
Tenmile	7,092	4,092	5,169	6,123	8,278	10,990	13,861	6,260	7,148	8,464	15,064	3,957	17,131	9,175	20,385
Total	13,426	8,587	11,108	12,543	12,747	19,604	21,977	16,076	18,642	14,725	24,127	8,955	23,608	17,349	38,744
Mid-South Coast Strata:															
Coos River	12,128	1,112	2,985	4,818	4,704	33,595	33,120	25,761	23,337	17,048	11,266	1,329	14,881	26,979	27,658
Couville River	15,814	5,720	2,412	2,667	6,253	13,833	7,676	22,403	22,138	11,806	28,577	13,968	8,791	22,286	23,564
Floras Creek	1,519	482	879	670	1,477	5,664	3,272	952	7,446	506	1,104	340	786	3,203	11,329
Sixes River	194	143	558	56	136	95	95	86	403	105	294	97	43	176	100
MSDependent	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0	188	484
Total	29,655	7,457	6,834	8,211	12,570	53,187	44,163	49,202	53,324	29,465	41,241	15,734	24,501	52,832	63,135
Oregon Coast ESU	81,022	23,661	32,475	47,042	73,691	161,818	253,094	227,557	172,778	154,595	128,819	66,271	179,686	262,735	283,478

n.a. = Not available.

Data Sources:

NMFS&OCCCP = Data for run years through 2003 is as reported in NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-NWFSC-91, and in the Oregon Coast Coho Conservation Plan (Appendix 2).

GRTS Est. = Abundance and wild fraction are based on spawning ground survey results from the ODFW Oregon Adult Salmonid Inventory and Sampling (OASIS) Project. In a few cases there were inadequate coho carcass recoveries (<10) and/or inadequate surveys, to estimate abundance and/or wild fractions. In these cases we used the same methods to estimate the missing data as documented in the NMFS and OCCCP reports used for the pre- 2004 run years data.

a = North Umpqua River Population: Abundance and wild fraction are based on counts at Winchester Dam, adjusted for fish removed by harvest and hatchery operations.

b = Coastal Lake Populations: Abundance is based on calibrated standard survey protocols developed in the 1950's and 1960's. Wild fraction is based on observations of marks on coho carcasses recovered on all spawning surveys in each year.

The southern distinct population segment (DPS) of eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act effective May 17, 2010, in response to an abrupt decline in abundance throughout its range (Gustafson et al. 2010). Eulachon, commonly known as Pacific smelt or candlefish are a small anadromous fish that is known to spawn in small numbers in coastal rivers of the Siuslaw National Forest. Eulachon range from northern California to southwest Alaska into the Bearing Sea. They typically spend three to five years in the ocean before returning to freshwater to spawn in late winter through spring. The southern DPS ranges south from the Skeena River (inclusive) in British Columbia to northern California. Their distribution and population numbers are poorly documented on the Forest.

A comprehensive summary of the status of native fishes on the central Oregon coast is provided in the 2005 Oregon Native Fish Status Report, Volume I Species management Unit Summaries, published by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Fish Division. Their coastal species management unit corresponds closely with the Siuslaw National Forest extending both farther North and South with data summarized for 19 major Ocean tributaries with 12 found on the National Forest. The interim status for the non-listed anadromous fish species found on the Forest is as follows:

Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) on the Oregon coast display two life history types; fall-run and spring-run adult spawning return times. Fall Chinook salmon are found in large streams and river mainstems with eight populations found on the Forest; Nestucca, Salmon, Siletz, Yaquina, Alsea, Yachats, Siuslaw, lower Umpqua, and a few small Ocean tributaries such as Tenmile Creek. They typically return to fresh water to spawn in October through December. Fall Chinook salmon are considered Not at Risk.

Spring Chinook salmon are found in the Nestucca, Siletz, and Alsea rivers of the Siuslaw National Forest and is presumed extinct in the Siuslaw River basin. They typically return to fresh water in March through June and spawn in the late summer and early fall. The Siletz population passed all six criteria. The Alsea population passed 4 of 6 criteria and the Nestucca population passed only 3 of 6 risk criteria. Coastal Spring Chinook are considered At Risk.

The Oregon coast is on the southern end of the chum salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*) distribution. Chum return to the lower reaches of small to moderate Ocean tributaries of the Oregon Coast in the fall of the year. Chum salmon are found in the Nestucca, Salmon, Siletz, and Yaquina rivers. They are presumed extinct in the Alsea River but our monitoring consistently finds a few individuals in Canal Creek, a tributary of the Alsea River. They are considered extinct in the Siuslaw River basin. The chum salmon are considered at Risk in the Coastal Species Management Unit by ODFW.

Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) on the Oregon coast display two life history types; fall-run and spring-run adult spawning return times. Winter steelhead trout are the most pervasive anadromous fish on the Siuslaw National Forest found in small to moderate sized river systems. They return to fresh water in the fall or winter and spawn in December through March. Natural spawning by hatchery fish is above 10% in the Siletz, Alsea, Yaquina, and Yachats Rivers causing these populations to fail the

population independence risk criteria. The coastal winter steelhead trout are considered potentially at risk in the Coastal Species Management Unit by ODFW.

Summer steelhead trout return to fresh water in March through November and spawn from January through April and are only found in the Siletz River drainage of the Siuslaw National Forest. Coastal summer steelhead trout are considered potentially at risk by ODFW.

Coastal cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki clarki*) exhibit several life history strategies including anadromy and are found throughout the Siuslaw National Forest. They are not considered at risk by ODFW but little data has been gathered about the searun cutthroat life history type.

Coastal Oregon pacific lampreys (*Lampetra tridentate*) as a group are considered at risk. They are present throughout most coastal streams but abundance is considered down even though population data is sparse.

North American green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*) is an anadromous fish species that spends the majority of its adult life in the marine environment, occasionally entering fresh water, and can be found in near-shore marine waters, bays and estuaries on the Oregon Coast. The National Marine Fisheries Service listed North American green sturgeon south of the Eel River, Calif., (the southern distinct population segment, or DPS) as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The population of green sturgeon north of and including the Eel River (northern DPS) did not warrant listing under the ESA.

Green sturgeon spawning is not known to occur on the Siuslaw National Forest. Spawning has only been documented for members of the southern DPS in the Sacramento River system. Green sturgeon spawning of unidentified DPS has also been confirmed in the Rogue River and Klamath River systems.

Subadult and adult green sturgeon from both populations seeking summer time habitat could be found in estuaries of the Siuslaw National Forest. The coastal bays and estuaries in Oregon that are designated critical habitat for the green sturgeon Southern DPS are Coos Bay, Winchester Bay, and Yaquina Bay. Southern DPS green sturgeon has been confirmed to occupy Coos Bay, Winchester Bay, and the lower Columbia River estuary in Oregon. The coastal bays and estuaries excluded from designated critical habitat for the green sturgeon Southern DPS in Oregon are Tillamook Bay and the estuaries to the head of tide in the Rouge, Siuslaw, and Alsea rivers. A determination of the North American green sturgeon status was not made by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in the 2005 Native Fish Status Report. A conservative determination was made that their abundance might be low even though they are found throughout their historic range on the Oregon Coast.

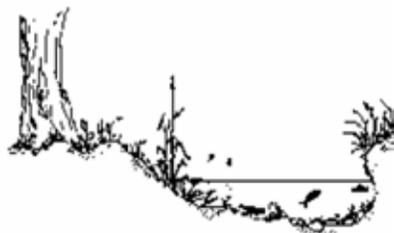
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*Stout, H.A., P.W. Lawson, D. Bottom, T. Cooney, M. Ford, C. Jordan, R. Kope, L. Kruzic, G. Pess, G. Reeves, M. Scheuerell, T. Wainwright, R. Waples, L. Weitkamp, J. Williams and T. Williams. 2011. Scientific conclusions of the status review for Oregon Coast coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*). Draft revised report of the Oregon Coast Coho Salmon Biological Review Team. NOAA/NMFS/NWFSC, Seattle, WA.*

Monitoring Question: Water Quality



Is the water quality of perennial streams as measured by changes in water temperature, being maintained as predicted? And can long-term stream temperature monitoring sites be used as an indicator of climate change?

Water Quality

Stream temperature is the only water quality parameter that is consistently monitored from year to year. In 2010, the stream temperature monitoring was continued at the following sites:

Table 1: Stream temperature monitoring locations, Siuslaw National Forest, 2010.

Stream	Location	Station	District	2010 7-day ave max	Data Summary
Traxel Cr	mouth	79	Central	57.1	meets standards
Traxel Cr AIR	mouth	79	Central	71.7	NA
Cape	upstream Wapati	180	Central	58.5	meets standards
Cape air temp	upstream Wapati	180	Central	63.8	meets standards
green	mouth	188	Central	66.0	does not meet
Green River air temp	mouth	188	Central	78.3	NA
Drift	upstream Gopher	194	Central	60.3	meets standards
		195	Central	63.3	meets standards
Gopher AIR temp	at mouth	195	Central	81.4	NA
Beamer Cr trib		2100	Central	56.1	meets standards
Beamer Cr trib air temp		2100	Central	68.0	does not meet
S FK Rock Creek	upstream from Connection Creek	2120	Central	59.2	meets standards

FOREST PLAN MONITORING QUESTIONS

Stream	Location	Station	District	2010 7-day ave max	Data Summary
Tributary to S FK Connection Creek	Tributary is upstream from and next to Connection Creek	2121	Central	58.8	meets standards
S FK Rock Creek	Above weir tied to trash rack	2122	Central	58.8	meets standards
S FK Rock Creek AIR		2122	Central	79.1	NA
Rock Cr mainstem Water Temp	downstream from confluence of N Fk and S FK Rock Creek	2123	Central	61.9	meets standards
Stilson Creek	upstream from rd 111	2124	Central	60.2	meets standards
Rock Creek mainstem	upstream from rd 111 bridge	2125	Central	63.2	meets standards
Rock Creek mainstem AIR	upstream from rd 111 bridge	2125	Central	81.3	NA
Middle Fork Rock Creek	upstream from rd 3405	2126	Central	59.6	meets standards
Griffith Creek	upstream from weir	2127	Central	59.3	meets standards
Rock Creek	below bridge near entrance gate	2128	Central	64.2	does not meet
Griffith Creek	below thinning unit approx 1 mi from intake	2129	Central	61.5	meets standards
Rock Cr mainstem	at waterline crossing upstream of Griffith Cr	2130	Central	63.9	meets standards
Rock Cr mainstem	0.08 miles upstream from Trib "b"	2131	Central	61.9	meets standards

FOREST PLAN MONITORING QUESTIONS

Stream	Location	Station	District	2010 7-day ave max	Data Summary
Rock Cr mainstem	at City/pvt boundary above outflow in log complex	2132	Central	63.3	meets standards
S Fk Rock Cree	below thinning stand	2133	Central	58.3	meets standards
Bell Cr		4015	Central	61.5	meets standards
Knowles Cr	below Hood Creek	4017	Central	64.1	does not meet
Lower Knowles Cr	100 yds below Knowles Campground under fish structure	4024	Central	69.3	does not meet
Five Mile Cr		4064	Central	62.4	meets standards
Five Mile Cr		4065	Central	62.3	meets standards
Five Mile Cr		4066	Central	63.2	meets standards
Knowles Cr	downstream of South Canyon Cr	4091	Central	60.8	meets standards
Knowles Cr	0.2 miles above Skate Cr	4092	Central	59.5	meets standards
Bell Creek	just above confluence with Five Mile Cr	4093	Central	62.2	meets standards
Powder Cr	Upstream of pvt on west side of pvt.	500	Hebo	62.9	meets standards
Hiack Creek	150 ft upstream from mouth	515	Hebo	56.8	meets standards
Hiack Creek	300 ft upstream from temp spur 714	516	Hebo	52.1	meets standards

Thirty nine sites were monitored. Of these, 29 sites complied with state water quality standards, and the 7-day average maximum daily temperature was under 64F. Five sites did not meet the standard, and 5 sites were air temperature monitoring sites paired with a

water temperature site. The summer of 2010 was relatively cool, According to the Cannibal Mountain RAWS station, it was the 19th warmest summer since 1972.

