#### United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Roseburg District Office 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd. Roseburg, Oregon 97471 http://www.blm.gov/oregon-washington



Roseburg District BLM Planning Update

January 25, 2024

Dear Citizen:

The Roseburg District is pleased to reinitiate the Quarterly Planning Update for projects and activities planned on the lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Roseburg District Office (District). I appreciate your patience with our office while we worked valiantly to get our vacant positions filled to reinitiate this communication with you. Our proposed projects will be initiated and developed in line with the priorities provided by the BLM Oregon/Washington State Director, the BLM Director, and this Administration.

Individuals like you, businesses, organizations, and other stakeholders who want to participate in the development of projects that involve BLM employees, BLM funding, or take place on BLM-administered lands are always welcome to contact/visit the District. The BLM has an obligation to communicate and analyze the environmental effects of our decision-making under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). With some limited exceptions, the BLM must comply with the NEPA *before* we make final decisions about continuing with our actions.

The BLM uses the NEPA process to help people understand what actions we are proposing, and subsequently, what actions we are deciding to implement. The process provides the opportunity for the interested parties to offer their thoughts on alternative ways for us to carry out our proposed actions and to comment on the analysis of the environmental effects and possible mitigation of potential harmful effects of the proposed actions. Stakeholders often have important information about places and resources that they value and the potential environmental, social, and economic effects that proposed actions may have on those places and resources. They care about our decisions and our subsequent actions. This Quarterly Planning Update is prepared for you as a "one-stop shop" for a summary of actions the BLM is proposing on the District.

The NEPA's procedural requirements apply to our decisions for actions, including financing, assisting, conducting, or approving projects or programs. The NEPA applies when the BLM has discretion to choose among one or more alternative means of accomplishing a particular goal (CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.23). The NEPA requires our decisionmakers to make informed decisions. Therefore, our NEPA review must be completed before we make a final decision on a proposed action.

The Quarterly Planning Update is published to provide current information about discretionary management actions being undertaken and future actions planned on the Roseburg District. These actions require the BLM to gather information on, analyze, and document the potential environmental effects of the proposed projects as required by the NEPA. We strive to provide meaningful opportunities for public participation when we begin our NEPA analysis and when a NEPA document is published for public review and comment. You are encouraged to participate.

The BLM makes project documents available at the National NEPA Register (ePlanning) site: <u>https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/home</u>. To access Roseburg District projects, select the state(s), *Oregon/Washington;* and under Office(s), select *Roseburg District Office, South River Field Office, and Swiftwater Field Office*. For a complete list of projects, select *All* under the *Document Type(s), Program(s), and Fiscal Year(s)* boxes. Then click the *Search* button and your results will be shown in a new window.

Maintaining communications with you is important to the BLM. Please remember to notify our office if you change your email address. You may do so by sending an electronic message to <u>BLM\_OR\_RB\_MAIL@BLM.GOV</u> or in writing to Quarterly Planning Update, 777 NW Garden Valley Boulevard, Roseburg, Oregon 97471.

To participate in the NEPA processes on the Roseburg District, written or electronic comments on individual BLM projects should include the specific project name and field office name and may be emailed or sent to us at any time. Information on the public engagement process as required by the NEPA is included in every project description on ePlanning.

Sincerely,

HEATHER WHITMAN Digitally signed by HEATHER WHITMAN Date: 2024.01.26 09:39:32 -08'00'

Heather Whitman District Manager

### **Key Contacts**

For more information about projects in the Roseburg Quarterly Planning Update, please contact the project contact person identified in the tables below. A list of acronyms is provided on the final page of this document.

The Roseburg District's Annual Forest Product Sale Plans are published at: <u>http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/timbersales/index.php</u>

### **Environmental Assessments (EA)**

An Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a concise public document that provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether the BLM should issue a Finding of No Significant Environmental Impact (FONSI) or prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). It is designed to help public officials make decisions that are based on an understanding of the human and physical environmental consequences of the proposed project and take actions, in the location and design of the project, that protect, restore, and enhance the environment.

# **Categorical Exclusions (CX)**

In implementation of the NEPA regulations, the BLM and the Department of the Interior have developed categorical exclusions covering management actions for many resource programs. A CX is a class of actions that have been determined, after review by Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), to not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment; therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Use of categorical exclusions on the Roseburg District includes a review of extraordinary circumstances as prescribed through CEQ and Departmental/Bureau policy. We include categorical exclusions in the Roseburg District Planning Update to keep the public informed; however, because the actions are categorically excluded from NEPA review, there is often no comment/response process as with NEPA documents such as environmental assessments and environmental impact statements.

