

alternatives and associated environmental effects. For comments to be most helpful, they should relate to specific concerns or conflicts that are within the legal responsibilities of the BLM and can be resolved in this planning process. The DRMP/EIS provides direction and guidance for the management of approximately 900,000 acres of public land and 1.3 million acres of federal mineral estate located in Beaverhead and Madison Counties in southwestern Montana. The DRMP/EIS will replace the Dillon Management Framework Plan approved in September 1979.

**DATES:** The comment period will end 90 days after the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability is published in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of this DRMP/EIS. Comments on the DRMP/EIS must be received on or before the end of the comment period at the address listed below. Public meetings will be held during the comment period. Public meetings and any other public involvement activities will be announced at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, newsletter mailings, and on the Dillon RMP Web site at [www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp](http://www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp).

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to Dillon RMP Team, BLM Dillon Field Office, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, Montana 59725. Comments may also be sent by e-mail to [MT\\_Dillon\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov). Documents pertinent to the DRMP/EIS and written comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Dillon Field Office at the address above during regular business hours, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Responses to the comments will be published as part of the Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement. If you wish to withhold your name or street address 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 to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

Review copies of the DRMP/EIS are available at the following locations in and near the planning area:

Beaverhead County Courthouse,  
Commissioner's Office, Dillon  
BLM Butte Field Office  
BLM Dillon Field Office  
BLM Ennis Field Station  
BLM Missoula Field Office  
Bozeman Public Library  
Dillon Public Library  
Ennis Public Library  
Lima Town Hall  
Madison County Courthouse,  
Commissioner's Office, Virginia City  
Red Rocks Refuge, Lakeview  
Sheridan Forest Service Office  
Twin Bridges Public Library  
Whitehall Public Library  
Wisdom Forest Service Office  
Wise River Forest Service Office

The DRMP/EIS and other associated documents may also be viewed and downloaded in PDF format at the Dillon RMP Web site at [www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp](http://www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/rmp).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information and/or to have your name added to the mailing list contact Renee Johnson, RMP Project Manager, at (406) 683-8016 or Tim Bozorth, Dillon Field Manager, at (406) 683-8023; use the toll-free number and information line at (877) 521-2889; or correspond by e-mail to [MT\\_Dillon\\_RMP@blm.gov](mailto:MT_Dillon_RMP@blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Dillon Field Office RMP area is located in the southwestern portion of Montana in Beaverhead and Madison Counties. The planning area addressed in the RMP contains 901,226 acres of public surface estate and 1,354,710 acres of federal mineral estate administered by the BLM Dillon Field Office. The DRMP/EIS focuses on the principles of multiple use and sustained yield as prescribed by section 202 of the FLPMA. Beaverhead and Madison Counties participated in development of the plan as cooperating agencies with special expertise.

The public involvement and collaboration process implemented for this effort included a situation assessment conducted prior to scoping, five open houses during scoping, an information fair, release of reports on Wild and Scenic River and Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) findings, release of an *RMP Digest* document describing the current situation followed by nine public alternative development workshops, incorporation of recommendations from three Western Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) subgroups, and distribution of information via the Dillon RMP website and periodic newsletters. A copy of the DRMP/EIS has been sent to individuals, agencies, and groups who requested a copy, or as required by regulation or policy.

The DRMP/EIS considers and analyzes four (4) alternatives (A-D), including the No Action, or Continuation of Current Management alternative. These alternatives were developed based on extensive public input including scoping (September/October 2001), an information fair (April 2002), alternative development workshops (February 2003), numerous meetings with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, and recommendations made by citizen-based working groups convened by the Western Montana RAC. The alternatives provide for an array of alternative land use allocations and variable levels of commodity production and resource protection and restoration. After comments are reviewed and any pertinent adjustments made, a Proposed RMP and Final Environmental Impact Statement is expected to be available in early 2005.

The issues addressed in the formulation of alternatives include upland and riparian management, forest and woodland management, noxious weeds, sage grouse and westslope cutthroat trout conservation, commercial uses (including livestock grazing, mineral development, oil and gas leasing, right-of-ways and communication use areas), Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), Wild and Scenic Rivers, and travel management. Information on the management of the 13 potential ACECs and analysis of impacts is described within the Draft RMP/EIS.

Dated: January 23, 2004.