In 2010, the City of Corvallis and the Siuslaw National Forest formed a partnership to monitor stream temperatures in the Rock Creek watershed of the Marys River basin. Rock Creek is one of the City of Corvallis’ water supply sources. The sites shown on Figures 1 and 2, and listed in Table 2 were monitored:

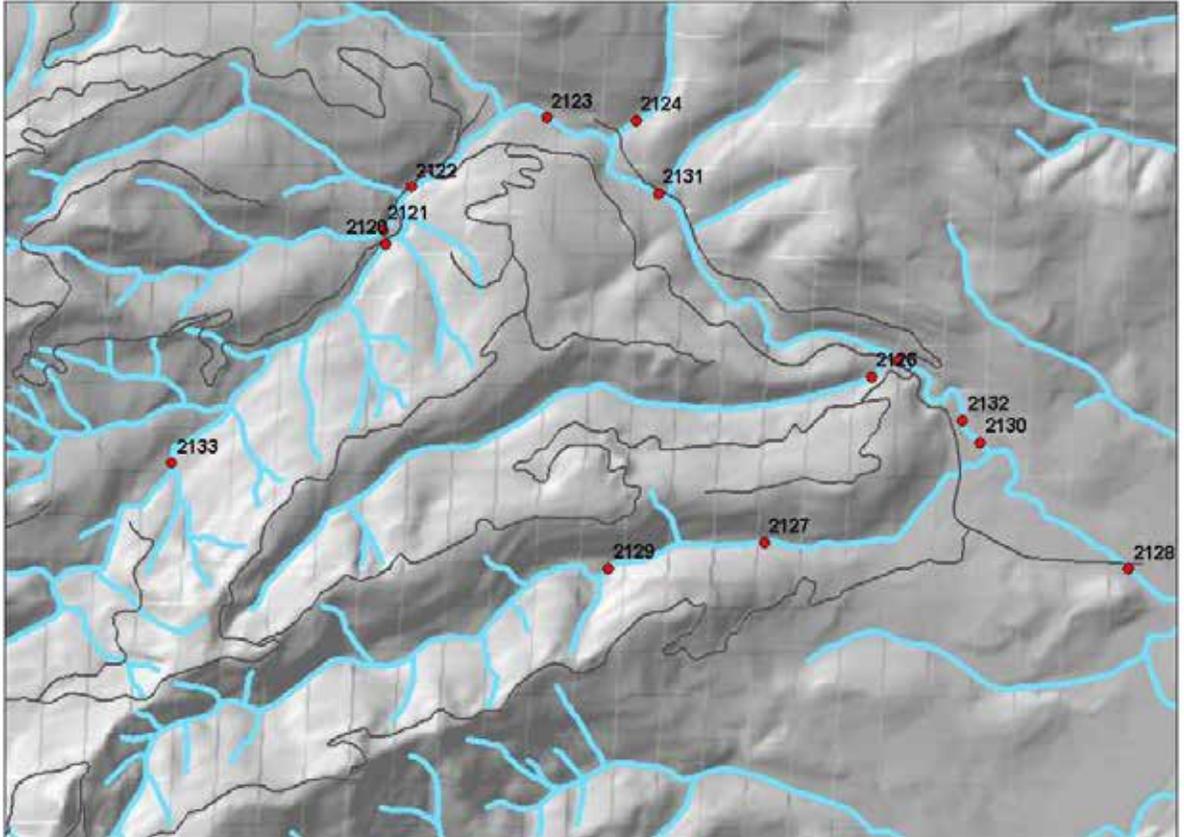


Figure 1: Map of Rock Creek watershed with sites labeled with station numbers.

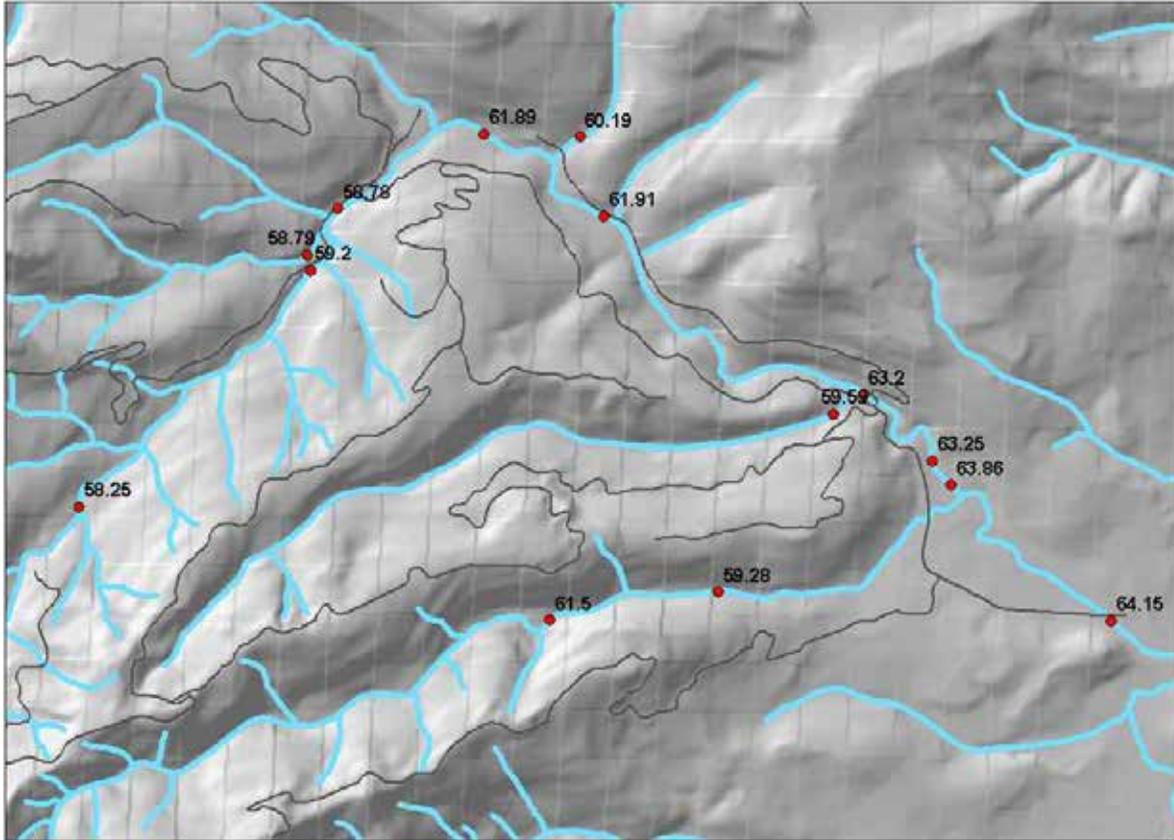


Figure 2: Map of Rock Creek watershed with 7-day average maximum daily temperatures at monitoring sites.

Table 2: Rock Creek watershed stream temperature monitoring sites.

Stream	Location	Station number	2005_7-day	2006_7-day	2010_7-day ave max	Objective
S FK Rock Creek	upstream from Connection Creek	2120	60.8		59.2	watershed characterization, bracketting Connection Cr
Tributary to S FK Connection Creek	Tributary is upstream from and next to Connection Creek	2121	61.2		58.8	watershed characterization
S FK Rock Creek	Above weir tied to trash rack	2122	60.9		58.8	watershed characterization
S FK Rock Creek AIR TEMP		2122			79.06	comparing air temp

FOREST PLAN MONITORING QUESTIONS

Stream	Location	Station number	2005_7-day	2006_7-day	2010 7-day ave max	Objective
Rock Cr mainstem Water Temp	downstream from confluence of N Fk and S FK Rock Creek	2123	66.4	70.7	61.9	monitor effects of reservoir
Rock Cr mainstem AIR TEMP	downstream from confluence of N Fk and S FK Rock Creek	2123	81	92		compare air temp
Stilson Creek	upstream from rd 111	2124	62.5		60.2	watershed characterization
Rock Creek mainstem	upstream from rd 111 bridge	2125	67.8		63.2	watershed characterization, monitor changes in riparian area and stream substrate restoration
Rock Creek mainstem AIR TEMP	upstream from rd 111 bridge	2125			81.3	
Middle Fork Rock Creek	upstream from rd 3405	2126	62.3		59.6	watershed characterization
Griffith Creek	upstream from weir	2127	60.9		59.3	watershed characterization
Rock Creek	below bridge near entrance gate	2128			64.2	watershed characterization
Griffith Creek	below thinning unit approx 1 mi from intake	2129			61.5	monitor thinning effects
Rock Cr mainstem	at waterline crossing upstream of Griffith Cr	2130			63.9	bracket outflow
Rock Cr mainstem	0.08 miles upstream from Trib "b"	2131			61.9	watershed characterization

Stream	Location	Station number	2005_7-day	2006_7-day	2010 7-day ave max	Objective
Rock Cr mainstem	at City/pvt boundary above outflow in log complex	2132			63.3	bracket outflow
S Fk Rock Creek	below thinning stand	2133			58.3	monitor thinning effects

The summer of 2010 was a relatively cool summer, and stream temperatures in the Rock Creek watershed met state water quality standards, with the exception of the site that was the farthest downstream near the mouth (Site 2128). This site exceeded the 64F 7-day average maximum daily temperature by two tenths of a degree.

The following graph shows that drainage areas under approximately 5 square miles can be variable in temperature results, but there seems to be a fairly linear relationship between stream temperature and drainage area for drainage areas above 8 square miles.

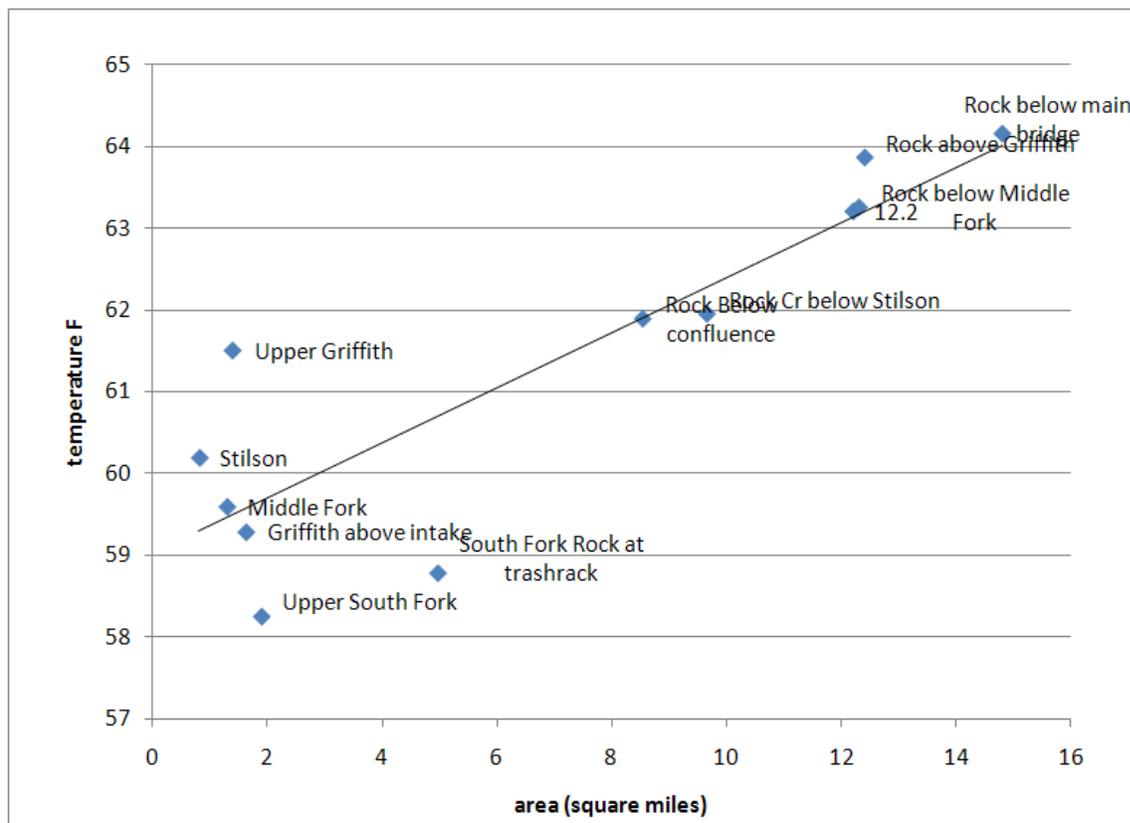


Figure 3: Comparing drainage area to 2010 7-day average maximum daily temperature.

Restoration

Salmon River Estuary, Pixieland Restoration Project

During the summer of 2010, approximately 10 acres of estuary wetlands were restored by filling in constructed ditches and ponds, removing fill that had been added to raise the elevation of the amusement park grounds, and removing the dikes along the Salmon River. An “as built” topographic survey was done after the work was completed to confirm that the elevation of the newly restored marsh surface matched the elevation of the reference marsh northwest of Highway 101. The survey showed that the restored marsh surface was at 8.0 feet, the elevation of the reference marsh.