# **Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**

A Determination of NEPA Adequacy is a tool to determine whether a previously completed NEPA analysis (normally an EA) can satisfy NEPA's requirements for a subsequent, new proposed action. In making this determination, the responsible official shall evaluate: 1) Is the new proposed action essentially similar to a previously analyzed proposed action or alternative analyzed in detail in previous NEPA analysis; 2) Is the range of alternatives previously analyzed adequate under present circumstances; 3) Is there any significant new information or circumstances relevant to environmental concerns that would substantially change the analysis in the existing NEPA document(s); 4) Are the effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s).

Map Symbol	Project Name and Description	<b>Location</b> Willamette Meridian	ePlanning Number	Current Status	Decision Issue Date	Contact Person 541-440- 4930
Envi	ronmental Assessments (EA	<b>(</b> )				
1	42 Divide Stand Management Plan; The South River Field Office proposes a combination of regeneration harvest, commercial and non-commercial thinning, and fuels treatments in forestland in the Lookingglass Creek, Tenmile Creek, Headwaters Middle Fork Coquille River, Slater Creek-Middle Fork Coquille River, Twelve-mile Creek, Union Creek - Cow Creek, and Elk Valley Creek – West Fork Cow Creek subwatersheds. The 42 Divide Harvest Plan units are in the Harvest Land Base, Riparian Reserve, and Late-Successional Reserve Land Use Allocations.	T. 28 S., R. 7 W., sec. 8 and 9 T. 28 S., R. 8 W., sec. 15, 21, 22, 23, 25, 29, 31, 33, and 35 T. 29 S., R. 8 W., sec. 3, 7, and 9 T. 30 S., R. 8 W., sec. 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19, 21, 27, and 33 T. 30 S., R. 9 W., sec. 3, 13, 23, 25, 27, and 35 T. 31 S., R. 8 W., sec. 5 and 7 T. 31 S., R. 9 W., sec. 1	DOI-BLM- ORWA- R050-2022- 0001-EA	In Progress		Kelly Ware
2	Blue and Gold Harvest Plan: The Roseburg District is continuing to analyze the project area and proposed action for this project. The proposed action is to harvest timber through both commercial and regeneration harvest in the Harvest Land Base (HLB) on approximately 3,807 acres.	T. 23 S., R. 5 W., sec. 17, 19 T. 23 S., R. 6 W., sec. 17, 19, 20, 25, 29, 31 T. 24 S., R. 6 W., sec. 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, 19, 27 T. 25 S., R. 6 W., sec. 3, 33 T. 26 S., R. 6 W., sec. 3	DOI-BLM- ORWA- R040-2020- 0001-EA	In Progress	TBD	Ryan Desliu
3	<b>Roseburg District Storage Facility Addition</b> : The proposed project is open for public scoping from December 12, 2023, through January 12, 2024. Please continue to the Documents tab for more details on how to provide comments, and to find the scoping letter. Maps for the proposed location of the building can be found on the Maps tab.	T. 27 S., R. 6 W. sec. 13	DOI-BLM- ORWA- R000-2024- 0001-EA	In Progress		Ryan Desliu
4	North Umpqua Recreation Site Improvement: The Swiftwater Field Office of the Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is beginning the preparation of	N/A	DOI-BLM- ORWA- R040-2023- 0006-EA	In Progress	TBD	Kim Stone

Map Symbol	Project Name and Description	<b>Location</b> Willamette Meridian	ePlanning Number	Current Status	Decision Issue Date	Contact Person 541-440- 4930
	an Environmental Assessment (EA), for recreation sites and trails within the North Umpqua and Rock Creek corridors.					
	Oregon Department of Transportation Clay-Honey Community Pit Disposal Site Proposed Right-of-Way:	N/A	N/A	Planned	TBD	Michelle Roberts
5	The BLM proposes to issue the ODOT a ROW grant to use and maintain the Community Pit disposal site located off Hwy 138E at milepost 25.3 to dispose of spoils material resulting from routine and emergency highway maintenance between mileposts 5 and 40.					
Cate	gorical Exclusions (CX)					
6	Windy Camp Lookout Shaded Fuel Break: The purpose of this project is to create a shaded fuel break on BLM lands running north to south along ridgeline roads separating East Deadman Drainage also known as Coffee Creek and Deadman Drainage. With no natural fuel breaks present, there is a need to provide safe ingress, egress, and anchor points for firefighters to suppress fires more safely, rapidly, and effectively. It is also necessary to break the homogeneity of fuels to harden the landscape against large scale stand replacing fires in areas of critical habitat that require climax forest stand complexities.	TBD	N/A	Planned		Kelly Ware
Dete	Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)					
N/A	2024 Roseburg District Invasive Plants Annual Treatment Plan: Roseburg District develop an Annual Treatment Plan (ATP) delineating proposed nonnative invasive plant treatments each year. Locations are determined prior to treatment implementation. ATPs are reviewed by the interdisciplinary team and treatment actions may be refined or dropped from the ATP if review finds that invasive plant treatments would place resources at risk.	District-wide	TBD	Planned	Early Spring 2024	Ryan Desliu

