



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Grants Pass Field Office
2164 NE Spalding Avenue
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford

1792(ORM070)
DOI-BLM-OR-070-2015-0009-EA

JAN 16 2015

Dear Interested Party,

The Grants Pass Field Office is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will document potential effects of the proposed Upper Cow Late Successional Reserve Project within policies set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act. The Planning Area is located in the South Umpqua River/Galesville LSR, and Middle and Upper Cow Creek HUC-10 Watersheds.

The legal description of the Planning Area is T30S-R4W-Sections 31, 35; T31S-R5W-Sections 1-2, 11-14, 23-26, 35-36; T31S-R4W-Sections 1-36; T31S-R3W-Sections 3-10, 16-20, 29-32; T32S-R5W-Sections 1-3, 9-16, 22-25; T32S-R4W-Sections 1-35; T32S-R3W-Sections 5-9, 16-20, 30; and T33S-R4W-Sections 4-6, 8, in Josephine County, Willamette Meridian. Included with this letter is a scoping map that provides potential treatment locations within the Planning Area.

Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to enhance and/or maintain late successional forest conditions on BLM administered land using silvicultural practices, prescribed fire and/or commercial/non-commercial timber harvesting to achieve multiple resource goals within the Late Successional Reserves set forth by the Medford District RMP, Record of Decision, 1994.

We are currently considering 3,264 acres for treatment. These acres were determined using on-the-ground reconnaissance of stands that are overstocked and could be improved for late successional wildlife habitat purposes. Treatments within Riparian Reserves are being proposed to achieve and/or maintain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. Treatments being considered are commercial thinning, density management, restoration thinning, and understory reduction.

Public Involvement

As the Field Manager for the Grants Pass Field Office, I am seeking your input to help identify any issues or concerns specific to this project. Please submit your written comments to the Grants Pass Interagency Office, 2164 NE Spalding Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526 or email to: ffisher@blm.gov by February 20, 2015. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed on holidays. Project information can be found at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford/plans/index.php>.

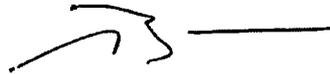
Public Scoping Meeting

On the evening of January 29, 2015 the BLM will be hosting a public meeting beginning at 6 p.m. The meeting will be located at the Azalea Grange, 142 Pisqually Lane, Glendale, Oregon 97442. A team of BLM resource specialists will be present to inform attendees about the planning process, our initial project analysis, and answer questions.

Comments submitted will become part of the public record for this project. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your personal information from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored by the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

We appreciate your interest and involvement in our planning process. Should you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact Ferris Fisher, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, at (541) 471-6639.

Sincerely,

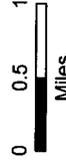
A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line.

Allen Bollschweiler
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area

Upper Cow Scoping Map

01/14/2015

-  Upper Cow Potential Treatment Area
-  Planning Area
-  Resource Area
-  Boundary
-  Perennial
-  Intermittent
-  Major Highway
-  Paved Road
-  Rocked Road
-  Natural Surface Road
-  Not Known
-  Bureau of Land Management



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for use in other than the project for which they were collected.