The Salmon River Estuary Restoration projects, including the restoration of Tamara Quays and Pixieland sites are funded through partnerships between the Siuslaw National Forest, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, USFWS National Wetland Conservation Grant Program, Oregon Department of Transportation and Oregon Department of State Lands with project management and grant funding administration through the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council. The recent restoration efforts began in 2006 and will continue through 2020. Monitoring efforts are funded over a 10 year period and include pre and post wetland delineation, ground water monitoring, vegetation monitoring and photo point monitoring.



October 23, 2010, view of the newly restored marsh surface at high tide, view to southwest.

On January 16, 2010, during a minor flood event, the Salmon River overtopped the banks at Pixieland, and inundated the area.



Pixieland, January 16, 2011, view from the Salmon River Bridge, Highway 101, looking southwest at Pixieland. The dikes were removed the previous summer.

FOREST PLAN MONITORING QUESTIONS



Oblique aerial photo of Pixieland, looking northwest. February 2011. Photo taken by Anthony Velti. The dark area in the lower center of the photo is the restored marsh surface.

Terrestrial Group

The Forest Standards and Guidelines provide direction to enable the Forest to meet the goals of protecting and improving species populations and their habitat. Threatened, endangered, and sensitive species as well as ecological indicator species are monitored for species viability. Below is a summary of FY10 monitoring questions designed to assist the Forest in determining the effectiveness of the Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines in meeting the Forest’s goals.



Monitoring Question: Forest Vegetation Condition

Is the forest seral stage distribution moving toward the desired future condition? Are forest stand composition and structure moving toward the desired condition?

The Forest is actively managing plantations through thinning, releasing and under-planting stands to accelerate the development of young stands towards late-successional habitat. Snags and down wood creation through Stewardship contracts or service contracts is accomplished in conjunction with commercial thinning timber sales.

Activity	Unit of Measure	Accomplished
Invasive Species Treatment	Acres	1481
Commercial Thinning	Acres	1222
Tree Planting	Acres	3
Reforestation Enhancement	Acres	219
Animal Damage Control for Reforestation	Acres	454
Area release and weeding	Acres	131
Pre-commercial thinning	Acres	1582
Wildlife Habitat Improvement – large woody debris placement	Structures	2868
Wildlife Habitat Nest Structures	Structures	71
Wildlife Habitat Snags created	Structures	503

Activity	Unit of Measure	Accomplished
Wildlife Habitat: Grasses and forbs	Acres	17
Anadromous Fish Habitat Improvement	Acres	30



Monitoring Question: Plantation Management

Are plantations being managed at prescribed density levels?

Plantations are being managed through non-commercial thinning and commercial thinning. See table above. Monitoring by Contractor Officer Representatives for non-commercial thinning and Timber Sale

Administrators for commercial thinning ensure that prescribed density levels are being met.

Monitoring Question: Suitable Timber Land

Has the suitable timber land base changed?

Two types of changes usually result in an alteration to the total suitable acres for timber harvest; a change in the ability to adequately reforest a site within 5 years or a change in the timber harvest objectives for a piece of land. Changes to the suitability of lands for timber production have not occurred.

Monitoring Question: Special Forest Products



Is moss being managed for harvest and long-term sustainability while comply with Standards and Guidelines? Are there any negative effects from harvest to the long-term sustainability of Matsutake mushroom resources?

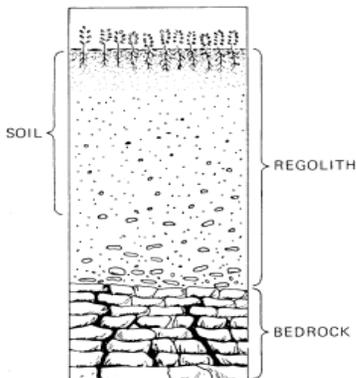
Product	Quantity Sold	Number of Permits	Value
Alder puddle sticks	none	none	\$0.00
Beach Grass & Carex Transplants	50,000 plants	5	\$100.00
Boughs	13.5 tons	10	\$270.00
Cascara Bark	none	none	\$0.00
Christmas Trees (includes RO collections)	441 tags	14	\$2,205.00
Commercial "Other" Mushroom (CCRD)	17,310 lbs.	381	\$17,310.00
Commercial "Other" Mushroom (Hebo)	1,265 lbs.	34	\$1,265.00
Commercial Greenery (CCRD)	597 tons	199	\$59,700.00
Commercial Greenery (Hebo)	48 tons	16	\$4,800.00
Commercial Matsutake Mushroom (CCRD)	26,000 lbs.	52	\$57,705.54
Commercial Transplants	2720 plants	25	\$3,160.00
Misc. Cuttings	8100 lbs	21	\$405.00
Misc. Grass and/or Plant Seed	None	none	\$0.00
Misc. Root Species	400 lbs.	1	\$40.00
Moss	none	none	\$0.00
Commercial Firewood (CCRD)	832 cords	185	\$8,320.00
Commercial Firewood (Hebo)	248 cords	57	\$2,480.00
Personal Use Firewood (CCRD)	472 cords	204	\$4,720.00

Product	Quantity Sold	Number of Permits	Value
Personal Use Firewood (Hebo)	982 cords	353	\$9,820.00
Poles, Posts & Split Rails	1600 poles	4	\$80.00
Vine Maple limbs	2 tons	1	\$20.00
Grand Total			\$172,400.54

* Note: Total Value for Botanical Products sold is \$144,715.54

Free Use Permits Issued

Product	Quantity Issued	Number of Permits	Estimated Value
Misc. Non-Convertible Forest Products	varied by product	54	\$795.00
Firewood (limbs, chunks, and bark)	CCF	15	\$435.00
Total		69	\$1230.00



Monitoring Question: Soil Productivity

Is the long-term soil productivity of forest land being maintained?

Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines used to protect soil productivity are centered around limiting the extent of compaction and displacement related to the use of ground-based equipment on forest soils. The Forest Plan requires that no more than 15 percent of an area harvested by ground-based machines should be impacted by roads, landings, and skid trails on a given harvest unit.

Most yarding is accomplished by skyline or helicopter, however where ground-based equipment is utilized, skid trails are designated and approved by the Forest Service. The equipment is required to stay on the skid trails. This has led to soil impacts much less than 15 percent within harvest areas.



Monitoring Question: Research Natural Area Protection

Are Research Natural Areas being protected according to the RNA Establishment Records?

Marys Peak meadow restoration project
Monitoring meadow response-5th year

Meadow recovery after pile/burn or tree removal has been monitored on 3 sets of 1 meter plots on Marys Peak for 5 years. Each set had one control and a plot that was in a burn pile hand sown in 2005 with native fescue seed collected on the Peak. One plot (plot 4) was raked and seeded, but not burned. Plots were initially installed in 6/16/2006. Plots were remeasured in 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. Percent cover for species occurring in the square meter plots was recorded. In 2006, bare ground, charcoal, litter, and duff were also recorded. Trends noted in the 2009 monitoring summary are continuing.



The photo of 1a shows development of the grass litter layer

One feature noted in the treated plots in 2010 is an increase in graminoid thatch that may show an increase in organic contributions to the bared areas, but which also could prove a barrier to some seed germination and establishment.

No species new to the study were found in 2010. Noble fir seedlings have appeared in plots since 2007. They are

pulled after measurement. Of the 9 plot/year combinations that noble fir were counted, only 2 were in control plots. The seedlings have only been found in control plot MP5, which has the lowest overall cover among the 3 control plots. 2010 saw the highest number of seedlings in plots (4 of 7 plots). Plots 1a, 1b, 2a, and 2b are adjacent to a tree island, and seem to be within seed rain from the mature noble fir. Plots 3, 4, and 5 are 8 to 11 meters out from the meadow/forest edge, uphill and across the Meadowedge Trail from the stand.

Noble fir seedlings in plots 2006-2010

Plot	Treatment	cover 06	cover 72407	cover 72408	cover 72009	cover 72310
MarysPeak1a	pile/burn /seed					0.01
MarysPeak1b	control					
MarysPeak2a	pile/burn /seed		0.01	0.01		0.01
MarysPeak2b	control					
MarysPeak3	pile/burn /seed					0.01
MarysPeak4	rake/seed			0.01		0.01
MarysPeak5	control		0.01		0.01	

Photos of plots 1a (pile/burn/seed) and 4 (rake/seed) show the way natives, especially California sedge, are expanding into the open areas. Pictures are from 2009 and 2010.



MP1a (pile/burn/seed) in 2009. California sedge was recorded first in 2008, and has increased in cover each year since then.



MP1a in 2010. Expansion of rhizomatous California sedge (*Carex californica*), next to red fescue seeded in to 1a in 2005.

Starry false Solomon's seal, a rhizomatous native forb, was recorded in MP1a for the first time in 2010. This species accounts for 30-45% cover in the adjacent control plot, where California sedge codominates at 35-65% cover.



MP4 (rake/seed) in 2009

MP4 in 2010—overall cover in native graminoids has increased in plot and in bared area in background.



The two most important species in MP4 are the California sedge, which is colonizing naturally from the adjacent meadow, and fescue, which was seeded in 2005. California sedge appeared in MP4 in 2007, and increased in cover to 25% in 2009 and 45% in 2010. Fescue was recorded the first year after seeding, and has slowly increased to about 3% in 2010.

In the adjacent control plot MP5, California sedge is the dominant species, with the fescue as well as woodrush present.

In this plot cluster, sheep sorrel, the most common non-native species in the study, dropped significantly. In MP3, sheep sorrel cover dropped from 20 % in 2009 to 2% in 2010. It was not recorded this year in either MP4 or MP5 (the control).

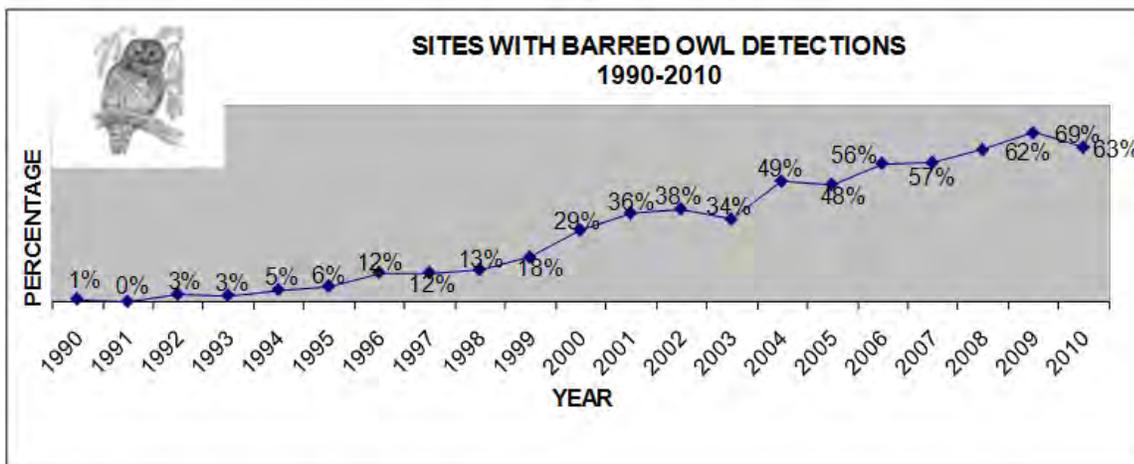
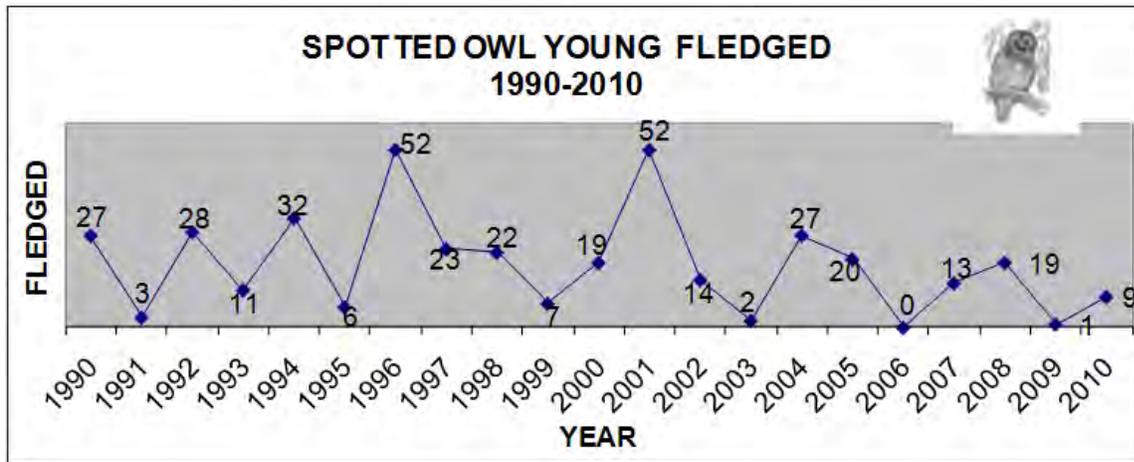
Monitoring Question: Northern Spotted Owl



What are the trends in habitat for northern spotted owl pairs and resident singles on the Forest landscape?