**Martin C. Ott,**  
State Director.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-090-5900, HAG04-0090]

#### Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Siuslaw River Late-Successional Reserve Restoration Plan

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, a Final Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Eugene District, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

as a cooperating agency, for the Upper Siuslaw Late-Successional Reserve (LSR) Restoration Plan. The FEIS was prepared to analyze the impacts of a long-term management approach and specific actions needed to achieve the LSR goals and Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives set out in the Northwest Forest Plan. The Upper Siuslaw LSR Restoration Plan will address management of approximately 25,000 acres of BLM-managed lands within LSR 267 in the upper portion of the Siuslaw River fifth-field watershed. An abbreviated FEIS has been prepared, containing copies of comments received on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), responses to those comments, and an errata section with specific modifications and corrections to the DEIS. Copies of the FEIS will be mailed to individuals, agencies, or companies who previously requested copies. A limited number of copies of the document will be available at the Eugene District Office. The FEIS and Draft EIS are also available online from the Eugene District Internet Web site at <http://www.edo.or.blm.gov>.

**DATES:** Written comments on the FEIS must be postmarked or otherwise delivered by 4:15 p.m., 30 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes the NOA and filing of the FEIS in the **Federal Register**.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Eugene District office during regular hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the environmental analysis or other related documents. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address 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 to the extent allowed by law. Anonymous comments will not be accepted. 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.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on the document should be addressed to: Rick Colvin, P.O. Box 10226, Eugene, OR, 97440; or e-mail to: [or090mb@or.blm.gov](mailto:or090mb@or.blm.gov) Attn: Rick Colvin. Written comments may also be hand-

delivered to the Eugene District Office, 2890 Chad Drive, Eugene, OR.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rick Colvin at (541) 683-6600 or 1-888-442-3061.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FEIS addresses alternatives for forest and aquatic restoration within a Late-Successional Reserve in the Coast Range Mountains west of Eugene, Oregon. The purpose of the action is to protect and enhance late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems; foster the development of late-successional forest structure and composition in plantations and young forests; and reconnect streams and stream channels to their riparian areas and upslope areas.

The FEIS analyzes in detail the following six alternatives:

Alternative A—no active management (No Action);

Alternative B—restoration limited to forest plantations and road management with no commercial timber harvest;

Alternative C—continuation of the current management approach;

Alternative D—restoration focused on recovery of threatened and endangered species;

Alternative E—restoration that would reduce forest stand densities as quickly as possible;

Alternative F—restoration based on multi-entry and multi-trajectory thinning.

All alternatives analyzed in the FEIS are in conformance with the 1995 Eugene District Resource Management Plan (RMP) and do not require any amendment or revision of the RMP. The Preferred Alternative is *Alternative D*.

The FEIS analyzes the following issues:

—How would thinning affect development of late-successional forest habitat characteristics?

—What are the effects of restoration activities on the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, and coho salmon habitat?

—What level of risk to existing late-successional forest would result from restoration activities?

—How would actions meet the objectives of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy?

—How much new road construction would be needed to implement restoration actions?

—How would road decommissioning and road-management actions alter public access to BLM lands?

—How would restoration actions affect the presence and spread of noxious weeds?

—What would be the economic effects of restoration activities?

—What would the restoration program cost?

The DEIS was made available for a 60-day public comment period, from August 15, 2003 to October 15, 2003. BLM received 11 comment letters during the comment period and one comment letter after the comment period. BLM received no comments that suggested development of additional alternatives or pointed out flaws or deficiencies in analysis. As a result, BLM made only minor changes in the DEIS in response to comments, consisting of technical, editorial, or non-substantive factual corrections. Therefore, only an abbreviated FEIS has been prepared, containing copies of comments received on the DEIS, responses to those comments, and an errata section with specific modifications and corrections to the DEIS in response to comments. The DEIS will not be rewritten or reprinted. Only the comments, responses, and an errata sheet will be circulated for review, consistent with 40 CFR 1503.4 and the BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1, p. V-21.

**Steven Calish,**  
*Field Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

[CA-668-03-1610-DQ]

### Notice of Availability of the Approved Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Final Management Plan and Record of Decision

**AGENCIES:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior, and Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the approved Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Management Plan and Record of Decision.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-351), the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service approved the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan and issued a Record of Decision on February 6, 2004. This Management Plan and Record of Decision is a cooperative effort between the Department of the Interior, BLM,