January 2024, Quarterly Planning Update

Map Symbol	Project Name and Description	<b>Location</b> Willamette Meridian	ePlanning Number	Current Status	Decision Issue Date	Contact Person 541-440- 4930
N/A	<b>2024 Swiftwater Stream Restoration Projects:</b> To restore degraded streams by building log jams that will capture spawning gravels, scour pools, and provide cover for adult and juvenile salmonids. Additionally, culverts that are barriers to fish passage will be removed or replaced to open additional habitat to salmonids for spawning and rearing.	Specific Sites have not been Identified. Lower South Myrtle Creek (HUC 12 171003021002 Ben Branch), Upper South Myrtle Creek (HUC 12 171003021001 Lally, Johnson, and Curtin), Rice Creek-South Umpqua River (HUC 12 171003021103 Porter), Yellow Creek (HUC 12 171003030206 YC), Slater Creek-Middle Fork Coquille River (HUC 12 171003050104 Falls)	TBD	Planned	Spring 2024	Kim Stone

#### Volunteer Opportunities

• Job shadows are available for motivated high school and college students interested in natural resource management careers. Contact Cheyne Rossbach at 541-464-3245 or <a href="mailto:crossbac@blm.gov">crossbac@blm.gov</a>.

• Self-directed volunteer projects are available as well, depending on interests, experience level, and available staff time. Contact Ramona Briggs at 541-464-3243 or <a href="https://www.regarding.com">rbriggs@blm.gov</a> regarding any volunteer opportunities on the Roseburg District.

• Join an ongoing project! A variety of projects are ongoing to restore recreational sites and trails within the Archie Creek Fire area. Please contact Ramona Briggs at 541-464-3243 or e-mail <u>rbriggs@blm.gov</u> for further information on these opportunities and a chance to volunteer.

ACEC/RNA	Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Research Natural Area
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CEQ	Council of Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Register
CX	Categorical Exclusion – Actions which do not have significant effects on the environment and for which an environmental analysis or an environmental impact statement is not required.
DNA	Determination of NEPA Adequacy
EA	Environmental Assessment – A concise public document that briefly provides evidence and analysis of a proposed Federal action. It is used to determine whether further analysis needs to be done for an Environmental Impact Statement or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact – A document that briefly presents the reasons why the implementation of an action will not result in "significant" environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in a NEPA document to which an EA is tiered (e.g., an environmental impact statement).
HLB	Harvest Land Base land use allocation
IVM	Integrated Vegetation Management – A combination of silviculture treatments, fire and fuels management activities, and harvest methods. Activities include planting, prescribed fire, thinning, single-tree selection harvest, and group selection harvest.
LITA	Low Intensity Timber Area land use allocation
LSR	Late Successional Reserve land use allocation
LUA	Land use allocation
MITA	Moderate Intensity Timber Area land use allocation
NCO ROD/RMP	Northwestern and Coastal Oregon Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act - A federal law which sets the systematic interdisciplinary analysis to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences to provide for an informed decision. The process provides for public participation in the development, review, and revision of certain activities on Federal Lands.
ROW	Right of way
RR	Riparian Reserves land use allocation
ROD/RMP	Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan – A land use plan prepared by the BLM in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.
Scoping	An early and open part of environmental analysis that allows interested public and other Federal, state, and local agencies the opportunity to provide issues, concerns, and opportunities relative to proposed project actions. Scopi12ng is required by regulation for environmental impact statements.
SWO ROD/RMP	Southwestern Oregon Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan
UTA	Uneven-aged Timber Area land use allocation
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#### Acronyms

January 2024, Quarterly Planning Update