Monitoring of northern spotted owl population size and reproduction for the Forest relies 100 percent on the current PNW demographic study.

Below is a summary of these data trends. The amount of suitable habitat on the Siuslaw has been relatively stable for the last thirteen years. It is unknown if the declining trends are the result of residual effects from past harvest activities, or from the increase presence of barred owls on the forest. In the future, the interagency Effectiveness Monitoring workgroup for the northern spotted owl is developing methods for monitoring habitat and restoration at the province scale. The Forest will adopt these procedures to determine trends at the Forest.





Monitoring Question: Marbled Murrelet

What are the trends in marbled murrelet populations on the Forest?

The PNW Research Station conducts effectiveness monitoring for marbled murrelets. Effectiveness monitoring for the marbled murrelet has two facets: (1) assess population trends at sea by using a unified sampling design and standardized survey methods, and (2) establish a credible estimate of baseline nesting-habitat data by modeling habitat relations, and use the baseline to track habitat changes over time. The monitoring objective is to determine the status and trends of marbled murrelet populations and nesting habitat in the Plan area.

Suitable habitat on the Siuslaw National Forest has not changed measurably in recent years, but is projected to increase over the next 5 decades with the designation of Late Successional Reserves as part of the Northwest Forest Plan.



Monitoring Questions: Northern Bald Eagle

What are the trends in northern bald eagle populations on the Forest?

Bald eagles specifically use mature conifer or old growth habitat preferably along large rivers and major tributaries. The bald eagle habitat base (acres near large bodies of water and are capable of growing old growth habitat) on the Forest is fixed at approximately 153,200 acres. The amount of currently suitable bald eagle habitat within the bald eagle habitat base on the Siuslaw National Forest is 62,300 acres or 40.6 percent of capable. This figure has not been changed measurably in recent years, but is projected to increase over the next 5 decades with the designation of Late Successional Reserves as part of the Northwest Forest Plan.

Bald eagles were removed from the threatened species list by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in 2007. Bald eagles are protected through the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Act and are identified as a sensitive species on the Regional Foresters Sensitive Species list.



Monitoring Questions: Western Snowy Plover

What are the trends in western snowy plover breeding and winter in populations on the Forest?

Snowy Plover Monitoring Efforts: The western snowy plover nesting populations is co-operatively monitored each year. The areas monitored include ocean shores administered by the Forest Service, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and the Bureau of Land Management. One of the recovery criteria for the Oregon-Washington recovery unit is 250 breeding adults. In 2010, about 230 breeding adults were observed in areas cooperatively monitored in Oregon. To insure that the recovered population is stable, a second criterion for delisting requires a yearly average productivity of at least one fledged chick per male in the last 5 years prior to delisting. The recovery unit has met this criteria in 4 of the last 5 years, whereas, sites administered by the Siuslaw have only met this criteria in 3 of the last 5 years. The productivity has been closely associated with predator control. Thus while the population is considered to be moving towards recovery; the sustainability of the recovery without predator control is not clear.

Restoration Efforts

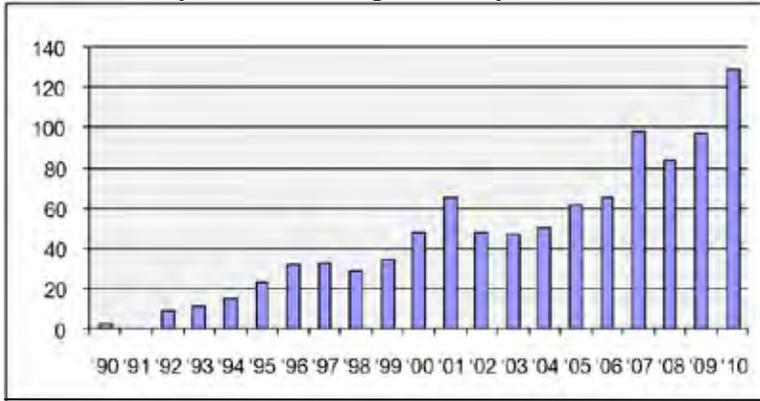
Over 80% of the open, relatively flat sandy areas where snowy plovers traditionally nested in coastal Oregon, have been invaded by European beach and succeeding vegetation over the years.

The Siuslaw National Forest has restored an average of 30 acres of nesting habitat each year for the past 10 years, removing predators from nesting areas and protected habitat by seasonally closing nesting areas to recreation use by people and their dogs, horse, and motor vehicles to prevent disturbances in key areas.

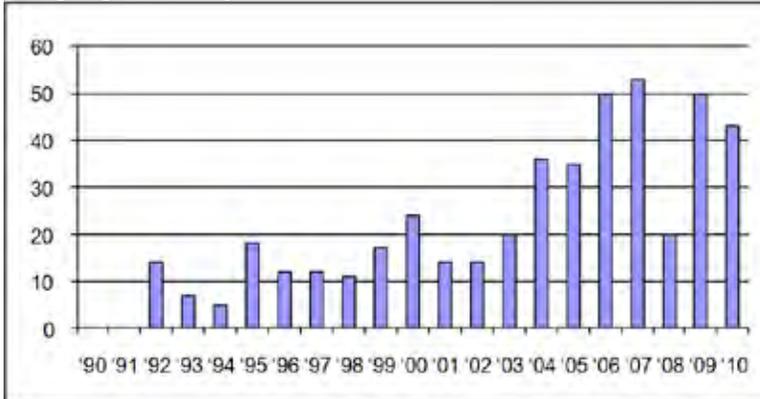
References:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center, Central Coast Ranger District-Oregon Dunes NRA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management.

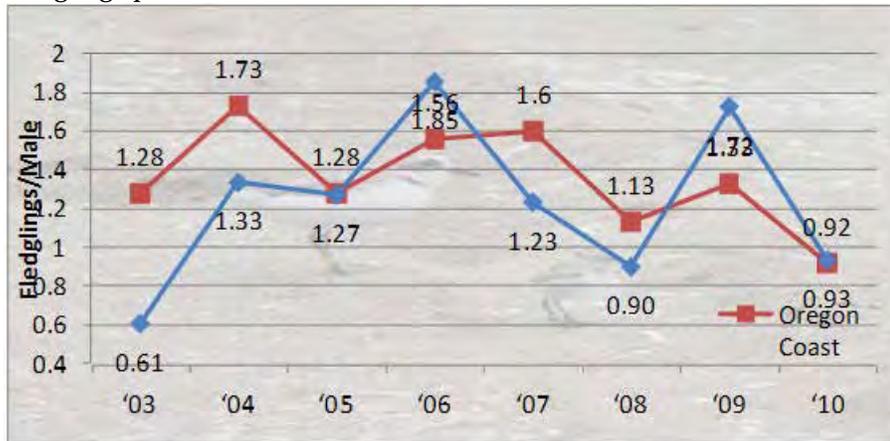
Western Snowy Plover Nesting Summary for Siuslaw NF

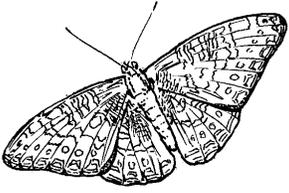


Fledgling Summary for Siuslaw NF



Fledglings per male





Monitoring Questions: Oregon Silverspot Butterfly

Are recovery plan objectives for the Oregon silverspot butterfly being met?

Silverspot butterfly *Speyeria zerene hippolyta* and its larval food plant early blue violet *Viola adunca* are monitored annually where existing populations of the butterfly are found at Rock Creek/Big Creek (Rock Creek), Bray's Point, Mt. Hebo, and Cascade Head. A previous Forest Monitoring and Evaluation Report for the Siuslaw National Forest for 2001-2004 compared the 2003 population status at each site to the mean population of the past 14 years. Rock Creek/Big Creek was 28% below the 14 year mean. Only 4 silverspot butterflies were observed at Bray's Point suggesting only a remnant population was present. The Mt. Hebo site was 6% above the 14 year mean. Cascade head was 44% below the 14 year mean.

Monitoring summarized in a 2006 monitoring report (Hammond, 2006) documented population levels dropping to low levels during the 2003-2004 years and critically low levels in 2005. Weather conditions along the Oregon coast were very unfavorable. The typical weather pattern is a cool rainy winter and a reasonably warm and moist spring. During 2004 and 2005 we experienced a combination of heat waves along the coast during the summer with a very cool rainy spring. The summer drought causes the violet plant to desiccate and dry up by mid-summer leaving the larvae silverspot with a limited food supply.

The Oregon Silverspot Workgroup made the decision to augment the Rock Creek and Brays point population with captive zoo-reared butterflies with stock obtained from the Mt. Hebo population in 2007, 2008 and 2009. Figure 1 displays the Oregon Silverspot Index of Abundance counts between 1990 and 2010 for sites on the Siuslaw NF. Mt. Hebo is considered to be at a relatively stable level. Figure 2 displays the counts for Brays Point and Rock Creek along with augmentation numbers. The last four years show an increase, some of which is associated with the augmentation efforts at Rock Creek and Brays Point.

Past vegetation management efforts were designed to promote the development and maintenance of early blue violet populations. The non-native grasses that now dominate the critical breeding sites; have not been responsive to traditional mechanical treatment methods. Non-mechanical methods including the use of landscape fabric have had limited success on very small areas. Consequently, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has concluded that without the use of herbicides, followed by planting native plants or seed, the grassland habitat at the Rock Creek site west of Highway 101 will be lost as suitable habitat for the species. Since this part of the designated critical habitat for the species, recovery efforts would be hampered.

Site Name	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97
Mt. Hebo	1100	2888	2628	1041	2200	3413	2507	2664
Brays Point	169	280	265	81	81	53	146	101
Rock Creek	142	113	242	35	65	374	356	332

Figure 1 Oregon Silverspot Butterfly Index of Abundance, 1990-2010

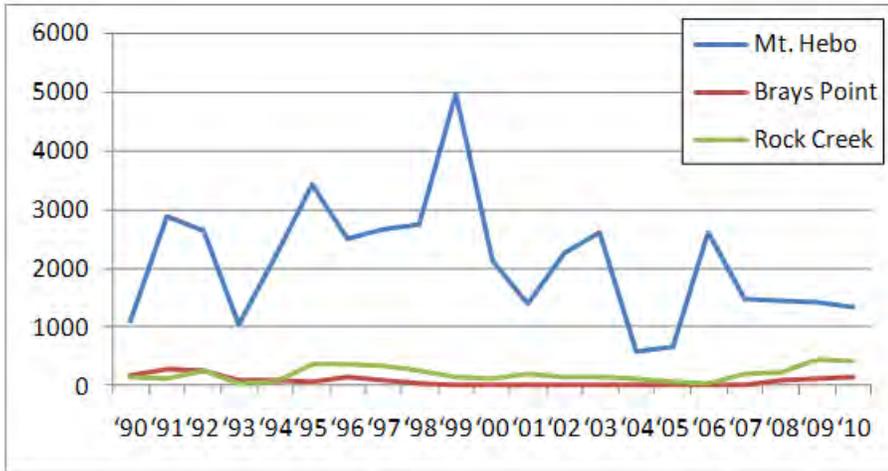
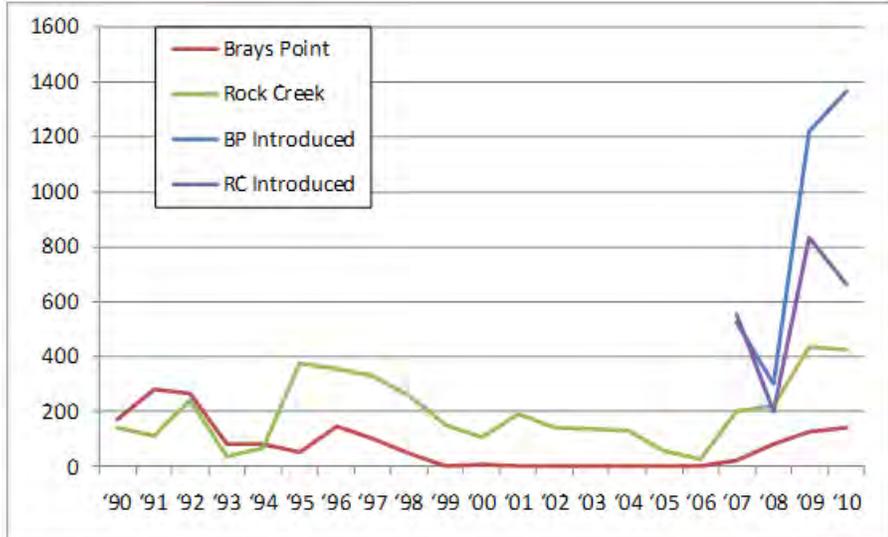
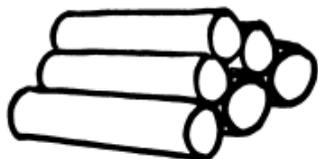


Figure 2 Brays Point and Rock Creek Populations and Augmentation Numbers



Social Group

This section of the monitoring report describes the resources and services the Forest provides its constituents. Recreation, timber, and roads provide direct benefits to many users of the forest. Benefits from other areas such as the cultural resources and research natural areas provide a more indirect benefit. Below is a summary of FY10 monitoring results designed to assist the Forest in determining the effectiveness of the Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines in providing expected resources and services to our constituents.



