

UPPER MIDDLE FORK
of the
WILLAMETTE

Watershed Analysis
Willamette National Forest
Eugene, Oregon



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Upper Middle Fork of the Willamette

Watershed Analysis

INTRODUCTION

Location

The Upper Middle Fork Willamette (UMFW) Watershed Analysis area is located on the flanks of the Western Cascades, roughly 50 miles southwest of Eugene, Oregon. This watershed is the headwaters of the Middle Fork Willamette (MFW) River and is at the southern end of the Willamette National Forest and transitions from the Western Cascades to the drier climate of the Umpqua National Forest. The watershed is divided into six sixth field Subwatersheds (Figure 1) listed below:

- 23 - 1 Staley
- 23 - 2 Tumblebug
- 23 - 3 Timpanagos
- 23 - 4 Pioneer
- 23 - 5 Swift
- 23 - 6 Simpson/Echo

Management Direction

The UMFWA was designated as a non-key watershed by the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA, USDI, et. al. 1994b). This SEIS has become popularly known as the Northwest Forest Plan, and has resulted in the amendment of the Willamette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA Forest Service, 1990).

The Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision requires that a watershed analysis be accomplished prior to any land management activity within any Watersheds. This analysis has been completed in compliance with this direction and to provide decision-makers with a more comprehensive body of information upon which to base their land management decisions.

Document Format

This analysis tells a story of how this watershed came to have the characteristics it has, of the particularly important processes occurring within it, and how management activities have affected landscape processes and patterns in the watershed. As displayed in the Table of Contents, this story is comprised of the following components:

- **Characterization** describes the unique or particularly important features in the watershed
- **Issues and Key Questions** describes the predominant issues focused on land management activities in the watershed and how these activities interact with landscape processes and resulting aquatic and wildlife habitat and species.
- **Reference/Current/Trend Conditions** describes the historical and current condition of the processes in the watershed, the wildlife and aquatic habitat, as well as the species themselves. In addition, this chapter identifies the trend of the parameter examined, when possible.

- **Synthesis** describes the links between each of the pieces and their significance. It tells the story as a whole and helps the reader understand the importance of each parameter.
- **Recommendations** this section provides the land manager with activities that could move the system towards reference conditions or management objectives.

Please Note:

Based on budget constraints, the intent of this watershed analysis is to focus on ONLY the main management activities and associated issues that were identified through scoping. These issues are: 1) Road condition, Density, Use, and Location; 2) Vegetation condition and Pattern, and 3) Non-native species. There are many additional issues and opportunities that are not addressed at this time.

In an attempt to focus on the ISSUE the entire document is structured by issue, versus topic. Thus topics such as "Aquatic Habitat" or "Wildlife Species" is split between the issues. In an effort to not be repetitive, a particular part of a story appears in only one place. For example, fish passage is only discussed under the topic of Road condition, Density, Use and Location, and aquatic habitat complexity is discussed under Vegetation condition and Pattern. The Table of Contents can be used to direct the reader to a particular topic.

Figure 1

Upper Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Vicinity Map

- Legend
- 23-1 Staley
 - 23-2 Tumblebug
 - 23-3 Timpanogas
 - 23-4 Pioneer
 - 23-5 Swift
 - 23-6 Simpson/Echo

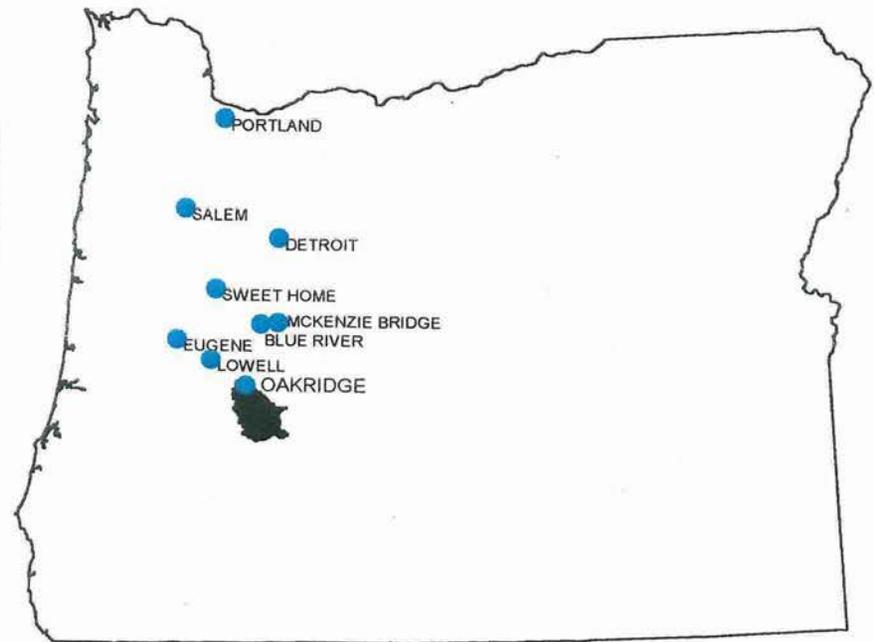
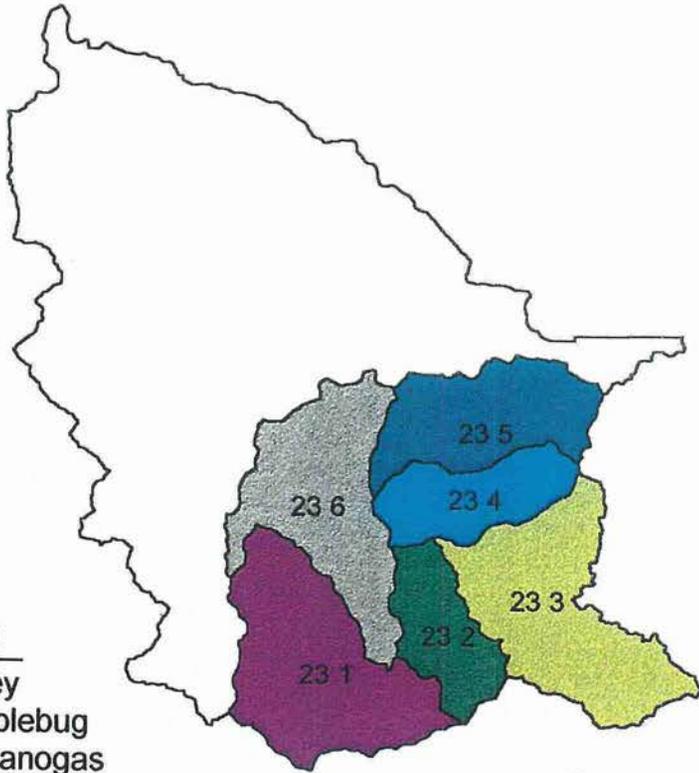


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