Monitoring Question: Commodity Production

Is the Forest providing commodities at levels projected in the Forest Plan?

The Northwest Forest Plan specified a probable sale quantity (PSQ) of 23 mmbf for the Forest. This was calculated for Option 9 of the Draft Northwest Forest Plan, and was based on acres in the matrix only. The matrix was defined as all forested land outside of riparian and late-successional reserves, and on land specified as suitable for commercial timber management in the Siuslaw Forest Plan. The riparian reserves for Option 9 in the Draft were defined as one-half site-potential tree length for either side of intermittent streams and 2 site-potential tree lengths for either side of perennial streams; or about 130 and 520 feet respectively. The reserve width for intermittent streams was increased to a full site-potential tree length (260 feet) for the Final Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP). This significantly reduced the matrix acres, but PSQ was not recalculated between draft and final. In the, *Federal Lands in and Adjacent to Oregon Coast Province Assessment Report*, 1995 adjusted the PSQ, taking the Riparian Reserves in account, to 2.6 mmbf.

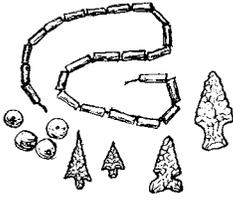
A Total Sale Quantity was estimated, also. This included the PSQ plus an estimate of commercial thinning to promote late-successional characteristics in Reserves (Riparian and Late-Successional). This estimate was 25.6 mmbf.

Following completion of the Late-Successional Reserve Assessments and results from the Siuslaw Thinning and Understory Development Study, thinning prescriptions increased the TSQ. The Forest current TSQ, from restorative thinning, is 40 mmbf.

The Forest offered and sold 36.65 MMBF of timber in 2010.

Special Forest Product sales include boughs, cascara bark, Christmas trees, firewood, greenery, Matsutake mushrooms, other commercial mushrooms, posts and poles, roots, transplants vine maple limbs, seeds, and seed cones.

The Forest sold 1562 permits for a total of \$172,400.54 in 2010.



Monitoring Question: Cultural Resources

Are cultural and historical sites being used and protected as planned?

Monitoring ARRA-funded projects near known sites and in areas of high probability for cultural resources necessitated added planning and protective oversight this year. Areas of periodic field inspections included the Cape Perpetua, Tillicum and Sutton campgrounds, the Sand Lake staging area and the Oregon Dunes NRA campgrounds. No adverse impact to significant heritage resources and no new sites were observed during project implementation.

Areas of on-going projects and recurring special use permits were visited as time allowed to check for possible effects that could have resulted from land disturbing activities. Projects monitored this year included the vegetation removal/snowy plover habitat improvements at Baker Beach, Siltcoos Outlet and the Dunes Overlook, recreational events at Tahkenitch Landing and Umpqua Dunes, stream restoration along Canal and Drift creeks, Salmon River restoration and vegetation removal, and Marys Peak. No adverse impacts to known heritage resources were observed.

The Forest's sites identified as Heritage priority assets were also visited during the year. Ocean erosion at the base of the protective seawall at site 35LNC57 (Cape Creek site) was noted for deferred maintenance; the weathered interpretive sign attached to the seawall was reported to the acting Central Coast interpretive specialist for replacement. Ocean erosion continues to reshape the coastline, with some loss of shoreline noted at cultural sites along the northern portion of the Central Coast Ranger District (e.g., Big Creek, Rock Creek and Cape Perpetua Scenic Area).

Tribal monitors were invited to observe the reconstruction of the Cape Cove Trail segments near listed National Register sites. Tribal and FS archaeologists were on-site as a shell midden (35LNC54) was stabilized with barrier cloth and rip-rap to reduce further ocean and pedestrian erosion. Contractors, recreation specialists, and project engineers were conscientious about protecting the integrity of this site. Also, prior to deepening Hebo Lake, Siletz Cultural Resource Specialist was brought to the area to ensure that concerns for protection of cultural features had been satisfactorily addressed and that no adverse impact to them would result during the excavation.

Cascade Head Experimental Forest Station was evaluated this year and determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The historic compound continues to serve the research community affiliated with the Pacific Northwest Research Laboratory. Planning was initiated for restoration of the Hebo Lake picnic shelter with historic preservation specialists. The cultural landscape plan for Heceta Lightstation was enlarged, under the direction of the landscape architect, to include State Park lands. Preparation was finalized for reconstruction of the parking area and trail, and restoration at the lighthouse during FY2011.

The Forest's listed National Register sites remained open to the public, providing various recreational opportunities, such as hiking, public education, camping and B&B accommodations. Such sites include those located in the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area, Tahkenitch Campground, and Heceta Head Lightstation. Daily summer interpretive programs and guided walks at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center and Heceta House provided visitors an opportunity to visit and learn about significant historic properties at these areas. The Keepers of Heceta House continue to offer exceptional overnight accommodations at the historic lightstation, and provide seasonal events for the local community.

In-house and public lectures provided training about the Forest's history and cultural resources to Cape Perpetua staff and volunteers, the pilot Field Rangers program at the Oregon Dunes NRA, a Hebo District cultural resources tech, PIT volunteers and at community lectures and FLT meetings during the year. In addition, the Siuslaw NF history book and companion photo DVD, *A Century of Growth*, was made available to employees and the public following a lecture and book signing at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center.



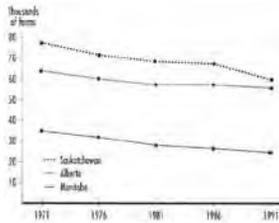
Monitoring Questions: Ownership status

Are the goals of Landownership Adjustment Plan being met?

The Forest no longer has a current Landownership Adjustment Plan. Developed in the early 1990's the Landownership Adjustment Plan is out of date relative to current landownership adjustment objectives and priorities. The Northwest Forest Plan (1994) amended the Siuslaw National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (1990) changing the intent and focus of land adjustment efforts. In the past decade, based in part on Northwest Forest Plan direction and objectives, Forest acquisitions and land adjustments have focused primarily on riparian and stream restoration opportunities.

The Forest is currently involved in efforts to consolidate and reduce administrative sites. The former Alsea Ranger District site was sold in 1995 and about 3 acres at the Waldport administrative site were sold in 2007. The Gardiner administrative site (3.25 acres) was sold in 2010. Hillcrest administrative site in Mapleton (89 acres) is scheduled for conveyance in 2011 and the Mapleton Compound (16 acres) is currently being prepared for conveyance in 2012. Sale of the Mapleton Compound site will complete forest administrative site reductions.

Current Forest land adjustment priorities and objectives are being met, although they are not the ones originally set out in the Landownership Adjustment Plan. The most recent land acquisitions include the Fawn Creek property (93.61 acres), the Fivemile-Bell property (624.80 Acres) and the Drift Creek of the Alsea property (1342.16 acres). The Forest has active stream and/or riparian restoration projects currently under way on all of these parcels. In addition, the Forest currently has four high priority stream and/or riparian restoration parcels on which it is actively working with partners for acquisition via Land and Water Conservation Fund Act funds.



Monitoring Questions: Local Economies and Communities

Are local natural resource based economies and communities healthy

Stewardship contracting has helped develop local resources for stream restoration, road decommissioning and timber sales. The Resource Advisory Committees have utilized local resources for projects.



Monitoring Question: Public Coordination, Cooperation and Collaboration

Do Forest activities involve a broad range of publics and high level of interagency cooperation and collaboration?

The Coast Range Provincial Advisory Committee meets quarterly. Province Advisory Committee members have helped play an important part in the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan. Advisory committee members help identify important forest-related matters that affect themselves, their colleagues, fellow tribal members, friends, and neighbors.

The Oregon Coast Province is bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the north by the Columbia River, and on the east by the crest of the Coast Mountain Range including all but a small portion of the Siuslaw National Forest. On the southern border it takes in the lower portion of the Umpqua River near Reedsport and crosses the North Umpqua River at Melrose just west of Roseburg. From there it passes just north of Wilber and on up to Sutherlin where it turns east up to Scott Mountain. From Scott Mountain it runs northeast then north to Harness Mountain where it turns west back along the Crest of the Coast Range north to the Columbia River. The Oregon Coast Province includes the following hydrologic units: Necanicum, Nehalem, Wilson-Trask-Nestucca, Siletz-Yaquina, Alesa, Siuslaw, and Umpqua. The Oregon Coast Province is approximately 3,918,700 acres including 540,200 acres of BLM ownership, 592,800 acres of USFS ownership, 100 acres of NPS ownership, 100 acres of USFWS ownership, and 1,400 acres of DOD ownership

To get the best information and to ensure that all views and interests are represented in the planning process, federally chartered advisory committees of up to 29 members were appointed from each province area (Currently 20 members). As their name implies, advisory committees are responsible for helping their province teams get the best information as quickly as possible about all aspects of their province. Each advisory committee member is expected to accurately represent the views of their community, tribe, state and local government, timber industry interest, recreation group, or environmental interest.

The Siuslaw Resource Advisory Committee meets yearly to review and accept project proposals. Public Law 106-393 creates a mechanism for local community collaboration with federal land managers in recommending projects to be conducted on federal lands or

that will benefit resources on federal lands. The geographic boundaries of the RACs are generally aligned with county boundaries, and each RAC is assigned a Designated Federal Official (DFO) to serve as the point of contact.

The committees' duties include reviewing proposed forest management projects in accordance with the Act and making recommendations to the Forest Service and providing opportunities for interested parties to participate in the project development process.

These committees are to be balanced and diverse with equal representation from industry, environmental groups, elected officials and local people. The composition of each RAC is to be balanced according to the following three interest categories identified in Public Law 106-393

There are three Stewardship Groups on the Forest, the Siuslaw Basin, Alsea and Marys Peak. These groups generally meet monthly.

Stewardship groups are collections of individuals and organizations from the local area working with the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to promote forest restoration that meets the needs of the local community.

The Forest participates in the Planning, Appeals, Litigation System database. This quarterly database lists the current projects on the Forest. The information is available on the Forest website. This information is also published in the Forest Update that is mailed to about 100 agencies, groups and individuals each quarter.

Scoping agencies, groups and individuals for specific projects through letters, news releases and ads provides opportunities for additional site-specific participation.



Monitoring Question: Recreation Diversity

Is the diversity of recreation opportunities provided for in the Forest Plan being supplied and used?

No specific monitoring of recreation diversity was done in 2010. Recreation construction projects within the National Forest are planned and reviewed for consistency with their recreation opportunity setting. This helps to ensure that the diversity of recreation settings on the Forest is retained.

Formal recreation use monitoring for Forest recreation sites is done as part of a national monitoring effort, last undertaken in 2006. This information was part of the monitoring report for 2006.

Some areas of the Forest have been restored to have a less managed condition and appearance as the result of on-going restoration efforts aimed primarily at improving fish habitat along creeks and creek valleys. This has increased the land in semi-primitive condition on the Forest. An example is at Enchanted Valley, adjacent to, and extending from Mercer Lake, off Highway 101.

There has been attention given in recent years to an area of undeveloped land on the Siuslaw Forest known as the Wassen Creek Area with the possibility of increasing the designated primitive setting land on the Forest.



Monitoring Question: Recreation Off-highway Vehicles

Is off-highway vehicle use taking place as intended in the Forest Plan?

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use in unvegetated sand dune riding areas at the Oregon Dunes NRA and Sand Lake Recreation Area is generally occurring as intended in the Forest Plan. Within the Oregon Dunes NRA a second category of lands is allocated to motorized/OHV use only on designated routes in order to minimize impacts to vegetation and habitats. To date only a few routes have been designated in these areas and navigating on the ground can be difficult. As a result, OHV riders have continued to use a myriad of user-developed unauthorized routes that existed prior to the 1994 Dunes Plan, as well as pioneering new unauthorized routes. Some of these routes constitute adverse impacts on plant and wildlife habitats. To move OHV use more toward Plan direction began public outreach in 2010 with the intent to identify and designate additional routes in these areas. An Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared in 2011 and the project is expected to be completed in 2012. Once the routes are identified and designated they will be shown on the Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map and become part of the Forest Travel Management system. At that time all non-designated routes will become closed and be rehabilitated or allowed to revert to a more natural condition.

The Forest offers three OHV riding areas at the Oregon Dunes NRA and one at Sand Lake. The riding areas are extremely popular and heavily used, especially during the summer. The Forest monitors use relative to capacity in these areas. NRA riding areas are approaching, but have not yet exceeded planned capacity (average of 2 riders/acre), as additional OHV campgrounds and staging facilities are constructed on non-federal lands immediately adjacent to the NRA.

Within designated riding areas regulations such as alcohol prohibition, engine noise standards, sand camping restrictions, and closure areas (e.g. noise buffers, tree islands, wetlands, etc.) are generally respected by visitors. Violation notices are issued when infractions are observed, but compliance is generally acceptable. Visitor safety and resource protection are at acceptable levels.

Joshua Lane and Collard Lake were small OHV riding areas (approximately 300 acres combined) in the Mapleton Complex near Florence. They were used by small numbers of primarily local riders, some of whom live immediately adjacent to the parcels. Small size, lack of legal motorized access and increasing residential development around Joshua Lane (with associated OHV noise and trespass issues) caused the Forest to review and analyze continued motorized use of these parcels as part of its Travel Management effort. Ultimately in its May 2009 Travel Management decision, the Forest concluded that due to their small size and numerous conflicts these areas are unsustainable as cross country motorized use areas. There are other cross country motorized areas just five miles south at the Oregon Dunes NRA. In 2010 the Forest implemented the closure of these two small areas to motorized cross country use. The access into the Joshua Lane area was gated on adjacent BLM lands and the Forest began concentrated patrols in these areas to deter continued OHV use. That has been largely successful.

There is a small amount of unauthorized OHV use in non-designated areas on the Forest, such as around South Lake on the Hebo RD and at Woods Creek Trailhead on the Central Coast RD. There is some minor resource damage associated with these localized situations.

The Forest began to remedy these situations with implementation of the new Travel Management Rule in 2010. The May 2009 Travel Management decision also identified which Forest System Roads will provide “mixed use”, including highway vehicles and non-street legal OHVs. Road miles available for non-street legal, off-highway vehicle use were reduced from 1,934 to 1,275. The Forest in 2010 published its first Motor Vehicle Use Map showing roads, trails and areas available for motorized use. Public acceptance with Travel Management decisions has been largely non-controversial. Compliance in 2010 has been good.



Monitoring Question: Accessibility

Are Forest recreation facilities, building, administrative sites and environmental education programs usable by all people regardless of physical and mental ability?

Evaluation Question:

Are recreation sites and administrative facilities on the Siuslaw National Forest being brought to standard in accordance with the Forest Accessibility Transition Plan, 1996, and the Forest Service Outdoor Recreation Access Standards and Forest Service Trails Access Standards, 2006?

Monitoring Action: Review work done to improve accessibility since 2009, the last monitoring report.

Summary: Access Survey of Forest Recreation Sites. Original survey completed in 1996. This information shows work completed as of the end of 2010.

Campgrounds	A	US	NA	NAC
Hebo Ranger District	1	0	8	0
Central Coast Ranger District	2	2	19	0
Day Use Sites	A	US	NA	NAC
Hebo Ranger District	1	0	1	0
Central Coast Ranger District	7	17	15	2

Abbreviations:

A Accessible. Meets UFAS/ADA standards. Benches and fishing platform railings and other similar structures, if any, do not meet most recent standards, but will be brought to standard as improvements, or replacements are made.

US Usable. Facility was developed to be accessible. People with some disabilities may have difficulties using the facility. One or more standards are not met.

NA Not accessible. Can be brought up to standard without unreasonable resource impacts.

NAC Not accessible. Cannot be brought up to standard without unreasonable resource impacts.

As portions of sites are reconstructed, new guidelines are being incorporated into site design for Forest sites, as appropriate to the various “Recreation opportunity settings” (the various types of recreation settings planned for) on the Forest. Each year work done on recreation facilities on the Forest is noted to see how accessibility is improved. More campsites meeting access standards continue to be needed. Work is needed to continue to bring Forest recreation sites to standard.

Recreation facility renovation work at Hebo Lake Campground was done in 2010 which created one accessible camp unit, and brought the campground to the current standards with recognized exceptions for terrain and preserving cultural values for areas and some facilities within the campground. A fishing platform to current standards was constructed. The day use experience at the campground is now to current standards and accessible, as the result of improvements. Seventy-nine picnic tables meeting accessible standards were constructed at Sand Beach Campground. Effort is underway to assess and prioritize needs for improvements to access on the Forest, concentrating on improving camping opportunities.

Trails

In 2010, characteristics of Siuslaw National Forest hiking trails were evaluated as to which can be brought to standard – including standards for accessibility. All or portions of twenty – one Forest hiking trails can be brought to standard without affecting the trail setting or cultural values.

For hiking trails, the standards are: 32 inch minimum width, 5% any distance, 8.3% up to 200 feet, and for up to 30% of trail, 10% to 14% for very short distances (10% for 30 feet, 12.5% for 10 feet, 14% for 5 feet with resting stops at these distances), compacted tread 60 inch turning area. Unless bringing to these standards would adversely affect the trail’s setting or cultural values.

The following hiking trails or portions of hiking trail, currently meet access standards as set in the Forest Service Trail Accessibility Standards, 2006.

FOREST PLAN MONITORING QUESTIONS

Trail Number	Name	Remarks
1311	Hebo Lake Loop	meets.
1319	Sweet Creek	first portion of.
1326	Holman Vista	meets.
1330	Lagoon Trail	meets except one boardwalk to replace.
1334	Oregon Dunes Loop	100 yards within built site, rest cannot be made accessible.
1335	Taylor Dunes	okay to first viewing platform, deck. (Trail would accessible the first half mile, except the slope is not accessible.)
1357	Hall-Schultpelz Lake	portion of trail – until dune – is accessible.
1364	Restless Waters	first portion of, to top of stairs to Churn. Needs grade improvement, cross slope improvements, and rest stops. Now too much outslope.
1399	Umpqua Beach Vista	meets.

These Siuslaw National Forest hiking trails can be brought to standard, without adversely affecting their setting or cultural values:

Trail Number	Name	Remarks
1301	Hebo Plantation	
1305	Whispering Spruce	almost meets.
1307	Captain Cook	portion of, rest not possible.
1317	Pawn	portion of.
1320	Darlingtonia	is accessible except decking direction is wrong.
1321	Sutton Trail System	portion of.
1331	Bluebill	northside to bridge, needs realignment and bridge.
1332	Enchanted Valley	Possible, concerns about access to Trailhead, now through residential area.
1351	North Fork Smith	loop portion of trail, to first bridge.
1357	Hall-Schultpelz Lake	portion of trail – until dune – is accessible.

Trail Number	Name	Remarks
1361	Canal Creek Loop	inside campground.
1370	Heceta Lighthouse	portion of. Rest cannot be made accessible because of slope, cultural values.
1378	Drift Creek Falls	portion of, also access affected by trail condition seasonally.

For the following trails, the trail cannot be made accessible – brought to Forest Service hiking trail standard – without affecting the setting or cultural value, trail value, and so will not be made to standard. These natural and cultural values – called conditions for departure from the standards – are to be recorded with each trail’s information in the trails data base, with a note that the trail cannot be made to hiking trail standard, and this will guide hiking trail management. Some portions of these trails may be constructed to meet some access standards and trailhead facilities will meet access standards.

Trail Number	Name	Remarks
1300	Pioneer Indian	Condition for departure: cultural value, topography.
1303	Hart’s Cove	Condition for departure: topography, wildlife, National Scenic Area.
1306	Saint Perpetua	Condition for departure: topography.
1307	Captain Cook Trail	Condition for departure: topography.
1308	Oregon Coast	Condition for departure: topography.
1310	Cascade Head	Condition for departure: topography, National Scenic Area.
1313	Tie Trail	Condition for departure: topography, Scenic Natural Area.
1316	Pioneer Hill	Condition for departure: cultural values, National Register eligible, topography.
1322	Alder Dune Trail	Condition for departure: topography.
1324	East Ridge Marys Peak	Conditions for departure: topography, Scenic Natural Area, cultural.
1325	Meadows Edge	Condition for departure: topography, Scenic Natural Area.
1333	Siltcoos Lake	Condition for departure: topography.
1336	Tahkenitch Creek	Condition for departure: topography.

Trail Number	Name	Remarks
1337	Waxmyrtle	Condition for departure: topography.
1338	Three Mile Lake Trail	Condition for departure: topography.
1339	John Dellenback	Condition for departure: topography.
1347	Harris Ranch	Condition for departure: topography.
1350	North Ridge Marys Peak	Condition for departure: topography.

In 2010, Hebo Lake Trail was made accessible to current standards, and has a grade that meets easy trail standards. Planning and design work to bring Heceta Trail up to standard – with exceptions for protecting cultural values and topography– was completed through 2010, and work is expected on site in late summer 2011.

Forest Trails will continue to be surveyed and information about them documented as part of the updating information about National Forest recreation constructed facilities. This information will include information about slope and tread and other conditions which describe trails, and help people know how accessible or usable they will be to them, and helps the Forest Service plan for improvements to accessibility.

Evaluation Question 2:

Are Forest environmental education programs available to people with disabilities?

Monitoring Action – The Forest has the objective and makes efforts to provide environmental education programs in which everyone can participate.

In recent years, changes have been made to recreation information on the Forest’s internet site to reflect highlighting recreation opportunities, as they are for all, with meeting current access standards part of meeting all standards for recreation facilities. See the National Forest national website for full text of access guidelines for trails and for recreation sites.

As part of providing information to the public, and to highlight recreation opportunities on the Forest, a list of campgrounds, viewpoints, trails on the Siuslaw National Forest that provide a variety of recreation opportunities and have constructed facilities that meet current standards – including access standards, and also a list of some sites that are likely useable though they do not fully meet standards, is available by asking at the front desk at Siuslaw National Forest offices. An explanation of trail difficulty levels and types of trails is also available.

Each year’s work provides updated information about the sites is provided. The idea is to provide sites with, and information about, a variety of recreation opportunities that meet current standards, including the most current list of recreation opportunities on the Forest meeting accessibilities standards. This is done so that people of a variety of abilities can use the site facilities, and know about and have opportunities for a variety of recreation experiences.

The most current list is dated 2009, updated here to include 2010 work on Hebo Lake Campground.

Highlighted Recreation Opportunities on the Siuslaw National Forest, Together, these Siuslaw National Forest recreation sites provide a variety of recreation opportunities.

On the Siuslaw and all National Forests, some recreation facilities are more rustic in character to better fit a more wild setting; some are more developed. The aim is to provide a variety of recreation settings. Natural topography and vegetation is retained. All recreation built facilities on the Forest are made as accessible to people of various physical abilities as possible, as facilities are renovated or replaced.

Most constructed facilities at these sites meet access standards, at least of the time they were constructed. See site descriptions on the Forest website for details.

Viewpoints and Observation Sites

Conner's Camp

The Conner's Camp Site is a picnic site and viewpoint, offering views of forest east of Marys Peak. In early summer, there are views of wildflowers along the Marys Peak roadway on the way to Conner's Camp, and at the upper Observation site.

The day use area is completely level. There are two picnic tables. The one near the view has fairly level firm ground around it and to it. There is a slight dip at the transition from the parking to the grass area. The interpretive sign at the entrance of the trail does not meet standards; the lettering is too small, and the sign is not on level ground. The East Ridge Trail entrance is located just off the entrance to Conner's Camp parking area. The trail cannot be made accessible.

Conner's Camp Trailhead is located on Marys Peak west of Philomath, off of Highway 34.

Devil's Churn with Devil's Churn Overlook and Restless Waters Trail

Devil's Churn is a spectacular scenic attraction. The whole Devil's Churn site is a popular recreation site. The larger setting is almost primitive, wild and dramatic. There are views of Cape Perpetua headlands, the Pacific, Devil's Churn with its lava formations.

Here also one can see historic Highway 101, with the early road layout and nearby a section of original stone highway wall.

The Devil's Churn overlook platform, with its heavy stonework, is accessible from the upper parking lot. The restroom is accessible from the lower parking lot. There is not an accessible connection between the upper and lower parking lots, except by driving.

Restless Waters Trail is accessible from the Restless Waters Trailhead (in the lower parking lot) down to the lower overlook – called the west overlook - which is at the top of the stairs leading down to the Churn. This is a distance of about 600 feet, mostly at 8% grade, with a very short section of 10% grade. At and just after the first turn in the trail, there is this sustained grade and somewhat out sloped corner. Past the overlook by the stairs down to the Churn, the next 430 feet of the trail is 14% maximum, mostly 12% grade, to the stairs down to the Tidepools. This portion of the trail does not meet access standards, and has out sloping at curves.

Devil's Churn overlook and Restless Waters Trail and Trailhead are located at Devil's Churn Recreation Site which is at Devil's Churn along Coast Highway 101.

Holman Vista

A view deck at Holman Vista allows beautiful, picturesque views of the low sand dunes and overlooks a coastal creek. Muted colors and constant change of an Oregon coastal landscape are in view. The land is uniquely wild in appearance and extends undeveloped north and east to Highway 101.

A short trail connects the parking lot to a view deck.

Holman Vista is part of the Sutton Recreation Area, seven miles north of Florence, along the Oregon Coast Highway 101.

Oregon Dunes Overlook

Oregon Dunes Overlook offers visitors spectacular views - and interpretation - of the Oregon Dunes. There are two levels from which to view the Dunes. The main level has picnicking, viewpoints with interpretation, and restrooms. At the upper overlook viewing deck, a bench and interpretation are provided.

The land in view is undeveloped, almost primitive in character. The facilities and number of people are rural in character. Recent work on the land in view from the Overlook is aimed to restore more natural vegetation.

The viewing decks are constructed of wood, and have a level transition from the paved access route. The asphalt trail leads to individual picnic spurs where sites have extended end tables. The trail also incorporates an occasional "pull out" to allow wheel chair users to pass one another. Each site has its own unique view of the dunes and the Pacific Ocean. The upper level is accessed either by stairs or a switch back wooden ramp that has level rest areas every twenty feet. This site does not meet access standards, but has few barriers to use within the constructed site.

The trails down to the sand are not accessible.

Umpqua Beach Viewing Platform (at Umpqua Beach Parking #2)

Adjacent to the parking lot, a short trail leads up to a viewing platform to look out to the beach, with a wide view of the Pacific and the sandy beach. Access to the beach is fairly level over soft sand; beach access does not meet access standards.

Umpqua Beach Trail is near Winchester Bay, off Salmon Harbor Drive.

Trailheads and Trails

Lagoon Trail

Lagoon Trail offers a beautiful, tranquil setting of slow canal-like water, a former meander of the Siltcoos River. You can sit at viewing platforms and watch the water, bird life, and other wildlife. The area provides outstanding wildlife watching opportunities.

The first 2300 feet of trail has 0% to 2% grade. The two viewing platforms are accessible.

Trail leaves from the Stagecoach Trailhead or from within Lagoon Campground, located off Highway 101, seven miles south of Florence.

Taylor Dune

Taylor Dune Trail travels past a marshy lake with a wildlife viewing platform, and then uphill through forest to a second platform at the edge of the sand dunes. There are views of the Pacific from the upper viewing platform.

The trailhead and first more gradual portion of the trail, approximately 800 feet a maximum 5% grade. After the wildlife viewing platform, the trail has 8% grade, some sustained grade sections. Some people will need assistance to cover the second part of the trail. The second part of the trail is likely to have some sandy soil spilled onto the trail from eroding banks.

Taylor Dune Trailhead is located adjacent to Highway 101, eight miles south of Florence.

Hebo Lake Trail

Mount Hebo has a number of recreation attractions in a rustic natural setting which is unusual on the Siuslaw National Forest, and in Oregon, west of the Cascades.

Hebo Lake Campground is a wonderfully restful setting with access to water's edge and fishing. The campground is set around a sheltered, peaceful lake – really a pond. There is a trail with fishing platforms at the lake edge. The trail borders the lake- really a pond – about two thirds of the way around it at a fairly flat grade.

One camp unit is accessible, others cannot be made accessible because of topography, but are provided with tables and firerings meeting current standards; the historic picnic shelter is not accessible.

Sweet Creek Trail

Sweet Creek Trail follows Sweet Creek, and provides access to a wonderful creek side forest setting, with waterfalls and lush vegetation. Sweet Creek feeds into the Siuslaw River near Mapleton. The beginning portion of the trail clings to the creek bank with sections built on “catwalks” where trail users walk on grill and can view down to the creek. The Sweets were early homesteaders, who came to the area by wagon train. The trailhead is in a little clearing where apple trees are reminders of the early settlers.

A short segment beginning at the Homestead Trailhead is accessible – 550 feet – with a maximum 5% grade, to the first waterfalls. The trail is steeper beginning at the first falls, with a 12% grade to the lower catwalk, approximately 400 feet. The remainder of the trail is not accessible.

The Sweet Creek Homestead Trailhead bulletin board and picnic table do not meet access standards.

Staging areas for Off Road Vehicles and other Trails and Beach Access are included in “Accessible Recreation Sites on the Siuslaw National Forest, likely useable,” 2009. These sites are likely to be usable. These sites do not meet access standards, but have few barriers to use within the constructed sites:

Staging Areas

South Jetty Off Highway Vehicle Staging Area

South Jetty is one of several popular staging areas for All Terrain or Off Highway vehicles on the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. Most sites have standard loading ramps for ATV/OHVs.

South Jetty parking lot is immediately adjacent to dramatically steep sand dunes. Over the adjacent steep sand dunes, is the route to the rest of the dunes. The large parking island is used as a viewing area to watch people on ATVs heading up the slope: viewing is a popular activity here.

The parking lot and restroom are almost urban in character. The restroom meets access standards. The large parking island is not accessible, but there are plans to develop it for picnicking in the future.

South Jetty Staging area is located along the South Jetty, off of Highway 101.

Goosepasture Off Highway Vehicle Staging Area

Goosepasture Staging Area is located along South Jetty, and provides a staging area for ATVs and OHVs to a wider area of sand dunes.

The setting is close to semi-primitive in character. The facility is urban in character.

The restroom is accessible.

Umpqua Beach #3 Off Highway Vehicle Staging Area

Umpqua Beach is a staging area for ATV and OHVs that has picnic facilities as well. Here there is a broad panoramic view of the dunes. This site provides all visitors a wonderful opportunity to experience the dunes. Looking to the east, the beautiful white sands contrast with islands of trees. To the west, the ocean beach, though not in view, offers it's fragrance to enrich the experience.

The sites has a large picnic shelter with picnic tables and a sink, and outside picnic sites with decking between the picnic sites. The restroom and most facilities are accessible. The exception is the sign board, which needs large type and a paved surface approach.

Old Bark Road Staging

Staging areas for Off Highway Vehicles, with views of the dunes. The site has an accessible restroom and picnic tables.

Beach Access

Siltcoos Beach Access

The facilities provided at Siltcoos Beach – restroom and parking area – are accessible, so the site as a rest stop meets access standards. As is the case elsewhere, the land around is not. Here, particularly, there is immediate steep sand to the west and marshy land to the Siltcoos Beach Access is at the end of the Siltcoos Corridor.

Viewpoints and Observation Sites

Dunes Overlook

Oregon Dunes Overlook offers visitors spectacular views - and interpretation - of the Oregon Dunes. There are two levels from which to view the Dunes. The main level has picnicking, viewpoints with interpretation, and restrooms. At the upper overlook viewing deck, a bench and interpretation are provided.

The land in view is undeveloped, almost primitive in character. The facilities and number of people are rural in character. Recent work on the land in view from the Overlook is aimed to restore more natural vegetation.

The viewing decks are constructed of wood, and have a level transition from the paved access route. The asphalt trail leads to individual picnic spurs where sites have extended end tables. The trail also incorporates an occasional “pull out” to allow wheel chair users to pass one another. Each site has its own unique view of the dunes and the Pacific Ocean. The upper level is accessed either by stairs or a switch back wooden ramp that has level rest areas every twenty feet. The trails down to the sand are not accessible.

Marys Peak Observation Site

Marys Peak Observation site is a destination site which receives use almost year round. Here are panoramic views of the Willamette Valley to the east, and the Coast Range to the west.

The parking lot and walkways are generally accessible. A lack of curb cuts makes using the walkway somewhat awkward, and the walkway lacks wider turn around spaces at the ends. The restrooms are accessible.

A seating area and viewing platform on the west slope is not accessible.

Interpretive signs do not meet access standards.

Trails leaving from the Observation Site are not accessible.

Trailheads and Trails

Devil’s Churn with Devil’s Churn Overlook and Restless Waters Trail

Devil’s Churn is a spectacular scenic attraction. The whole Devil’s Churn site is a popular recreation site. The larger setting is almost primitive, wild and dramatic. There are views of Cape Perpetua headlands, the Pacific, Devil’s Churn with its lava formations. Here also one can see historic Highway 101, with the early road layout and nearby a section of original stone highway wall.

The Devil’s Churn overlook platform, with its rustic, local stone work, is accessible from the upper parking lot. The restroom is accessible from the lower parking lot. There is not an accessible connection between the upper and lower parking lots, except by driving.

Restless Waters Trail is accessible from the Restless Waters Trailhead (in the lower parking lot) down to the lower overlook – called the west overlook - which is at the top of the stairs leading down to the Churn. This is a distance of about 600 feet, mostly at 8% grade, with a very short section of 10% grade. At and just after the first turn in the trail, there is this sustained grade and somewhat out sloped corner. Past the overlook by the stairs down to the Churn, the next 430 feet of the trail is 14% maximum, mostly 12% grade, to the stairs down to the Tidepools. This portion of the trail does not meet access standards, and has out sloping at curves.

Devil's Churn overlook and Restless Waters Trail and Trailhead are located at Devil's Churn Recreation Site which is at Devil's Churn along Coast Highway 101.

Drift Creek Falls Trail and Trailhead

Drift Creek Falls is a beautiful 75 foot Coast Range waterfall, reached by trail through the forest. At the waterfall, there is a suspension bridge which is exciting to cross and which gives views down to the waterfall.

The trail is three miles round trip. It has slopes to 12 percent, some for sustained periods, and the tread is surfaced only in spots, correct cross slope at turns and pull outs are not consistently provided.

The trailhead is accessible. People in wheelchairs will need assistance on the trail. The bridge is accessible.

The trail is not usable in the winter and early spring months.

Tahkenitch Creek Trailhead

Tahkenitch Dunes Trail accesses a waterway that meanders to the ocean, much affected by the tides. The existing trail is not accessible. The trail has some very steep portions, particularly the beginning section getting to the level of the water. The trailhead, which is surrounded by vegetation, is accessible.

Tahkenitch Dunes Trailhead

Located at the entrance to Carter Lake Campground, the trail leads across a small wetland and transverses a forested dune, to an observation point above small dunes, wetlands and the distant ocean.

Boat Ramps

Tahkenitch Boat Ramp

Tahkenitch Lake is one of the large coastal lakes created when sand blocked streams coming from the Coast Range. A number of recreation sites are in this vicinity.

Tahkenitch Boat Ramp is the only accessible boat ramp on the Forest, and is located directly off Highway 101.

Mike Bauer Fishing Site

Winter fishing opportunities and river recreation are a feature of the Siuslaw National Forest. Mike Bauer is one of a sequence of recreation sites with fishing and river side recreation opportunities along the Alsea River corridor.

Mike Bauer Recreation Site has a boat launch and fishing site.

Access to the boat ramp is accessible; the boat ramp itself is not paved.

The fishing site has a trail down to a fishing platform, and a warming shed built by users.

The fishing platform and trail are usable; when the trail is maintained, though the platforms location makes it hard to fish from. During some times of the year, the platform is too high above the river water level, and too far from the river. During the flood season, winter and early spring, the trail may be under water and blocked by debris.

There is no access over to the fishing shed. The parking area is somewhat uneven. The restroom is accessible.

Beach Access

South Jetty Beach Access Sites

Driving the South Jetty Road, you can see wetlands and low dunes, and there are stopping points to view birds. At the north end of the Jetty, is a popular crabbing dock. All along the jetty are beach access points, with parking space and accessible restrooms.

The surrounding land and sand dune is not accessible, but the constructed facilities are accessible, with the exception of the signs. Also, at the Crab Dock, there is a continuing problem with access to the dock being blocked to some users by blowing sand.

South Jetty, near Florence, Oregon is reached off Highway 101.

General Information

People who are hearing impaired may obtain visitor information through TDD.

Recreation facilities on the Siuslaw National Forest are being made physically accessible as quickly as possible, as facilities at sites are reconstructed or replaced. Most facilities listed here have been judged to be negotiable by wheelchair users. Those facilities that require assistance for wheelchair users are indicated. Facilities described as accessible do not necessarily comply fully with federal standards. Some accessible facilities are not marked with the international symbol. Your comments on accessibility are appreciated.

Please contact the:

Accessibility Coordinator

P.O. Box 1148

Corvallis, OR 97339

Or call 541-750-7000, and ask for the Accessibility Coordinator or Forest Landscape Architect, jcdole@fs.fed.us



Monitoring Question: Access and Travel Management

Is the plan for long-term access roads sufficient for general public access needs?

Total number of road miles in fiscal year 2010 is less than previously reported. Reduction in miles comes from decommissioning roads which remove them from the Forest

Transportation atlas. Also, as road jurisdiction discrepancies between other local governments, agencies and private landowners are discovered and eventually resolved, Forest Service system road miles change.

The downward forest trend of total system road miles, stored roads and decommissioned roads is reflected in the table below. The data provided in 1990 and 2003 is from the 2003 Forest Roads Analysis. The Forest's emphasis to attain a minimum road system has resulted in more decommissioning and road closures. Stored roads have occurred as

timber sales are completed and subsequent roads are closed and also from recent appropriated funding (CMLG) to store or decommission roads.

FOREST PLAN MONITORING QUESTIONS

Year	System Road Miles	Miles Open	Miles Stored (Closed)	Miles of Road Decommissioned
1990	2530	Not available	Not available	Not available
2003	2280	Not available	Not available	Not available
2009	2200	1924	276	288
2010	2166	1811	355	318

Other Group

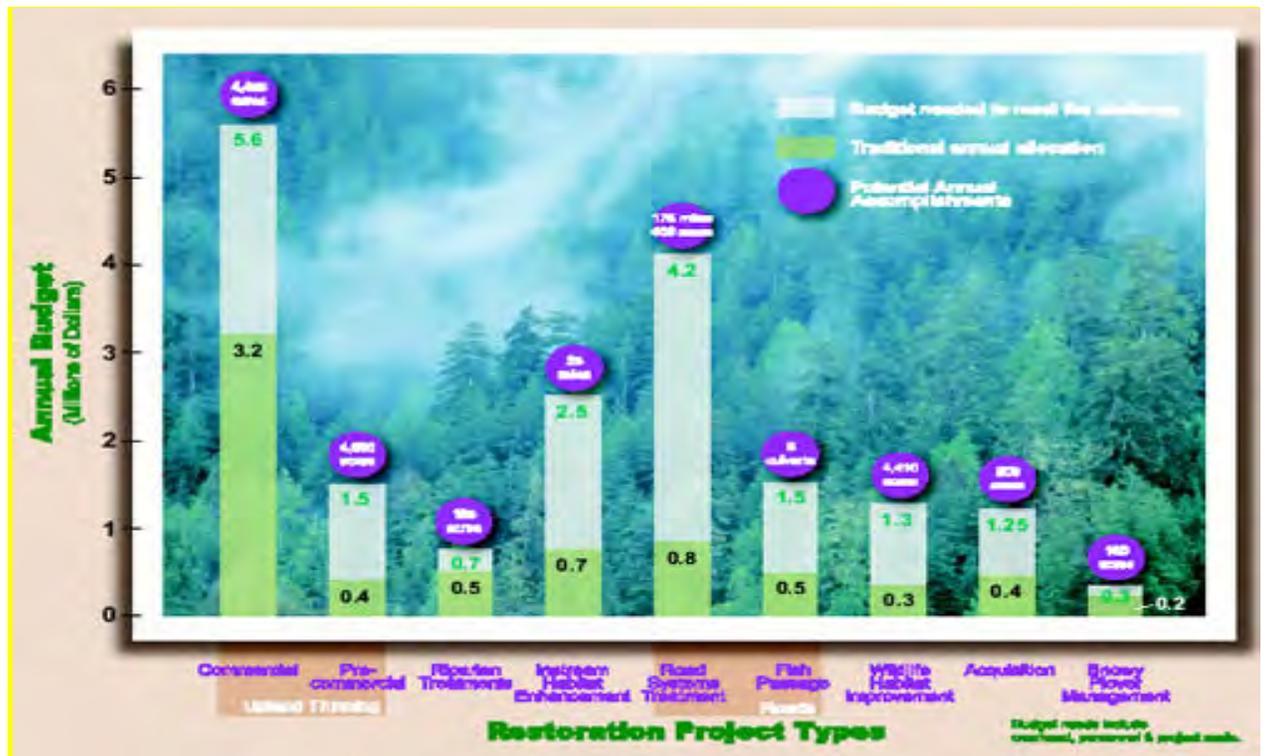
The Forest Standards and Guidelines provide direction to enable the Forest to meet the goals of finding and implementing new ways of meeting Forest goals. Below is a summary of FY08 monitoring questions designed to assist the Forest Supervisor in determining the effectiveness of the Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines in meeting the Forest's goals.



Monitoring Question: Programs and Budget

Are Forest programs and budgets providing the needs for the Forest Plan implementation?

The Forest budget has lagged behind the identified needs. For instance, in August 2006, the Forest developed the Meeting the Challenge brochure which compared the annual budget with costs related to identified restoration projects. The graph below is taken from Meeting the Challenge.



SIUSLAW FISCAL YEAR 2010 FINAL EXPENDITURES

Description or Program Name	FY10 Year End
<i>American Recovery & Reinvestment Act</i>	<i>573,581.80</i>
<i>Brush Disposal</i>	<i>73,910.45</i>
<i>Facilities Capital Improvs & Deferred Mtnce</i>	<i>1,729,825.79</i>
<i>Forest Products</i>	<i>4,912,206.14</i>
<i>Inventory and Monitoring</i>	<i>345,062.07</i>
<i>Land Management Planning</i>	<i>69,945.48</i>
<i>Landownership Mgmt</i>	<i>105,538.63</i>
<i>Minerals & Geology Mgmt</i>	<i>21,729.89</i>
<i>Payments to Counties (Title II)</i>	<i>365,941.85</i>
<i>Program Administration</i>	<i>2,303,459.52</i>
<i>Rec Fee Demo</i>	<i>1,601,749.28</i>
<i>Rec/Heritage/Wilderness</i>	<i>973,423.59</i>
<i>Roads Capital Improvs & Mtnce</i>	<i>2,726,331.47</i>
<i>Trails Capital Improvs & Mtnce</i>	<i>254,980.74</i>
<i>Vegetation & Watershed Mgmt</i>	<i>660,439.72</i>
<i>Wildland Fire, Preparedness</i>	<i>1,002,270.37</i>
<i>Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Mgmt</i>	<i>1,378,642.14</i>
<i>WCFE</i>	<i>1,308,020.67</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>20,407,059.60</i>

Forest Plan Amendments

Implementation Date	Type of Change
September 30, 1990	Vacates the 1988 ROD which amended the Regional Guide for the Pacific Northwest Region with regard to management of northern spotted owl habitat, and amends all final Forest Plans to vacate the SOHAs established in compliance with the 1988 ROD. Also adopts direction not inconsistent with the ISC recommendations during an interim period. This decision was later found illegal, and was replaced by Amendment #4.
May 22, 1992.	Modifies some standards and guidelines to improve clarification and manageability: changes harvest constraints on subbasins to constraints on subbasin areas (FW-003) (2,000-5,000 acres in size); removes the statement that management plans would be made for potential peregrine nest sites; deletes FW-081 (redundant with FW-110, etc.); clarifies FW-083 seasonal restrictions on activities which disturb stream channels; clarifies FW-090 yarding corridors through riparian buffers to take advantage of natural openings; changes FW-107 (Soil Damage), changes definition of area from “within the project area” to “within each harvest unit, excluding roads and landings”, describes detrimental conditions; increases minimum size of logs (large woody material) to be left in harvest units (FW-110); expands FW-123 (Streamside Stability) to include stream-adjacent slopes; deletes FW-152 (Letters of Authorization no longer used); MA 4, Bald Eagle Habitat, changes schedule for completion of management plans; adds some monitoring and evaluation questions; adds some definitions to glossary; other errata.
August 26, 1992	Modifies implementation activity schedules for watershed, fish and wildlife projects (Forest Plan Appendix B.)
April 13, 1994	Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land

Implementation Date	Type of Change
	Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl - adds land allocations and standards and guidelines to provide a comprehensive ecosystem management strategy for management of late-successional habitat and watersheds.
July 12, 1994	Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area Management Plan. Amends direction for the NRA contained in the Siuslaw Forest Plan as Management Area 10. A broad range of ORV and non-motorized recreation opportunities are maintained while enhancing conditions for plants, fish and wildlife. Tenmile RNA is recommended for establishment and two creeks, Tahkenitch and Tenmile, are recommended for addition to the Wild and Scenic River system.
March 2, 1995	Supplements the existing standards and guidelines for the regulation of special forest product collection on the Forest. Forest-wide standards and guidelines are added for all special forest products, and new guidelines are added to Management Areas 1, 4-10, 12, 13, and Riparian Reserves.
March 29, 1995	Sandlake Research Natural Area (241 acres) in Tillamook County. This area contains the best example of a parabola dune ecosystem along the Oregon coast.
Establishes July 17, 1996	Adds approximately 45 acres to the Siltcoos Recreation Corridor (Management Area 10-D) on the Oregon Dunes NRA, and reduces a corresponding acreage in MA 10-C (ORVs restricted to Designated Routes). By the change, potential developed overnight capacity on the Dunes will be increased about 18%.
June 9, 1997	Establishes Reneke Creek Research Natural Area (480 acres) in Tillamook County and Tenmile Creek Research Natural Area (1 190 acres) in Coos County. The Reneke Creek area is dominated by red alder and is drained by two matched perennial streams. The Tenmile Creek area provides an excellent representation of the coastal dune mosaic, including all major dune features, except a parabola dune. It also contains deflation plains in various successional stages.
May 21, 1999	Establishes Cummins/Gwynn Creeks Research Natural Area (6,530 acres) in Lane and Lincoln Counties. The area contains a western hemlock/swordfern forest and

Implementation Date	Type of Change
	accompanying coastal stream system (first to third order stream system). The entire watershed of Cummins/Gwynn Creeks contains important functional ecological values and a diverse spectrum of coastal forest communities.
May 2, 2000	Changes the Dunes Management Plan management area designation for a three acre area adjacent to Hall Creek from MA 10-A, Non-Motorized Undeveloped Areas to MA 10-D, Developed Corridors. The change allows the development of Day Use Facilities as planned in the Dunes Management Plan.
August 22, 2002	Temporary amendment to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area Plan that changes the management area prescription for a 45 acre blow down area from MA 10 – F, Plant, Fish, and Wildlife Habitats to MA 15-Timber/wildlife/Fish/Dispersed Recreation. This temporary amendment will be effect until the blown down timber is salvaged. Upon completion the area will revert back to MA 10 –F.
January 4, 2005	Changes the Dunes Management plan to increase in the capacity of the Horsall staging area from 42 sites to 70 sites.
October 2005	Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant program. Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants. Adds invasive plant management direction including invasive plant prevention and treatment/restoration standards intended to help achieve stated desired future conditions, goals and objectives.
. May 18, 2007	Changes the Wildlife Forest Plan Standard and Guideline, “Prohibit(ing) collection and transportation of Special Forest Products by motorized means (i.e., chainsaws, vehicles, etc.) or firearms from March 1 to October 1 each year, except for use of roads by vehicles,” was amended to read, “There is also the potential to disturb nesting birds during the nesting season (March 1 to September 30). Disturbance events during the nesting season and associated with SFP harvest will comply with the most recent Biological Opinion for Disturbance Only Activities consulted on with the USFWS.” It also changes the Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines for MA 6 (Cascade Head Scenic Research Area) and MA 7 (Cascade Head

Implementation Date	Type of Change
	Experimental Forest) to allow tribal collection.
May 1, 2009	Allows designation of Riley Ranch designated trail within Management Area 10C within the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.
May 11, 2009	Changes the direction for all or portions of six Management Areas (approximately 551,251 acres) from “motorized cross country use open, unless designated as closed” to “motorized cross country use closed, unless designated as open.”

List of Contributors

The principal contributors to the 2010 Monitoring and Evaluation Report are listed below. Please contact one of us if you have questions or want further information about the reported results.

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